

Cambridge International AS & A Level

BUSINESS

Paper 3 Case Study MARK SCHEME Maximum Mark: 100 9609/33 May/June 2022

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2022 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Social Science-Specific Marking Principles (for point-based marking)

| 1 | Co • | mponents using point-based marking: Point marking is often used to reward knowledge, understanding and application of skills. We give credit where the candidate's answer shows relevant knowledge, understanding and application of skills in answering the question. We do not give credit where the answer shows confusion. |
|---|---------|--|
| | Fro | om this it follows that we: |
| | а | DO credit answers which are worded differently from the mark scheme if they clearly convey the same meaning (unless the mark scheme requires a specific term) |
| | b | DO credit alternative answers/examples which are not written in the mark scheme if they are correct |
| | С | DO credit answers where candidates give more than one correct answer in one prompt/numbered/scaffolded space where extended writing is required rather than list-type answers. For example, questions that require <i>n</i> reasons (e.g. State two reasons). |
| | d | DO NOT credit answers simply for using a 'key term' unless that is all that is required. (Check for evidence it is understood and not used wrongly.) |
| | е | DO NOT credit answers which are obviously self-contradicting or trying to cover all possibilities |
| | f | DO NOT give further credit for what is effectively repetition of a correct point already credited unless the language itself is being tested. This applies equally to 'mirror statements' (i.e. polluted/not polluted). |
| | g | DO NOT require spellings to be correct, unless this is part of the test. However spellings of syllabus terms must allow for clear and unambiguous separation from other syllabus terms with which they may be confused (e.g. Corrasion/Corrosion) |
| 2 | Pre | esentation of mark scheme: |
| 2 | • | Slashes (/) or the word 'or' separate alternative ways of making the same point. Semi colons (;) bullet points (•) or figures in brackets (1) separate different points. Content in the answer column in brackets is for examiner information/context to clarify the marking but is not required to earn the mark (except Accounting syllabuses where they indicate negative numbers). |
| 3 | Са | culation questions: |
| | ٠ | The mark scheme will show the steps in the most likely correct method(s), the mark for |
| | • | each step, the correct answer(s) and the mark for each answer If working/explanation is considered essential for full credit, this will be indicated in the |
| | • | question paper and in the mark scheme. In all other instances, the correct answer to a calculation should be given full credit, even if no supporting working is shown. |
| | • | Where the candidate uses a valid method which is not covered by the mark scheme, |
| | • | award equivalent marks for reaching equivalent stages. Where an answer makes use of a candidate's own incorrect figure from previous working, the 'own figure rule' applies: full marks will be given if a correct and complete method is used. Further guidance will be included in the mark scheme where necessary and any exceptions to this general principle will be noted. |

4 Annotation:

- For point marking, ticks can be used to indicate correct answers and crosses can be used to indicate wrong answers. There is no direct relationship between ticks and marks. Ticks have no defined meaning for levels of response marking.
- For levels of response marking, the level awarded should be annotated on the script.
- Other annotations will be used by examiners as agreed during standardisation, and the meaning will be understood by all examiners who marked that paper.

PREPARATION FOR MARKING

- 1 Make sure that you have completed the relevant training and have access to the *RM Assessor Guide*.
- 2 Make sure that you have read and understand the question paper, which you can download from https://support.rm.com/ca
- 3 Log in to RM Assessor then mark and submit the required number of practice and standardisation scripts. You will need to mark the standardisation scripts to the required accuracy in order to be approved for marking live scripts. You may be asked to re-mark them, or to mark a second sample, if you do not meet the required accuracy on your first attempt.

MARKING PROCESS

- 1 Mark strictly to the FINAL mark scheme, applying the criteria consistently and the general marking principles outlined on the previous page.
- 2 If you are in doubt about applying the mark scheme, consult your Team Leader.
- 3 Mark at a steady rate through the marking period. Do not rush, and do not leave too much until the end. If you anticipate a problem in meeting the deadline, contact your Team Leader immediately and the Examiners' Helpdesk.
- 4 Examiners will prepare a brief report on the performance of candidates to send to their Team Leader via email by the end of the marking period. The Examiner should note strengths seen in answers and common errors or weaknesses. Constructive comments on the question paper, mark scheme or procedures are also appreciated.

MARKING SPECIFICS

Crossed out work

- 1 <u>All</u> of a candidate's answers, *crossed out* or not, *optional* or not, <u>must</u> be marked.
- 2 The only response not to be marked is one that has been crossed out and <u>replaced</u> by another response for that <u>exact same</u> question.
- 3 Consequently, if a candidate has crossed out their response to an <u>optional</u> question and gone on to answer a <u>different</u> optional question then <u>both</u> attempts must be marked. The higher mark will be awarded by the system according to the rubric.

0 (zero) marks or NR (no response)

- 1 Award **NR** if there is <u>nothing</u> at all written in answer to that question (often the case for optional questions).
- 2 Award **NR** if there is a <u>comment which is not an attempt</u> at the question (e.g. 'can't do it' or 'don't know' etc.)
- 3 Award NR if there is a <u>symbol</u> which is <u>not an attempt</u> at the question, such as a dash or question mark.
- 4 Award **0** (zero) if there is any <u>attempt</u> at the question which <u>does not score marks</u>. This includes copying the question onto an Answer Booklet.

Annotation

- 1 Every <u>question</u> must have <u>at least one</u> annotation e.g. <NAQ> if it is an NR and <X> or <seen> if 0 marks are awarded.
- 2 Every <u>page</u> of a script must have <u>at least one</u> annotation e.g. <BP> for a blank page.

Paper 3 Specific Marking Guidance

- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Handwriting and use of English language are not to be assessed.
- A response consisting of a list should be assessed. It is unlikely that such a response will score highly in the levels in each Assessment Objective.
- If a response does not fit in the space provided it should be assessed as if it did whether it is shorted, or longer and a continuation sheet is used.
- The main RM Assessor annotations to be used are K (Knowledge), APP (Application), AN (Analysis), EVAL (Evaluation).
- For each of these four annotations, the number of marks awarded must match the number of times that annotation is on the response.
- Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP.
- Application marks are not awarded for repeating material from the case study. Application is achieved by answering in the context of the case or by using the information in the case to help answer the question.
- In Section B, candidates answer either Question 6 or Question 7. The Section B question that the candidate does not answer must be entered as 'no response'.

This mark scheme includes a summary of appropriate content for answering each question. It should be emphasised, however, that this material is for illustrative purposes and is not intended to provide a definitive guide to acceptable answers. It is quite possible that among the scripts there will be some candidate answers that are not covered directly by the content of this mark scheme. In such cases, professional judgement should be exercised in assessing the merits of the answer and the senior examiners should be consulted if further guidance is required.

Application marks are not awarded for repeating material from the case study. Application is by answering in the context of the case or by using the information in the case to help answer the question.

| Question | Answer | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | Analyse <u>two</u> opportunities for TK resulting from changes in the external environment (lines 17–23). | | | | | | |
| | Level | Knowledge 3 marks | Application 2 marks | Analysis 5 marks | | | |
| | 2 | 3 marks Knowledge of external environment and two opportunities | 2 marks Points applied to TK | 4–5 marks Good use of theory and/or reasoned argument to explain benefit(s) | | | |
| | 1 | 1–2 marks Knowledge of external environment (1). a Knowledge of external environment and one opportunity (2) | 1 mark Point applied to TK | 1–3 marks Some use of theory and/or reasoned argument to explain benefit(s) | | | |
| | Question Opportun Knowled Definition such as g changes. | of external environme | to TK. No marks for th case. ent, factors outside the | nreats. control of a business, emographic and social | | | |
| | Gove Social patte | omic growth – increas rnment policy to prom al changes, age structu | ote economic growth ure of population and o | | | | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 1 | Application Increasing incomes mean more demand for non-essentials, such as takeaway and delivered food Government grants and loans help TK to recover from lack of demand caused by the recession Fewer consumers eating out in restaurants Demographics in cities where TK are located are likely to purchase delivered meals as they tend to be income rich / time poor Use of mobile phone apps – most TK customers use these | |
| | TK specialises in meal delivery including USP of quality and packaging Analysis Building of chains of arguments linked to Knowledge and Application points raised above Positive impact of increasing incomes on demand and therefore sales and profits. Analysis of benefits of using mobile phone apps, such as efficient ordering and less errors which will reduce costs and better customer satisfaction which will increase sales. Government grants may encourage investment in updated technology to increase efficiency. Younger high-income professionals changing culture away from cooking at home will give TK opportunities to increase sales and expand. | |

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| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 2(a) | Refer to lines 60–64 and Table 1. Calculate, for Kitchen 2, the: | |
| 2(a)(i) | average daily capacity utilisation. | 2 |
| | Capacity utilisation = current output <i>I</i> maximum capacity \times 100 (1 mark if no relevant calculation) | |
| | Current average daily output = 1000 | |
| | Maximum capacity = 2200 | |
| | Average capacity utilisation = 1000 / 2200 \times 100 (1) | |
| | = 45.45(%) (2) | |
| | 45.45, 45.5 or 45 (2) | |
| | Other answers 0.45 (1) | |
| 2(a)(ii) | total contribution for the last six months. | 4 |
| | Total contribution = total sales revenue – total variable costs (1) | |
| | Total variable cost = (\$)1.19m (1) | |
| | 1.4m – 0.38m – 0.80m – 0.01m (2) | |
| | 1.4m – 1.19m (3) | |
| | = (\$)0.21m OR (\$)210 000 (4) | |
| | 0.21 (3) | |
| | 0.19m (3) 0.19 (2) | |
| | (If fixed costs are incorrectly included then loss is (\$0.01m) (1) | |
| | OFR | |
| | Note: Allow (unit) contribution = selling price – variable cost per unit (1) | |

| Question | | | Answe | er | | Marks | |
|----------|--|--|---|--|---|-------|--|
| 2(b) | You may refer to your results from 2(a) and other information. Recommend whether TK should close Kitchen 2. Justify your recommendation. | | | | | | |
| | Level | Knowledge 2 marks | Application 2 marks | Analysis 4 marks | Evaluation 4 marks | | |
| | 2 | 2 marks Two or more relevant points made | 2 marks Two or more points applied to TK | 3–4 marks Good use of theory and/or reasoned argument to answer question | 3–4 marks Good judgement shown | | |
| | 1 | 1 mark One relevant point made | 1 mark One point applied to TK | 1–2 marks Some use of theory and/or reasoned argument to answer question | 1–2 marks Some judgement shown | | |
| | OFR for | answers to 2(a) | | | | | |
| | Knowlee Con good Cap Rati Und cost Diffe | dge tribution is the co ds. acity utilisation is onalisation is red erstanding of me ing. | the proportion c ucing the scale c thods of costing | of operations. such as full costi | ing and selling urrently being used ng and contribution ye with output and | | |
| | mon • Refe • Refe • On f has • TK f • If Th head | enue from Kitche th period (25.4/2 erence to calculat erence to low inco full cost basis, inc made a loss of \$ mas strategy of gr & close Kitchen 2 d office costs. | = \$12.7m, then tions e.g. capacit ome area and low cluding head offic 0.01m over the la owth so rationali , other kitchens v | 12.7/8 = \$1.59m) ty utilisation seen wer spend per ord ce and marketing ast six months. | ns low at 45% der. costs, the kitchen a backward step. ver the \$0.02m | | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 2(b) | Analysis Development of knowledge and application points made above. Falling sales in Kitchen 2 may be a drag on the company if it continues, leading to lower profits. Low capacity utilisation suggests inefficient use of resources with fixed costs being spread over a limited quantity of output resulting in higher unit costs. Rationalisation may negatively impact staff motivation in other kitchens leading to higher labour turnover. Marketing and further research may reveal a way in which sales can be increased. Objectives will influence decision – if growth is an objective, then closure would work against this, impact on shareholder confidence. | |
| | Evaluation Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP. Supported decision – to close or not to close? As Kitchen 2 makes a positive contribution (OFR) it should be kept open, to close would result in a reduction in profit. Closure will benefit profits in the long term as if falling sales continue then profits will decrease. Limited data – only six months figures, is it a trend or an exception? Is the area where Kitchen 2 is located slower in coming out of the recession? In which case things could get better. Other evidence needs to be taken into account e.g. attitude of Thierry and Board of Directors Need for far more research into consumer tastes and competition in the area before decision is made. Is marketing mix appropriate for this area? | |

| uestion | Answer | | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| 3 | Evaluate the importance of product and process innovation to the future profitability of TK. | | | | | | |
| | Level | Knowledge 2 marks | Application 2 marks | Analysis 6 marks | Evaluation 6 marks | | |
| | 2 | 2 marks Two or more relevant points made | 2 marks Two or more points applied to TK | 4–6 marks Good use of theory and/or reasoned argument to consider whether product and process innovation is important | 4–6 marks Good judgement shown | | |
| | 1 | 1 mark One relevant point made | 1 mark One point applied to TK | 1–3 marks Some use of theory and/or reasoned consider whether product and/or process innovation is important | 1–3 marks Some judgement shown | | |
| | and p Defin – F – F e Prode First | vation – The dev processes, main ition of profitabil Profit = revenue Profitability is the employed uct as part of the ess innovation re | taining or improv ity and/or profit: minus costs ink between pr marketing mix educing unit cost | ving competitive a ofit and revenue a | and capital | | |
| | Capit Applicati TK hat Thier Pater Resp more Nece | al cost of resear on as been at forefr ry was an early a nt on food packa onse of innovati deliveries | ont of innovatior adopter of the sr ging container ons to change ir ous innovation in | ns in the food delim martphone app fo n social trend, i.e. food menus such | r food delivery | | |

Advantage of trials in response to need for 'contactless' delivery (possible reference to Covid)

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 3 | Analysis Development of knowledge and application points from above. Innovation has differentiated TK from other delivery companies leading to growth of revenue, profit, and the company. Innovation is often costly in the short term, such as development of packaging, which leads to higher costs, lower profits, lower shareholder dividends. Innovations offer solutions to problems but require substantial investment and therefore carry risk – will the ADVs prove to be a costly experiment with no future benefit? Innovation in menus can enable TK to take advantage of changing social trends such as consumption of non-meat products and give TK a competitive advantage leading to increased sales | |
| | Evaluation Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP. Conclusion as to the past and future importance of innovation. Importance of continuing the trend for innovation as a way of maintaining competitive advantage. Other important internal and factors which determine profitability, such as marketing e.g. letting customers know about innovative menu ideas. The meaning of success in terms of profitability? Brand image? The external environment is dynamic and may change in the future and affect profitability differently. Impact of changing environment will depend on the management of TK and its flexibility in responding to change. Contingency planning may be significant. Need for continuous research to lead to new ideas. Need to maintain USP of high quality food which might be threatened by constant change to the menu. | |

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| Question | Answer | Marks |
|-----------|---|-------|
| 4(a)(i) | Refer to Table 2. Calculate for 2021 the: | 2 |
| | operating profit margin | |
| | operating profit margin = operating profit <i>I</i> sales revenue \times 100 (1 if no calculation) | |
| | 3.98 / 25.4 × 100 = 15.67% (2) | |
| | 15.67, 15.7 or 16 (2) | |
| | Note: 0.1567, 0.157 or 0.16 (1) | |
| 4(a)(ii) | return on capital employed (ROCE) | 3 |
| | ROCE = operating profit <i>I</i> capital employed \times 100 (1) | |
| | \$3.98m / \$30m × 100 (2) | |
| | = 13.27% (3) | |
| | 13.27, 13.3, 13 (3) | |
| | Note: Use of profit for the year: $3.18m / 30m = 10.6\%$ (2) If no calculation, allow profit / capital employed × 100 OR profit for the year / capital employed (1) | |
| 4(a)(iii) | gearing ratio | 3 |
| | Gearing ratio = non-current liabilities <i>I</i> capital employed \times 100 (1) | |
| | \$15m / \$30m × 100 (2) | |
| | = 50% (3) | |
| | 50 (3) | |
| | Other answer 0.5 (2) | |
| | OR | |
| | NCL / Shareholders equity $	imes$ 100 OR debt / equity $	imes$ 100 (1) | |
| | \$30m – \$15m = \$15m shareholders' equity (1 if no further calculation) | |
| | So \$15m / \$15m × 100 (2) = 100% (3) 100 (3) Other answer 1 (2) | |

| Question | Answer | | | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 4(b) | Recomm | end whether TI | K should financ | and other inform e the automated y your recomme | delivery vehicle | | |
| | Level | Knowledge 2 marks | Application 2 marks | Analysis 4 marks | Evaluation 4 marks | | |
| | 2 | 2 marks Two or more relevant points made | 2 marks Two or more points applied to TK | 3–4 marks Good use of theory and/or reasoned argument to analyse factors | 3–4 marks Good judgement shown e.g. well supported conclusion | | |
| | 1 | 1 mark One relevant point made | 1 mark One point applied to TK | 1–2 marks Some use of theory and/or reasoned argument to analyse factors | 1–2 marks Some judgement shown e.g. one factor very important | | |
| | Divid Divid profit ROC Under divide Other other Other reduce Poss Poss Poss Applicati Use of car Divid Divid ROC Capit at cur TK has In cur incention | end yield – the 9 end cover ratio – E – the operatin erstanding of imp ends r reasons why in r investments r possible ways cing dividends ible importance ible importance ible importance on lculated shareho end yield – 8.57 end cover – 2.12 E – 13.27 % cal cost of \$1.5m rrent market price ave ambitious in rrent economic s tive to purchase | - the ability of the g profit as a % of plications of new avestors might but of financing trial, of gearing ratio of operating prof blder ratios and R % is above aver 2 times - approximately se novation plans fe situation interest | on current share pl e company to pay f capital employed share issues, dilu uy shares, e.g. lev such as bank bou it margin ROCE - OFR age for the caterin of 107 000 shares i or ADVs rates are likely to | dividends from d tion of control and rel of return on rrowing or ng industry if they can be sold | | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 4(b) | Analysis Development of knowledge and application points from above. Reasons why share capital may be suitable Above average dividend yield may attract investors and consequently a share issue is likely to be successful. Share capital is permanent so does not need to be repaid and no interest costs therefore profitability would be greater. Debt finance will increase gearing. Reasons why share capital may not be suitable Issuing new shares may lead to a dilution of control of TK for Thierry which he may not want. Shareholders will expect dividends every year reducing retained profit whereas a loan would only incur expenses for the duration of the loan. A share issue may result in a reduction in the share price which current shareholders will be unhappy about. | |
| | Evaluation Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP. Recommendation and justification of whether new share issue is the best source of finance. It depends on: Investors' willingness to buy shares Evaluation of alternative source of finance Debt finance (loans) has to be repaid with interest so may not be suitable as this is a high-risk investment Will banks be willing to lend money for high-risk investment This is a competitive industry, and innovation will be important, it has been one of the features of TK so shareholders may look favourably on this. ADV investment is speculative – will investors be willing to take the risk? Other evaluative comment e.g. importance of the trend of ratio results or comparison with similar businesses. | |

| Question | Answer | | | | | | |
|----------|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| 5 | Evaluate whether introducing Just in Time (JIT) will be sufficient to solve the inventory problems at TK. | | | | | | |
| | Level | Knowledge 2 marks | Application 2 marks | Analysis 6 marks | Evaluation 6 marks | | |
| | 2 | 2 marks Two or more relevant points made | 2 marks Two or more points applied to TK | 4–6 marks Good use of theory and/or reasoned argument | 4–6 marks Good judgement shown | | |
| | 1 | 1 mark One relevant point made | 1 mark One point applied to TK | 1–3 marks Some use of theory and/or reasoned argument | 1–3 marks Some judgement shown | | |
| | and facilitating JIT. Application Meals produced in batches of different dishes Demand difficult to predict due to changes in trends, weather, media reviews Many ingredients are perishable so limited storage time possible HR issues, such as flexible contracts for many employees in each kitchen Inventory problems have led to wastage/disappointed customers | | | | | | |
| | Analysis Developm As de if den JIT w reduc Howe | nent of knowledgemand is difficult nand does not e rill reduce stock ce costs. ever, with JIT, if | t to predict TK m merge there will holdings which v demand is not a | on points from ab | tain ingredients and esh ingredients. ge of food so ed there may be | | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 5 | Evaluation Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP. Judgement as to how successful JIT may be in solving inventory problems Need for all departments to work together to coordinate marketing and operations, as some inventory problems may be solved by influencing consumer demand, for instance by images on the app. Evaluation of possible limitations on change e.g. Lead times and flexibility of suppliers Depends on reliable suppliers and a good relationship with them Attitude of Thierry and directors as there is risk involved in changing to JIT Accuracy of sales forecasting Cost of training employees and/or introducing ERP Judgement as to whether JIT may be the best technique to introduce. Other evaluative comment e.g. importance of market research. | |

| Questio | n | | Answer | | Marks |
|--|---|---|--|---|---------------------|
| Questions 6 and 7 use this marking grid: | | | | | |
| Level | Knowledge 3 marks | Application 3 marks | Analysis 4 marks | Evaluation 10 marks | |
| 3 | | | | 7–10 marks Good judgement shown throu with well supported conclusio recommendation, focused on business in the case | on/ |
| 2 | 3 marks Good understanding shown | 3 marks Good application to the case | 3–4 marks Good use of reasoned argument or use of theory to explain points made | 4–6 marks Some judgement shown in th main body of the answer and attempt to support conclusion recommendation, focused on business in the case OR effective and well supported conclusion/ recommendation focused on the business in the case | l an n/ i the |
| 1 | 1–2 marks Some understanding shown | 1–2 marks Some application to the case | 1–2 marks Limited use of reasoned argument or use of theory to support points made | 1–3 marks Limited attempt to show judge either within the answer OR a weakly supported conclusion recommendation with some for on the business in the case | on/ |
| 0 | | | No creditable con | tent | |

| Question | | Answer | | Marks |
|----------|--|--|--|-------|
| 6 | | | of the strategic choice data veen option 1 and option 2 | |
| | Appendix 1 | | | |
| | | Option 1 TK luxury restaurant chain | Option 2 Takeover of snack manufacturer | |
| | Initial cost | \$4m | \$2.5m | |
| | Estimated accounting rate of return (ARR) | 9.1% | 7.6% | |
| | Main driving force | Market for luxury restaurants may grow as economies recover from recession | Can be sold and delivered with existing meal delivery service | |
| | Main restraining force | Ability to respond to high level of competition in the market | No experience in packaged snack production | |
| | Estimated chances of failure | 35% | 30% | |
| | Estimated monetary value over five years | \$3.5m | \$2.2m | |
| | techniques. Knowledge | be on strategic choice tec is part of strategic manag | hniques NOT strategic analy | ysis |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 6 | Application Use of the techniques/factors for two options – Appendix 1 examples. Ansoff's matrix Option 1 is product development or market development Option 2 is product development or diversification. Option 2 has higher probability of success - less risk Option 1 has higher EMV and ARR Option 1 capital cost is \$1.5m greater – link to high gearing of 50% Driving and restraining forces. Complementary product for option 2 Economic growth and demand for luxury restaurants High competition in restaurant market in Europe Not using core competence in option 2 | |
| | Analysis | |
| | How techniques may be used and the advantages and disadvantages. Force field analysis encourages managers to consider different aspects of a decision. By identifying restraining forces action can be taken to mitigate the negative effects of those restraining forces. Better decision making by considering the quantitative aspects of the choices. | |
| | Use of probabilities in decision trees reducing risk for TK of option choice. ARR enables TK to choose option with highest return which may be important to shareholders as will influence dividends. | |
| | The use of techniques to analyse aspects of the options. Interpretation of Ansoff's matrix to compare the relative risk of each option therefore guiding decision making. e.g. option 2 might be considered to be diversification and therefore higher risk than option 1 so is therefore a better option | |
| | How information identified might guide strategic choice, e.g. short-term impact of higher initial cost of option 1 balanced against higher risk of failure, but higher EMV | |
| | How SC techniques, linked with data, might guide strategic choice. Advantages/disadvantages of using qualitative and quantitative techniques | |
| | Evaluation Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP. Judgement/evaluation about usefulness of strategic choice techniques supported by e.g. Is Ansoff useful in this case as risk more influenced by factors such as economic growth impacting incomes. Subjective nature of Force Field Analysis Limitations of using only quantitative or qualitative techniques. Elements that the evaluation/judgement might depend on such as: Accuracy of estimates for quantitative techniques Importance of understanding where the business is now in order to move forward with strategic choice Other information | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 6 | Evaluation of other factors that influence choice such as: Attitude of directors Attitude to risk Influence of strategic analysis Corporate objectives of TK Impact of different strategies on stakeholders Long-term v short-term impacts Other information that might be useful Capital available. Justification of most useful technique(s) with supporting argument. Techniques encourage directors to consider the possible quantitative outcomes of each strategy. This will help decide which is the best and therefore reduce risk. Evaluation that strategic choice on its own is not enough to fully support a decision. TK operate in a dynamic environment so analysis may quickly become outdated. | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 7 | Evaluate the importance to TK of contingency planning when implementing strategies to diversify the activities of the business. | 20 |
| | Knowledge Definition of contingency planning Preparing an organisation's resources for unlikely events that may have a significantly detrimental impact on the business. May also be referred to as scenario planning or business continuity planning. Understanding of strategies Understanding of diversification of business activities | |
| | Benefits Reassures customers and staff that their interests are being considered. Reduces potential impact on customers resulting from a significant disruptive event. A plan will enable a business to respond more quickly when a significant disruptive event occurs. Recognising major risks may actually reduce the risk of the event happening. | |
| | Limitations Disruptive events will still occur. Cannot have contingency plans for all eventualities. Need and cost associated with developing a plan. | |
| | Application Recognising major risks, associated with option 1 and option 2, such as: Food contamination in either option Failure of equipment – could impact storage of food in either option Failure of snack supplies in option 2 Fire in restaurants or kitchens in option 1 Lockdowns/recession keeping people in their homes and away from restaurants Cyber attack on restaurant booking system | |
| | Analysis Planning can be expensive and time consuming. There is the planning process and also the need to train staff for each possible eventuality. Dynamic markets make regular updates to contingency planning essential, so ongoing time and expense. With contingency planning the public relations response to disasters is much more likely to be quick and appropriate so that senior managers can manage media attention and customer and employee concerns. Effective communication of what the company intends to do, by when and how, will reduce the impact of bad PR and loss of customer loyalty. Contingency planning makes crisis management easier when a crisis occurs leading to a lower chance of sales being negatively affected. Contingency planning will mean that TK is less reliant on which employees happen to be present when a crisis occurs. | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
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| 7 | Evaluation Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP. Judgement of extent to which contingency planning is important to success of option 1 and option 2. Contingency planning is just one element of business planning to implement a diversification strategy. Avoiding significant disruptions may be better than planning what to do if they happen. Plans need to be updated frequently as the business develops increasing costs. Cost to TK needs to be balanced against the potential costs of not doing it. Which potential disasters could/should be planned for? Evaluation of time spent on preparing and testing contingency plans. It is impossible for TK to plan for all eventualities. | |