# Cambridge International AS & A Level

BUSINESS
Paper 3 Case Study
MARK SCHEME
Maximum Mark: 100

Published

Students did not sit exam papers in the June 2020 series due to the Covid-19 global pandemic.

This mark scheme is published to support teachers and students and should be read together with the question paper. It shows the requirements of the exam. The answer column of the mark scheme shows the proposed basis on which Examiners would award marks for this exam. Where appropriate, this column also provides the most likely acceptable alternative responses expected from students. Examiners usually review the mark scheme after they have seen student responses and update the mark scheme if appropriate. In the June series, Examiners were unable to consider the acceptability of alternative responses, as there were no student responses to consider.

Mark schemes should usually be read together with the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers. However, because students did not sit exam papers, there is no Principal Examiner Report for Teachers for the June 2020 series.

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

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the June 2020 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™ and Cambridge International A & AS Level 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.

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# **General Marking Guidance**

- Marking should be positive: marks should not be subtracted for errors or inaccuracies.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.
- Errors that are carried forward (e.g. when an incorrect numerical answer to one part of a question is used as the starting point for a calculation in the next part of the question) should not be compounded use the 'own figure rule'.
- Poor spelling, handwriting or grammar should not be penalised as long as the answer makes sense.
- Poor grammar or spelling is not to be penalised, nor is it to be used as an excuse for rewarding unclear reasoning or explanations.
- Answers that contain poor handwriting are not to be penalised. Examiners should mark what they
  can read and make a note to that effect. Where this is a significant factor CIE should be notified.
- An answer 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 an answer does not fit on the lined paper it should be assessed as if it did.
- In numerical answers units are to be preferred but are not required.
- The main Scoris annotations to be used are K (Knowledge), APP (Application), AN (Analysis), EVAL (Evaluation). For each of these four annotations, the number of marks awarded for that assessment objective must match the number of times that annotation is on the answer.
- Only award EVAL if the candidate has also demonstrated APP.
- Blank pages on a script should be annotated as SEEN.
- A blank space, dash, question mark and a response that bears no relation to the question constitutes a 'no response'.
- 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'.
- Blank pages, or pages that contain crossed out material, must be annotated using 'seen'.
- Accept Any Reasonable Answer when awarding marks

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.

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Question	Answer					
1	Analyse the benefits to JGS of outsourcing.					
	Level	Knowledge 3 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 5 marks		
	2	3 marks Two or more relevant points made about benefits	2 marks Points made are applied to JGS	3–5 marks Good use of theory to explain benefits		
	1	1–2 marks One or two relevant points made about benefits	1 mark Some application to JGS	1–2 marks Some use of theory to explain benefits		
	0		No creditable content			
	Answers      Ena     exp     Opp     No     Rec     Ena		ot e.g. to employees or on key issues relating to bility f wages, pensions de services ence to mountain walks	other stakeholders.  competition and  s, village families hosting		
	<b>Analysi</b> Possible	nodation and food, guide  s e implication of points maprofit, focus on key issue	ade e.g. reduced opera	ting costs means		

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Question	Answer	Marks	
2(a)	Refer to Table 1 and lines 24–26. Calculate the:		
2(a)(i)	average seasonal variation for quarter 3	2	
	Identification of values for quarter 3 (1 mark)		
	(-6000 + -14000)/2 = -\$10000 (2 marks)		
2(a)(ii)	forecast sales for quarter 3 in 2021, assuming a forecast trend of \$86 560.		
	Forecast sales = trend plus average seasonal variation (1 mark)		
	86 560 + (-10 000) = \$76 560 (2 marks)		
2(b)	Refer to lines 20–21. Calculate the income elasticity of demand (YED) of the residents of country K for JGS tours.	2	
	YED = % change in demand / % change in income (1 mark)		
	20 / 5 = 4 (2 marks)		

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stion	Answer							
2(c)		sales forecasts		_	mation. Discuss likely to be			
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 3–4 marks	Evaluation 3–4 marks			
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to JGS	3–4 marks Good use of theory to answer question	3–4 marks Good judgment shown			
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to JGS	1–2 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–2 marks Some judgment shown			
	0		No credita	ble content				
	<ul> <li>Forecast is based on past behaviour projected into the future</li> <li>The future may not behave as the past</li> <li>Market / economic environment changes may or may not be as forecasted</li> <li>Other factors may influence the forecast</li> </ul> Application Reference to mountain walks, possible price increase, government policy on							
	small businesses, possible changes to outsourcing conditions, market conditions in client countries, country K, possible implementation of Options  Analysis							
	<ul><li>Accurate forection</li><li>Futu</li><li>Chair</li><li>Inter</li><li>Ther</li></ul>	rately takes into a	past behaviour environment may affect take-up of why less custon	xactly influence forecas holidays				
	<ul><li>Tech</li><li>Rapi</li><li>Man</li></ul>	fied conclusion as nnique only as goo dly changing mar y uncertainties re	od as data ket environment ı	means forecast le the forecast	ess accurate			

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Question	Answer						
3	approp	planning to incre riate organisatio nendation.					
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 6 marks	Evaluation 6 marks		
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to JGS	4–6 marks Good use of theory to answer question	4–6 marks Good judgment shown		
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to JGS	1–3 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–3 marks Some judgment shown		
	0		No credita	able content			
	Answers Any/all t	ion/leadership.  s could include:  from: flexibility/adv  ts, objectives of st  es, delegation and	ructure, types of	structure, formal a			
	<ul><li>Reg</li><li>Jan</li><li>Nat</li><li>cus</li></ul>	ation  ange from self-em  gional managers a  and Gorl have di  ture of business: to  tomers  vernment change	and extra office er fferent approache ourism, walks, vill	mployees es lage accommodat	tion, international		
	<ul><li>Advanta</li><li>Ma</li><li>Eas</li><li>Eas</li><li>Disadva</li></ul>	from self-employ ages: y bring security to sier to administer sier to plan ahead	and commitment	-			
	• Mo	re expensive in ac ort run loss of cert	-				

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Question	Answer	Marks
3	<ul> <li>Centralising by owners means</li> <li>Clear goals/guidelines</li> <li>Faster decision making</li> <li>Better consistency and coordination of activities</li> <li>Formal hierarchy means clear chain of command and communications</li> <li>Managers have good knowledge of the workforce and can detect promotion candidates and direct customers to appropriate houses/guides</li> <li>Employees have clear set objectives, structure and guidance</li> <li>Customers have clear expectations that will be met hence satisfaction is increased</li> <li>Delegation to employees means:</li> <li>Employees feel valued and will be creative, faster decision taking</li> <li>Employees increase confidence and skills</li> <li>Easier to detect promotion candidates</li> <li>Managers freed to focus on strategic thinking</li> <li>Employees freer to develop relationships with customers based on their individual strengths</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Still a small business so Jan and Gorl are able to know office and regional employees. Means either approach is beneficial</li> <li>Employee guides and hosts will be dealing directly with customers so must have some trust and authority to act in accordance with conditions as they see them</li> <li>Necessary to have control via expectations, contractual requirements and JGS policy</li> <li>Is it worth considering a change to JGS as a company to better deal with expansion and possible need for finance?</li> <li>Combination of approaches e.g. possible to have tight control of office and regional managers but more trust for villagers</li> <li>Employment contracts will inevitably mean more formality and control</li> </ul>	

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Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	Refer to Table 2. Calculate the:	
4(a)(i)	number of customers needed for a tour to break even	3
	Break even = FC / unit contribution (1) Unit contribution = price – AVC	
	Unit contribution = 480 – 370 = 110 (1)	
	Break even means zero profit or loss or formula TR=TC (1 mark) or $TR = P \times q$	
	$TC = FC + q \times VC$ $FC / contribution per unit$ (1 mark)	
	480q = 550 + 370q 110q = 550 (1 mark)	
	Break even number of customers = 5 (3 marks)	
4(a)(ii)	total contribution from a tour with two customers	2
	Total contribution = $TR - VC$ (1 mark)	
	$480 \times 2 - 370 \times 2 = $220$ (2 marks)	
4(a)(iii)	profit or loss from a tour with two customers.	3
	Profit/loss = TR – (FC + VC) Profit = Total contribution - FC  (1 mark)	
	$480 \times 2 - (550 + 370 \times 2)$ (2 marks)	
	= - $$330$ (3 marks) OR $2 \times 110 - 550 = $-330$	

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Question			Answer	•		Marks
4(b)	whether	your answers to a tour should go our recommend	ahead with onl			12
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 3–4 marks	Evaluation 3–4 marks	
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to JGS	3–4 marks Good use of theory to answer question	3–4 marks Good judgment shown	
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to JGS	1–2 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–2 marks Some judgment shown	
	0		No credita	ble content		
	Knowled Definition Reasons Applicat Guides, I	ns of contribution as why a positive co	and profit. Intribution order noreign customers.	nay or may not b	e accepted.	
	advistake Profithe k Good Guide busin Serv not t busin Poss Disa	tribution is positive sable to take the best place it negative (–\$330 pooking, as is agained will from villagers des may not want messes or may like vice industry focus to let down customness sible costs involved agreement between gookings with	hence a loss on inst policy s maintained as g to look after only e small number a ed on customers who have bod in cancelling a n Jan and Gorl co	stomers may app this trip so not a etting some income two and seek wo and want more wo and their satisfact oked leading to p booking ould harm busine	dvisable to take me rk from other rk ction so important cossible loss of	

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Question	Answer	Marks
4(b)	<ul> <li>Evaluation Take these bookings as advantages of trip going ahead outweigh disadvantages <ul> <li>Main reason is that a contribution to fixed cost is made plus the business is generating work and customers</li> <li>Do not take these bookings as disadvantages of trip going ahead outweigh the advantages</li> <li>Main reason is that a loss is made plus is against policy</li> <li>Another point is that the financial cost data may not be accurate. If costs turn out to be higher, then positive contribution may not be made or if costs turn out lower then more contribution is made</li> <li>Need to be certain of the accuracy and reliability of the data</li> <li>Difficult to quantify the non-financial advantages and disadvantages so better to not take these booking as only the revenue is certain</li> </ul> </li></ul>	

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Question	Answer							
5		whether JGS sho	ould maintain hi	gh standards of	corporate social	1		
	Level	Knowledge 2 marks	Application 2 marks	Analysis 6 marks	Evaluation 6 marks			
	2	2 marks Two or more relevant points	2 marks Application of two or more points to JGS	4–6 marks Good use of theory to answer question	4–6 marks Good judgment shown			
	1	1 mark One relevant point made	1 mark Some application to JGS	1–3 marks Some use of theory to answer question	1–3 marks Some judgment shown			
	0		No credita	able content				
	<ul> <li>Activity of country P and client country pressure groups</li> <li>Country P government enquiry</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>Activ</li> </ul>	ntry P government	nd client country p					
	<ul> <li>CSR increasingly important for all businesses as customers, suppliers and governments expect it</li> <li>Building CSR can lead to a marketing advantage</li> <li>Engaging with CSR will help maintain the reasons why customers visit,</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>generating more future business</li> <li>Pressure group activity can lead to businesses with CSR gaining at expense of those that do not engage with CSR</li> </ul>							
	<ul><li>highe</li><li>CSR</li><li>JGS</li></ul>	nging with CSR caser prices and less implemented now rely on local villaged if CSR implemented if CSR implemented if CSR implemented in the control of the c	sales v may be less exp gers to provide se	pensive than in th				
	<ul><li>Rank</li><li>JGS' envir reaso</li><li>Actin</li></ul>	on corted conclusion king relevant facto s business is base onment. Not enga ons for customers g in advance of the	rs ed on attracting o aging with CSR w to visit/buy so m ne enquiry will be	ustomers to a pa ill definitely remo ust be concerned a selling point ar	ve some of the I with it			

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Question	Answer	Marks
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# 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 judgment shown throughout with well supported conclusion/ recommendation, focused on JGS	
2	3 marks Good understandin g shown	3 marks Good application to JGS	3–4 marks Good use of reasoned argument or use of theory to explain points made to explain points made	4–6 marks Some judgment shown in the main body of the answer <b>and</b> an attempt to support conclusion/ recommendation, focused on JGS OR effective and well supported conclusion/ recommendation focused on JGS	
1	1–2 marks Some understandin g shown	1–2 marks Some application to JGS	1–3 marks Limited use of reasoned argument or use of theory to support points made	1–3 marks Limited attempt to show judgment either within the answer OR a weakly supported conclusion/ recommendation with some focus on JGS	
0		No creditable content			

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Question	Answer	Marks
6	Evaluate whether the decision tree calculation in Table 3 is sufficient for JGS to make a strategic choice between Option 1 and Option 2.	20
	Note to examiners: answers that contain an appropriate Ansoff's Matrix and/or Force Field Analysis can be awarded Kn and App marks. For An marks, there must be a commentary that makes links or implications of the use of the techniques.	
	<ul> <li>Knowledge</li> <li>Place of strategic choice in overall strategic planning</li> <li>Explanation of decision tree method and use</li> <li>Role of strategic choice in management</li> <li>Decision trees as one of three strategic choice techniques</li> <li>Explanation and/or drawing up of Ansoff Matrix, Force Field Analysis</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Application</li> <li>JGS opportunities – expanding business, multinational offer, extension to tourist sites</li> <li>JGS threats – environmental and cultural degradation, competition</li> <li>Owner objective of expansion</li> <li>JGS objective of expansion</li> <li>Use of data in Table 3</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Analysis</li> <li>EMVs from Table 2 indicate preferred option is 2</li> <li>Ansoff's indicates Option 1 is effectively Market development (medium risk), Option 2 is effectively diversification (high risk)</li> <li>This analysis is reflected in decision tree figures</li> <li>Not much information to draw up a force field analysis</li> <li>Strategic choice is a stage in strategic management and is based on setting objectives and analysis</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Evaluation</li> <li>Decision trees show clear understandable information</li> <li>Takes account of risk and probability of outcomes and is objective</li> <li>Allows for "what if" analysis</li> <li>Accuracy and reliability of decision trees rely on accurate data. No indication of how this was obtained. Does Jan have the competency to prepare this reliably?</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>However</li> <li>Decision trees only provide quantitative information and may be based on poor research</li> <li>Decision trees cannot take account of future unseen factors and only provide averages</li> <li>Choice is only a part of strategic management and success depends on effective implementation</li> <li>Summary/conclusion - likely to be that decision trees provide vital information for JGS but that other techniques are necessary for a fully informed decision</li> </ul>	

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Question	Answer	Marks		
7	Evaluate the significance of contingency planning for JGS as it prepares to implement its future strategies.			
	Answers could include:  Explanation of contingency planning process possibly including examples  Place of contingency planning in strategic management			
	<ul> <li>Application</li> <li>Reference to JGS plans for the future including expansion of mountain walks, changes to structure, Options 1 and 2</li> <li>Applicable activities – guides, village accommodation, internet marketing</li> <li>Market conditions – CSR considerations (government enquiry), possible rise of competition, income changes in client countries</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Analysis</li> <li>Discussion of current activities and their risks</li> <li>Possible changes and the risks involved in them</li> <li>Linking process of contingency planning to present and to possible futures for JGS</li> <li>Possible effects of successful contingency planning and/or implications of not carrying it out advantages</li> <li>Facilitates quick response</li> <li>Enables effective PR if needed</li> <li>Provides confidence for managers and stakeholders disadvantages</li> <li>Expensive in resources and time that may not be actually used</li> <li>Needs constant updating/reviewing and takes focus away from core activities</li> <li>Having a contingency plan might mean a problem is thought to be covered so it is no longer considered</li> <li>Relation of contingency planning to review and process of strategic</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Evaluation</li> <li>Conclusion on how essential contingency planning is</li> <li>Requires objectives and to be set in the process of strategic management</li> <li>Success of contingency planning only as good as the information it is based on. This may be unreliable or inaccurate.</li> <li>JGS faces change, whatever the outcome of decisions on expansion, structure or the 2 Options so it is essential to be prepared for results of whatever change happens</li> <li>Small organisation run by expert owners so may not need formal process of contingency planning</li> <li>Supported conclusion on role of contingency planning in the process of strategic management</li> <li>Comparison on importance of contingency planning compared to other elements of strategic management</li> </ul>			

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# Question 2 (a)(ii) checking/justification

	Moving Average	Seasonal Variation	Average Seasonal Variation	4 quarter total	8 quarter total	sales
Q3						34
Q4				162		78
Q1	41.50	-1.50		170	332	40
Q2	45.00	-35.00		190	360	10
Q3	48.00	-6.00	-10	194	384	42
Q4	50.00	48.00		206	400	98
Q1	52.25	-8.25		212	418	44
Q2	56.75	-34.75		242	454	22
Q3	62.00	-14.00		254	496	48
Q4	64.25	63.75		260	514	128
Q1						56
Q2						28

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