

90844



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

2

SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

Level 2 Business Studies, 2012

90844 Demonstrate understanding of how a large business responds to external factors

2.00 pm Friday 30 November 2012

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of how a large business responds to external factors.	Demonstrate in-depth understanding of how a large business responds to external factors.	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of how a large business responds to external factors.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should attempt ALL the questions in this booklet.

Refer to relevant business knowledge and/or Māori business concepts in your answers.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–14 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

TOTAL

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You are advised to spend 60 minutes answering the questions in this booklet.

Use the information in the boxes, and your business knowledge, to answer each question.

QUESTION ONE: TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT

National Meatworks is a meat processing company that operates throughout New Zealand. To date, they have used standardised commercial equipment and practices to ensure that their products comply with food regulations and meet standards. Recently, their research and development team has created advanced automated meat processing technology, which is setting a new standard in their sector.

(a) Explain the role technology plays in a business.

(b) Fully explain TWO benefits of the new automated meat processing technology for *National Meatworks*.

In your answer, you should refer to:

- meat processing time
- worker productivity.

(c) Fully explain TWO costs to *National Meatworks* associated with creating and using this new technology.

In your answer, you should refer to:

- research and development costs
- employee-related costs.

Question One continues on page 4 ►

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The examination continues on the following page.**

QUESTION TWO: TRADE UNIONS

National Meatworks' new technology introduced two robots that operate on the plant floor. The robots automate the cutting process and removal of the unwanted parts of the animal. The company plans to install other robots in the future. This would mean staff redundancies and the restructuring of current jobs. Installation of the robots has resulted in a new layout of the factory, and workers are now required to perform some tasks differently. The *Union of Meat Processors* is closely observing the impact on workers.

- (a) Explain why an employee might choose to join a trade union.

- (b) Fully explain concerns that the *Union of Meat Processors* may have regarding the changes at *National Meatworks*.

In your answer, you should refer to:

- redundancies and restructuring
- changes to working conditions.

(c) Fully explain the methods that a trade union has, to address workers' issues and concerns.

In your answer, you should refer to:

- collective bargaining
- legal representation
- strikes.

Question Two continues on page 8 ►

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QUESTION THREE: EMPLOYER ASSOCIATIONS

National Meatworks belongs to the employer association *Meat Manufacturers NZ*. The employer association has encouraged investment in new technology. By automating the early stages of meat processing and allowing the research and development team to work alongside the production team to solve problems collectively, *National Meatworks* and the industry will save millions of dollars. As a result, the collaboration between *National Meatworks* and *Meat Manufacturers NZ* is a standout success.

(a) Explain the business term **employer association**.

(b) Fully explain the role of an employer association.

In your answer, you may refer to:

- lobbying
- networking opportunities
- business information and advice.

(c) Fully explain why *Meat Manufacturers NZ* would encourage its members to improve health and safety standards.

In your answer, you should refer to:

- productivity
- industry reputation.

Question Three continues on page 12 ►

- (d) Discuss why a large business (more than 20 employees and/or with a regional or national significance) that you have studied, should belong to an employer association.

In your answer, you should:

- explain how membership could assist with daily operations of the named business
- fully explain how membership could lead to survival and future growth
- justify, with reasons, continued membership of the employer association, with reference to the reputation of the named business within its industry.

Name of business: _____

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