

A Parent's Guide to Using Examiner's Reports



Tuesday 31st January, 2012

Rationale



A greater understanding of the thoughts of the people who write the exams our children take is beneficial;

Examiner's reports contribute towards this greater understanding

Workshop Content



- What is an Examiner's report?
- Why is it useful as an aid to revision?
- How can we use Examiner's reports as an aid to revision?
- Where do you access Examiner's reports?

What is an Examiner's report?



- It is a document produced by examination boards after each examination session
- It reviews the performance of students (from a national perspective) in relation to a specific exam
- It will give general feedback and also specific question by question feedback

Why is it useful as an aid to revision?



- It gives feedback from the people who write the exam – both in terms of exam technique and subject content
- It clearly highlights where students have achieved success in the exam
- It clearly highlights where students can improve performance
- It gives indicators as to the style and content of future examinations

How can we use Examiner's Reports as an aid to revision?



- By analysing the Examiner's Report, it allows us to;
 1. highlight areas of exam technique that are considered important by the Examiner
 2. highlight specific aspects of syllabus content that have caused students difficulty

Using the Examiner's Report



Background Information

AO1	knowledge
AO2	explanation
AO3	evaluation

Task

1. Read through the extract for the Examiner's report for Unit 1 : Setting up a Business (which focuses on small businesses)
2. Note any useful pieces of information from the "General Issues" section
3. Explain why they are useful

General Issues



- **Able to identify with all three of the scenarios** (line 3)
 - suggests using case studies when revising
- **Small business described** (line 5)
 - emphasises importance of application to a small business
- **Do not over complicate or over answer the initial knowledge and application questions** (line 9)
 - clear exam technique related to AO1 and AO2 questions
- **Answer all the evaluation questions** (line 11)
 - exam technique, AO3 questions are worth the most marks

General Issues



- **Similar format in the future** (line 13)
 - revision should focus on past papers/past paper style questions
- **(candidates) failed to reach judgements or decision required** (line 16)
 - highlights a key feature of AO3 question
- **command words were generally understood by candidates** (line 24)
 - highlights need to answer the question state, explain or recommend
- **a wide coverage of the specification** (line 26)
 - suggests value in revising all syllabus content
- **(not) bogged down with theory** (line 34)
 - emphasises importance of application of content to the case studies – revision should focus on the use of case studies

Where do you access Examiner's reports?



- Examination Board websites;
 - http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gcse_2010/english/english/documents/
- Relevant Head of Department – for the most recent Examiner's reports

Examiner's reports : Summary



- We have briefly considered;
 - What?
 - Why?
 - How?
 - Where?

FINAL THOUGHT



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