

IGCSE Business Studies (0450)

Frequently Asked Questions

Are there different tiers of entry for IGCSE Business Studies?

No – all the grades are available and the question papers are not differentiated in terms of tiers.

How can I get in touch with other teachers of Business Studies?

We have an e-mail discussion group, which you may find useful. The discussion groups are based on e-mail technology. Sending a message or query to the group will mean that it is viewed by all members of the group. By being a member of the group teachers can share ideas, resources and ask subject related questions which will be seen by the CIE Product Manager and examiners but also by all other teachers who have registered on the group. For example, a teacher could ask how everyone is approaching a particular topic, what books they might recommend or simply find out who else is teaching their subject.

You can join the discussion group by going to the Teacher Support website

<http://teachers.cie.org.uk>

Are there any textbooks written specifically for the IGCSE Business Studies syllabus?

For the IGCSE Business Studies syllabus there are two textbooks written specifically for the syllabus:

IGCSE Business Studies, by Karen Borrington and Peter Stimpson, 3rd Edition, John Murray, ISBN-10: 034092649X

IGCSE Business Studies, by Chris Nuttall, Cambridge University Press, ISBN 0521750954

Is it acceptable for students to write their answers as bullet points?

Marking for IGCSE Business Studies is not just a matter of counting the number of points made for a question worth 10 to 12 marks. A range of appropriate points should be identified and the more important points should be developed, with reference to examples. It would not be sufficient on a question worth 10 to 12 marks for a candidate to give a list of points with no explanation or development of ideas. In a 2 or 3 mark question, an example would not strictly be required unless specifically asked for, although again students might wish to give an example. Students often find it easier to give an explanation to a question if they can illustrate their answer using an example. The example would be rewarded provided it enhanced the answer.

What support materials are available?

- Syllabus
- IGCSE Business Studies Standards Booklet (this contains student answers to IGCSE questions along with the mark scheme, marks and comments of a senior examiner)
- Past question papers and mark schemes
- Scheme of work
- Reports on past examinations
- Distance Training Pack for accreditation of teachers to assess coursework.

They can be obtained from CIE Publications or the Teacher Support website.