

**Thursday 14 June 2012 – Afternoon****A2 GCE APPLIED BUSINESS****F248/01 Strategic Decision-Making**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

**OCR supplied materials:**

- Clean copy Case Study

**Other materials required:**

- A calculator may be used

**Duration: 2 hours**

Candidate forename					Candidate surname				
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Centre number						Candidate number			
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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes above. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided. Additional paper may be used if necessary but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- Your Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (\*).
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- This document consists of **20** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



**A calculator may  
be used for this  
paper**

- 1 Rachel, *Fontane Ltd*'s Managing Director, uses human-resource indicators to set goals for the organisation.

**Table 1**

<b>Performance Data for <i>Fontane Ltd</i></b>			
	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Total number of staff	34	34	35
Rate of absenteeism	3%	2%	3%
Chocolate fountains produced	35 500	36 000	37 500

- (a) What is meant by the term 'rate of absenteeism'?

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 ..... [3]

- (b) Using the information given in **Table 1**, calculate *Fontane Ltd*'s labour productivity for **2011**. Show your working. [2]

Workings:

Labour productivity for 2011 = ..... chocolate fountains per worker

(c) Explain **two** advantages to an organisation such as *Fontane Ltd* of setting business goals.

1. ....

.....

.....

2. ....

.....

.....

[4]

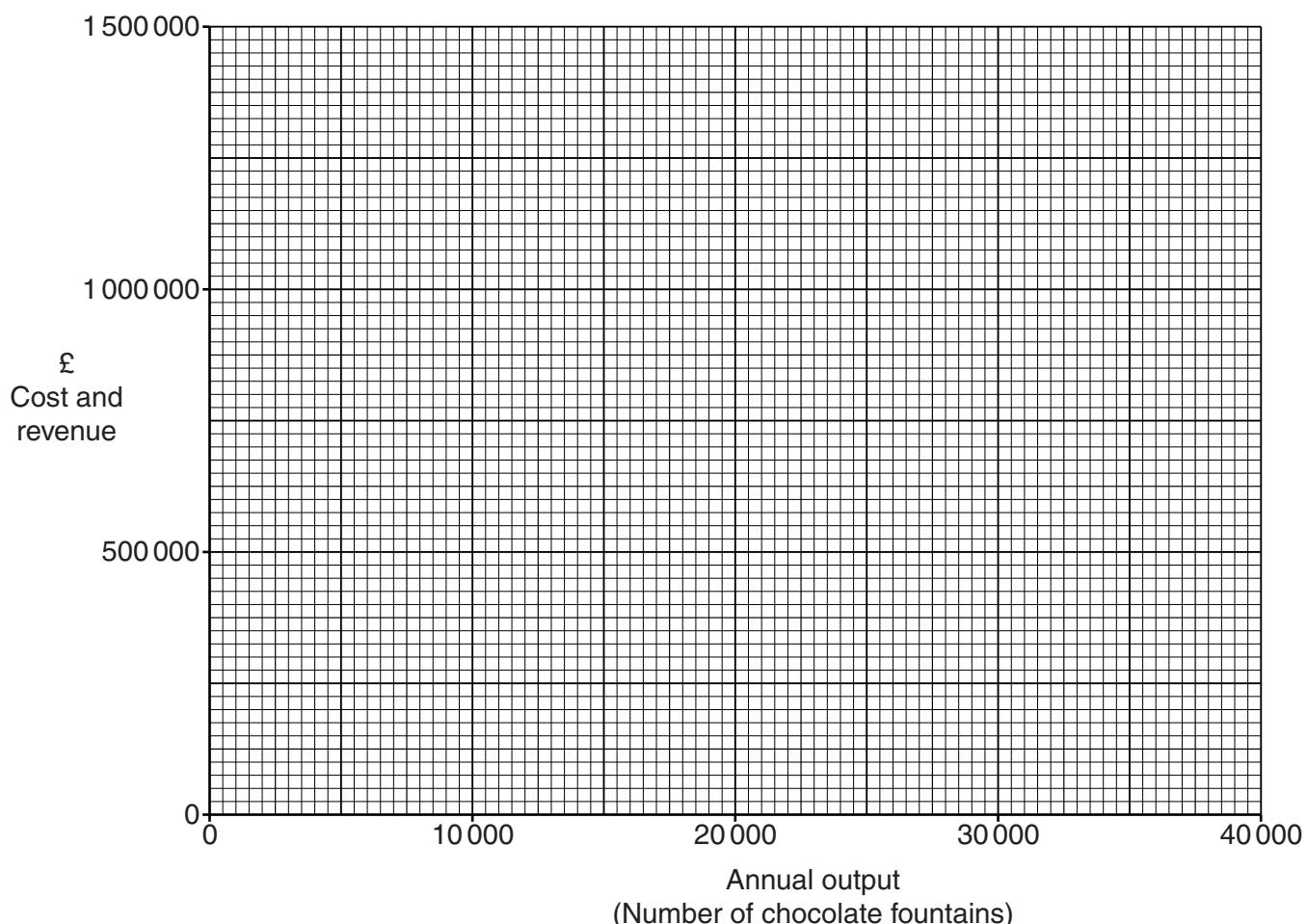
[Total: 9]

2 Current data for *Fontane Ltd* indicates:

- an average selling price of £35 per chocolate fountain;
- variable costs per chocolate fountain of £9.60 for labour and £5.40 for materials;
- fixed costs of £500 000 per annum.

(a) (i) On the grid provided below, construct a break-even chart for *Fontane Ltd*'s current situation. [6]

(ii) Clearly label the **break-even point**, and areas of **profit** and **loss** on your break-even chart. [3]



Show your workings:

- (b) Given the current data for *Fontane Ltd*, calculate how much profit it would make if it sold 38 000 chocolate fountains in a year. Show your workings. [4]

## Workings:

**Profit = £ .....**

- (c) Evaluate the usefulness of break-even analysis to *Fontane Ltd.*

. [8]

[Total: 21]

- 3 (a)** Explain the benefits to *Fontane Ltd* of having a contingency plan.

[4]

[4]

- (b\*)** Evaluate likely impacts of fluctuating sterling exchange rates on *Fontane Ltd*'s ability to make strategic decisions.



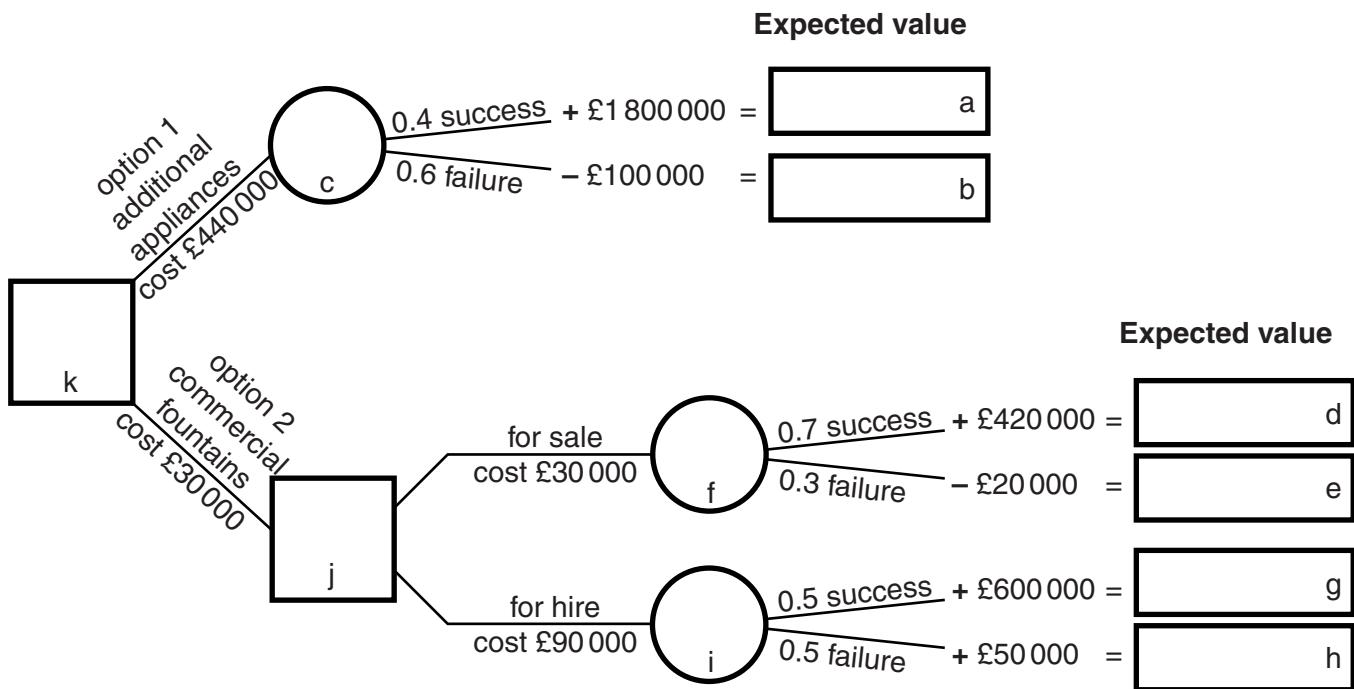
[14]

... [14]

[Total: 18]

- 4 Rachel wants to produce a decision tree in order to help evaluate the expansion options being considered by *Fontane Ltd*.
- (a) Complete the decision tree below by entering the appropriate value into each of the nodes and boxes labelled a–k. A box for your workings is provided below.

[11]



Workings:

(b) Explain **two** limitations of using a decision tree as a decision-making tool.

1. ....

.....

.....

2. ....

.....

.....

[4]

[Total: 15]

- 5 *Fontane Ltd* uses a variety of methods to inform its strategic decision-making.
- (a) Explain **one** disadvantage to *Fontane Ltd* of using **payback** analysis as an investment appraisal technique.

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

[2]

- (b) Explain **one** disadvantage to *Fontane Ltd* of using **ARR** (accounting (average) rate of return) analysis as an investment appraisal technique.

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

[2]

- (c) Label the **two** unnamed quadrants in the Ansoff's Matrix grid below.

[2]

		<b>Products</b>	
		<b>Existing</b>	<b>New</b>
<b>Markets</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Market penetration	New product development
	<b>New</b>	1. ....	2. ....

- (d) State **one** benefit to *Fontane Ltd* of using Ansoff's Matrix as a strategic decision-making tool.

.....  
.....

[1]

- (e) Explain **one** drawback to *Fontane Ltd* of using Ansoff's Matrix as a strategic decision-making tool.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

[2]

[Total: 9]

- 6 (a) Explain **one** difference between quantitative and qualitative information.

[2]

[2]

- (b) Using **both** quantitative and qualitative information, recommend and fully justify which option (1, 2a or 2b) *Fontane Ltd* should take.





[20]

[Total: 22]

- 7** Whichever option *Fontane Ltd* takes, an integrated marketing strategy will be needed.

**(a)** Name **two** elements of the marketing mix.

1. ....

2. .... [2]

**(b)** Explain the benefits to *Fontane Ltd* of having an integrated marketing strategy as it seeks to expand.

[4]

[Total: 6]

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