

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



HOME ECONOMICS
Unit 2 Food Product Assessment and Analysis

HEC2/PM

Prior Research Information

Research time: 15 March to 22 May 2006

Instructions to candidates

- You may begin your research from 15 March 2006.
- Research **one** topic only.
- You must write your name on all parts of your research.
- You will have **two 3-hour examination sessions** to write your response to a task based on your research.
- Your response, including any relevant research material, should be done between 1500 and 2000 words and done in the 12-page answer book provided. However, it is also possible to use more or fewer words.
- The examination sessions are timetabled for Tuesday 23 May 2006 pm (Session 1) and Wednesday 24 May 2006 am (Session 2).
- You may use the research material you have collected.
- You may **not** add to your research material after Session 1 has started.
- You may use all or part of Session 1 to order your research before you begin writing your response to the Task.
- You will not have access to your research material or answer book between Session 1 and Session 2.
- At the end of Session 2 hand in both your answer book and all your research material to the invigilator.

Research **one** of the following topics.

Topic 1

Investigate the standards set for the provision of school meals in the UK. Your research should address the adequacy of these standards in relation to the nutritional requirements of school children and the government's guidelines for healthy eating. In addition, you should consider the value for money, quality and palatability of school meals. Wherever possible, you should give practical solutions to any shortcomings you encounter.

Topic 2

Colloidal systems give structure, texture and mouth feel to many food products. Identify the main colloidal systems and investigate their use in the production of foods. You should consider at least two food examples for each colloidal system. Your research should cover the scientific principles involved in such systems. Practical work should be an integral part of this investigation.

Topic 3

The elderly form an increasingly large percentage of the UK population. Investigate thoroughly their nutritional needs and their nutritional status. Your research should also include the risk factors which could lead to malnutrition and practical ways of prevention.

Topic 4

Genetically-modified food (GM) has become a major health and environmental issue in the UK. Investigate the reasons for this. Your research and practical investigation should consider the benefits and disadvantages of GM food and how it affects our decisions when making food choices.