

HOME ECONOMICS

HEC5

Unit 5 The Consumer and Consumer Protection Task

Thursday 21 June 2007 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm (Session 1)

Friday 22 June 2007 9.00 am to 12.00 noon (Session 2)

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book
- your research material
- scissors, glue

You may use a calculator.

Time allowed: 6 hours in two 3-hour sessions

Instructions to candidates

- Attempt **one** task only.
- 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.
- Your response, including any relevant research material, should be written in the 12-page answer book provided.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HEC5.
- Use a blue or black ink (or ball-point) pen. Use pencil only for drawing.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- If you need extra paper, use additional answer sheets.
- At the end of Session 2, hand in both your answer book and all your research material to the invigilator.

Attempt **one** task only, based on the topic you have researched.

Topic 1

Informed consumers are consumers who generally make good choices when buying food or textile products.

For a named group of consumers, research the sources of information that are available to help them make informed choices when buying food or textile products. Consider what is meant by 'making a good choice' and being 'an informed consumer.'

Task 1

Use your research to write a report which considers the information your chosen consumer group can use to help them make informed choices when buying food or textile products. Assess the usefulness of this information to this group.

In your conclusion list the main characteristics of an 'informed consumer.'

Topic 2

Consumers have the capability to source food or textile products from virtually anywhere in the world and to pay for them in a number of ways. This is in contrast to sourcing and paying for food or textile products in the 1960s.

Research the changes that have taken place in the sourcing of food or textile products and in the methods of payment from the 1960s to the present day.

Consider the reasons for these changes.

Task 2

Using your research findings, analyse how and why the sourcing of food or textile products and the methods of payment have changed from the 1960s to the present day.

Topic 3

Consumer protection is available in the form of help from independent organisations, the Government and from industry-supported groups.

Research why consumers need to be protected and the forms of help that consumers can receive when they are buying and using food or textile products.

Task 3

Use your research findings to write a report which assesses the suitability and effectiveness of consumer protection when buying and using food or textile products.

In your conclusion suggest what further protection, if any, would be beneficial to consumers.

END OF TASKS

There are no tasks printed on this page