

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



HOME ECONOMICS

HEC5

Unit 5 The Consumer and Consumer Protection Task

Tuesday 17 June 2008 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm (Session 1)

Wednesday 18 June 2008 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-hours sessions

Instructions

- Attempt **one** task only.
- You may use the research material you have collected.
- You must **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, must be done 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 black ink or black 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

Labels provide the consumer with information about a product.

Research the labelling of food or textile products and related equipment. Consider the suitability and effectiveness of the labelling on these products and the features of a well-designed label.

Investigate how the consumer is protected against misleading labelling.

Task 1

Using your research, write a report that assesses the suitability and effectiveness of the labelling of either food or textile products and related equipment.

Describe the features of a well-designed label.

In your conclusion discuss the effectiveness of consumer protection against misleading labelling.

Topic 2

In the last thirty years, how and where consumers shop for food or textiles has changed dramatically.

Research how shopping for food or textiles and related equipment has changed during the last thirty years. Include the changes that have occurred in the shopping environment.

Consider how these changes have affected an identified group of consumers.

Task 2

Using your research, write a report which discusses the changes that have taken place in shopping during the last thirty years. In your report refer to food or textile products and related equipment.

In your conclusion consider the changes you have identified and state their advantages and disadvantages to your chosen group of consumers.

Topic 3

Consumers can shop and pay for their goods in many different ways. As a result of this the number of consumer laws and their amendments has increased in order to protect consumers more effectively.

Research:

- (a) which laws protect consumers if they buy either food or textile products and related equipment;
- (b) how much knowledge and understanding consumers have of the laws that are designed to protect them when they buy one or the other of these products.

Task 3

Using your research, write a report that illustrates the **relevant parts** of the laws which will protect consumers when buying either food or textile products and related equipment.

In your report assess consumers' knowledge of the relevant consumer laws.

Suggest ways in which the knowledge and understanding of consumers could be improved.

END OF TASKS

There are no tasks printed on this page