

GCSE

Law

General Certificate of Secondary Education B144

Consumer Rights and Responsibilities

Mark Scheme for June 2010

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Que	estion	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
1	(a)	For a contract to be enforceable it must have been validly formed.		
		Identify the <u>three</u> essential elements for the valid formation of a contract.		
		ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 1		
		Candidates will identify the following:		
		 Agreement (credit offer and acceptance) Consideration Intention to create legal relations (credit an intention that the agreement should be legally enforceable) 		
		1 mark each for each correct answer (maximum 3 marks).	[3]	

Question	Expected Answers		Marks	Additional Guidance
(b)	Negligence can only be claimed when the defendant owes care to the claimant, has breached that duty and has cause claimant damage.			
	Write <u>true</u> next to the <u>three</u> statements below which are accurate descriptions of these rules on claiming in negligence.			
	Candidates will insert <u>true</u> as follows:			
	A defendant owes a duty of care to someone he could foresee would be harmed by his negligent acts.	TRUE		
	A defendant owes a general duty to the whole world.	(FALSE)		
	A breach of duty means falling below the standard of care that is appropriate to the duty the defendant owes.	TRUE		
	The standard of care is usually measured against the standards of 'the reasonable man'.	TRUE		
	The damage need not be caused by the defendant as long as the defendant has breached his duty.	(FALSE)		
	A claimant can recover compensation from the defendant for any damage caused, however unforeseeable it is.	(FALSE)	[3]	
	1 mark for each true statement identified (maximum 3 marks).			
		Total	[6]	

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
2	Read each of the following three situations and complete activity a) and activity b) which follow them.		
	(i) Sarah bought a new pair of jeans from a clothes shop. The seams split down both legs the first time that Sarah wore the jeans so that she cannot use them. The clothes shop is refusing to give Sarah her money back.		
	(ii) Elaine contracted with a building firm to build an extension on the back of her kitchen for £20,000. The builders carelessly failed to put in adequate foundations and as a result the extension leans at an angle to the house. Another builder has told Elaine that the extension is likely to fall down. Elaine does not want to pay the original builder.		
	(iii) Martin bought a tent which was described as 'suitable for all weather conditions'. The first time Martin used the tent rain poured in through the canvas. Martin wants his money back.		
(a)	Identify which statutory implied term from either the <u>Sale of Goods</u> <u>Act 1979</u> or the <u>Supply of Goods and Services Act 1982</u> is involved in each of the above situations.		Sarah Require Satisfactory Quality Not fitness for purpose
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 1		Elaine
	Candidates will identify as follows:		Reasonable care and skill
	(i) Sarah: That the goods are of satisfactory quality (which includes durability).		Martin Requires "as described" or similar
	(ii) Elaine: That the service should be carried out with reasonable skill and care.		

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
	(iii) Martin: That where goods are sold by description that the good must correspond to the description given to them.	S	
	1 mark for each correct type identified (maximum 3 marks).	[3]	
(b)	Explain whether the implied term has been breached in each situation (i), (ii) and (iii).		Sarah Credit fitness for purpose
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 2		
	Candidates will explain the following:		
	 (i) Sarah: Sarah is entitled to jeans of satisfactory quality – which includes durability for a reasonable time Sarah's jeans are not fit for their purpose as they have specified the same of the implied term. 	olit	
	 (ii) Elaine: The extension should have been built with reasonable can and skill Elaine's extension is leaning and likely to collapse becauthe job was not done properly. 		
	 Therefore there is a breach of the implied term. 		

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
	 (iii) Martin: The tent was described as suitable for all weather conditions Martin's tent was not waterproof nor was it fit for the purpose Therefore there is a breach of the implied term. 		
	 For each of the three scenarios above give credit as follows: 1 mark for identifying 1 basic point or limited reasoning 2 marks for identifying 2 basic points or adequate reasoning 3 marks for a number of points or good reasoning. 		
		[9]	
(c)	The definition of 'satisfactory quality' under the <u>Sale of Goods Act</u> 1979 includes <u>safety</u> and <u>durability</u> . Discuss how these <u>two</u> definitions help to protect consumers.		If an example illustrates the point in a relevant manner, then the comment is "developed".
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 3		
	 Candidates will discuss any of the following on safety: It means that the consumer can gain compensation for injuries caused. It gives consumers confidence when buying goods It may deter sellers from selling unsafe goods. It may help to protect the consumer from injuries caused by unsafe goods. 		

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Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
	It may also help to protect people other than the consumer eg other road users in relation to an unsafe car, other people who use the unsafe goods besides the consumer.		No credit for mere definitions.
	 Candidates will discuss any of the following on durability: If the goods are not durable then the consumer could have a replacement or get his money back It may help to improve the overall quality of goods thus benefiting the consumer It may deter sellers from selling shoddy goods It may make the goods last longer saving the consumer money. 		Discussion does not have to be balanced as long as both definitions are referred to.
	For both safety and durability 1 mark each for a basic point 2 marks each for developed comment 3 marks each for well developed comment.	[6]	
	Total	[18]	

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
3 (a)	Read the following passage and fill in the missing words from the list below. manufacturer retailer defect goods contract tort In a negligence claim for defective goods the claimant cannot claim from the manufacturer for replacement goods or for return of the price of the goods. This is because contract law would be used to recover these losses from the seller of the goods. ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 1 Candidates will insert from the list as follows: manufacturer goods contract		
	1 mark for each word correctly inserted (maximum 3 marks).	[3]	

Question	Expected Answers		Marks	Additional Guidance
Question (b)	Expected Answers Read the following passage. Mark buys a new electric drill, returns home, reads manufacturer's instructions on how to use the drill in ready to drill his kitchen wall to put up a cupboa defect in the manufacture of the drill, when Mark to the drill explodes burning Mark's hand and face are his work surface which will cost £200 to replace. It so bad that he has to go to hospital in a taxi. Write either negligence or contract in each box in column to state the most appropriate area of law be compensation.	I and then plugs it ard. Because of a urns the switch on a setting fire to lark's burns are	Marks	Additional Guidance
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 2			
	Candidates will identify the claim as <u>negligence</u> or follows:	contract as		
	A claim for the injuries to Mark's hand and his face.	Negligence		
	A claim for the cost of pain killers and medication that Mark has to buy because of his injuries.	Negligence		
	A claim for the cost of a new electric drill.	Contract		
	A claim for a replacement electric drill.	Contract		

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
	A claim for the cost of installing a new work surface. A claim for the taxi fare to the hospital. Negligence		
	1 mark for each type of claim correctly identified (maximum 6 marks).	[6]	
(c)	The Consumer Protection Act 1987 concerns product safety. People can use the Act to recover compensation for damage caused by unsafe products. The Act can be used against almost anyone in the chain of supply and distribution but refers to specific types of defendant. State three types of defendant identified in the Act. ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 1 Candidates will identify any three types of defendant as follows: Producers – candidates might be credited for referring to any type of producer, eg manufacturer, assembler, a producer of raw materials or components, someone abstracting minerals, or carrying out any other industrial process Own branders Importers Suppliers – candidates can be credited for retailers or wholesalers mark for each correct type of defendant identified (maximum 3 marks).		
		[3]	

Question	Expected Answers		Marks	Additional Guidance
(d)	The Consumer Protection Act 1987 gives consumer for a wide range of damage caused by a realso some types of damage that cannot	defective goods. There		
	Write either <u>claim</u> or <u>no claim</u> in the right hat type of damage indicated.	and column next to each		
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 3			
	Candidates will write either ' <u>claim'</u> or ' <u>no cla</u> column as follows:	aim' in the right hand		
	Damage to property under £275 in value	NO CLAIM		
	Death of the claimant	CLAIM		
	Damage to business property	NO CLAIM		
	Damage to the defective product itself	NO CLAIM		
	Personal injury to the claimant	CLAIM	[6]	
	Damage to personal property	CLAIM		
	1 mark for each correct identification (maximum	n 6 marks).		
		Total	[18]	

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
4 (a)	Give a definition of an exemption clause within a contract. ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 1 Candidates will provide a definition including the following points:		No credit for examples
	 a term in a contract excluding or limiting liability (either will do) for breach of contract or negligence of the person inserting the clause (either will do). 1 mark for each bullet identified in the definition (maximum 3 marks).	[3]	
(b)	Read the following passage. Jo drove to town to go shopping. She parked in a multi-storey car park. At the barrier Jo had to take a ticket from a machine before the barrier would lift for her to be able to drive in. After shopping Jo returned to the car park and paid at the pay station. When she got back to her car it had been vandalised and the repairs cost her £2,000. When she tried to claim from the car park the manager referred her to tiny writing on the back of the ticket which read "See conditions of use of the car park". The manager brought out a copy of the conditions from his office which read "The management accept no liability for any damage to cars or other property of users of the car park". Explain why Jo will not be bound by this condition. ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 2 Candidates will explain as follows: the ticket does not contain the actual exemption clause itself as it is only a receipt		

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
	 The clause has not sufficiently been brought to Jo's attention at the time when the contract was formed at the barrier Therefore the condition is not incorporated into the contract. 		
	1 mark for bare recognition 2 marks for some reasoning 3 marks for good reasoning (maximum 3 marks)	[3]	
(c)	Parliament protected consumers in the <u>Unfair Contract Terms Act</u> 1977 by making certain clauses in consumer contracts invalid and unenforceable. Some other types of exemption clauses will only be valid if it is reasonable to include them in the contract. Identify three types of exemption which are invalid against a consumer under the Act.		NB No credit for examples. Clear identification of types of exemption necessary.
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 1		
	Candidates will identify any three of the following:		
	 Personal injury. Death. Breach of an implied term- right to sell. Breach of an implied term – description. Breach of an implied term – satisfactory quality. Breach of an implied term – Fitness for purpose. Breach of the terms of a guarantee 		
	1 mark for each correct answer (maximum 3 marks).	[3]	

Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
(d)	*Both the courts and Parliament have introduced controls on exemption clauses to protect consumers.		
	Discuss <u>three</u> reasons why consumers need to be protected from exemption clauses in contracts which they make.		
	ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE 3		Relevant examples may be credited as elaboration.
	Candidates will discuss any of the following:		
	 because consumers could otherwise be the victims of unscrupulous business practice because consumers may otherwise be forced to accept shoddy 		
	and defective goods		
	 because otherwise consumers may have to accept poor service also consumers would have no guarantee that the business owned the goods and had a right to sell them 		
	because consumers could be injured or killed and be unable to claim		
	 consumers would be unable to enforce their rights creating unfairness 		
	because businesses would be able to avoid any liability for their own negligence		
	 businesses would be able to avoid liability for breaching their contracts with consumers 		
	Candidates will score as follows: 0 marks for no response or no response worthy of credit. 1-3 marks: basic points made with basic communication. The response		
	lacks organisation, structure and accuracy of spelling punctuation and grammar.		

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Question	Expected Answers	Marks	Additional Guidance
	 4-6 marks: points made with some elaboration and adequate communication. The response is adequately organised, structured and with some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar. 7-9 marks: points explained with good reasoning and with effective communication through discussion. The response is well 		
	organised, structured, with few errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	[9]	
	Total	[18]	

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