



Learner Guide

Cambridge O Level Commerce 7100

For examination from 2022





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Contents

about this guide	4
ection 1: Syllabus content - what you need to know about	5
ection 2: How you will be assessed	6
ection 3: What skills will be assessed	8
ection 4: Example candidate response	9
ection 5: Revision	12
ection 6: Useful resources	27

About this guide

This guide explains what you need to know about your Cambridge O Level Commerce course and examinations.

It will help you to:

- ✓ understand what skills you should develop by taking this Cambridge O Level course
- ✓ understand how you will be assessed
- ✓ understand what we are looking for in the answers you write
- ✓ plan your revision programme
- ✓ revise, by providing revision tips and an interactive revision checklist (Section 5).

Cambridge O Level Commerce is recognised by universities and employers throughout the world.

Through this course you will gain an introduction to the nature of commercial activities, how these activities are affected by changes in the commercial environment, and the impact they have on national and international consumers, producers, retailers and wholesalers.

You will also develop your skills of enquiry, interpretation and communication.

Section 1: Syllabus content - what you need to know about

This section gives you an outline of the syllabus content for this course. You will study the commercial environment in a national and international context. Content is divided into 15 topics covering commercial activities and processes, and the ways in which they are subject to changes brought about by political, social, technological and environmental factors.

Only the broad topics of the syllabus have been included here. In the 'overview' column, below, you are given a basic idea of what each topic covers. Ask your teacher for more detail about each topic. You can also find more detail in the Revision checklists of this guide.

Topic	Overview
Production	The chain of production. Primary (extractive) industries, secondary (manufacturing and construction) industries and tertiary activities (commercial services and direct services). Specialisation and division of labour. The relationship between industry, commerce and direct services.
Retail trade	The different types of retailer and the role of the retailer in the chain of distribution. Selling techniques and methods including e-commerce.
Consumer credit	The types and uses of credit. Calculations of the costs of credit. The suitability of different types of credit in given situations.
Wholesale trade	The role of the wholesaler in the chain of distribution. The role of intermediaries such as agents and brokers.
Documents of trade	The documents involved in trading. Calculations of amounts such as discounts.
International trade	The importance and difficulties faced when trading internationally. The Balance of Trade and Balance of Payments. The main functions of customs authorities. Evaluations of free trade, trading blocs and protectionism.
Advertising	The role of advertising and sales promotion in commerce. Explanation of the methods of appeal (devices) and trends in advertising. Evaluations of the main forms of advertising media for different situations.
Communications	Importance of communications in trade and the global market. Explain how different methods of communication might be used in a given situation. Identify trends and developments in communication.
Transport	An evaluation of the importance of transportation in the chain of distribution. The factors affecting the choice of transport in given situations. The different transport documents. Developments in transportation and the handling of goods and passengers.
Warehousing	The role and types of warehousing.
Insurance	Business and personal risks. The purposes and principles of insurance. How to arrange insurance cover. Analysis of the factors influencing the level and of insurance. How to make an insurance claim.
Banking	Banking services and the means of payment for home and international trade activities. The trends in banking and their impacts.
The business unit	Factors affecting the location of business. The difference between the public and private sectors. The main forms of business organisation in the private sector including franchises and multinationals.
Finance	Sources of finance for commercial activity. Ways to improve commercial performance.
Changing environment of commerce	How the external environment affects commerce. The commercial and environmental effects of e-commerce. The impact of commerce on the environment. Consumer protection.

Make sure you always check the latest syllabus, which is available at www.cambridgeinternational.org.

Section 2: How you will be assessed

You will be assessed at the end of the course using two components:

- Paper 1 Multiple Choice
- Paper 2 Written

Components at a glance

This table summarises the key information about each examination paper. You can find details and advice on how to approach each paper in the 'About each paper' sub-section.

Component	Time and marks	Skills assessed	Details	Percentage of qualification
Paper 1 Multiple Choice	1 hour 40 marks	Knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation. Some questions will require calculations.	40 Multiple choice questions covering the entire syllabus.	30%
Paper 2 Written	2 hours 80 marks	Knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation. Some questions will require calculations.	Structured questions. Some questions will be based on stimulus response material.	70%

About each paper

Paper 1 Multiple Choice

Paper 1 contains 40 multiple choice questions. You must answer all of the questions. The questions may cover any part of the syllabus and you answer on an answer sheet.

Paper 1 tests your knowledge, ability to apply that knowledge and techniques of analysis and evaluation.

Some of the questions will require you to use mathematical skills. These include being able to:

- analyse diagrams and charts of information such as graphs
- use numeracy skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- calculate percentages and simple ratios.

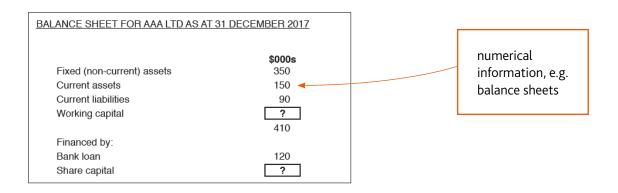
Paper 2 Written

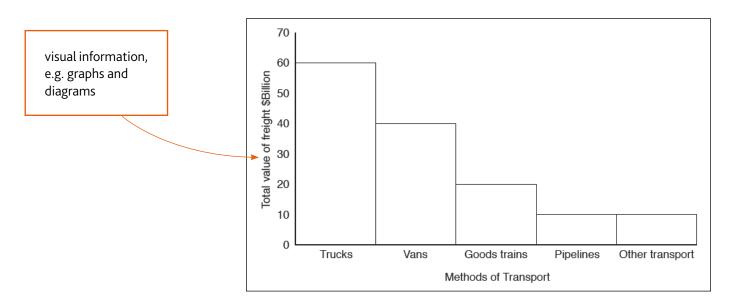
Paper 2 tests your knowledge and ability to apply, analyse and evaluate commercial concepts to given situations.

This paper contains structured questions of varying lengths from 1 mark to 8 marks. You must answer all of the questions and the questions may cover any part of the syllabus.

• All the questions are based on commercial scenarios. Some questions will contain stimulus response material such as:







For Paper 1 and Paper 2 you will be required, in some questions, to use mathematical skills.

Question types

The time you spend on each question should be directly linked to the number of marks available. You must read the questions carefully to make sure you know what you are being asked to do. For example:

`Explain **two** advantages to Hannah of being a sole trader'.

If you just include one advantage, this will limit the number of marks available to you. If you explain more than two advantages, you will not increase the marks you gain, and it may waste valuable time that could be used on other questions.

Questions will vary in what they are asking you to do. The command word, e.g. Calculate, Compare, Describe, and the number of marks available, will help you to see what level of detail you need to provide. There is a list of other command words and their meanings in the syllabus <u>here</u>.

Questions using the command words 'State ...' or 'Define ...', require you to write clearly and precisely to show the examiner you know and understand the term or word it is focused on.

Calculation questions which use the command word 'Calculate ...', should always include your working out.

When answering 6 to 8 mark questions, you should always include examples and/or applications. These questions may ask you to provide a two-sided answer, considering the advantages and disadvantages of an action. When making a comparison, avoid using words such as *easier*, *quicker* or *cheaper* on their own. It is better to say `cheaper than...` or `quicker than...`.

Section 3: What skills will be assessed

The areas of knowledge, understanding and skills that you will be assessed on are called **assessment objectives** (AO). The examiners take account of the following skills areas (assessment objectives) in the examination papers.

- · Knowledge and understanding
- Application
- Analysis
- Evaluation

Assessment objectives (AO)	What does the AO mean?	What do you need to be able to do?
AO1 Knowledge and understanding	 You will be asked to show that you understand: basic principles, techniques and ideas in commerce terms relevant to commerce key features and purposes of commercial activities main documents used in commerce. 	Give precise definitions of key terms and state methods of calculating figures such as profit and revenue. Be able to describe different commercial activities such as large and small scale retailing. Be able to describe and explain the purpose of documents.
AO2 Application	 You should be able to: apply ideas, terms and techniques use data and information in written, number and visual forms make calculations. 	 Use the ideas you have learnt in commerce to: calculate figures from numbers given complete commerce documents select a suitable action for a given commerce situation.
AO3 Analysis	 You should be able to: identify and select the important issues in a commercial situation explain written and numerical problems. 	Explain the possible impacts of commercial actions to the situation described in the question material. Explain the positive and negative impacts. Explain the meaning and possible effect of any numbers provided.
AO4 Evaluation	 You should be able to: make distinctions between evidence and opinion make reasoned judgements and communicate them in an accurate and logical manner. 	Show that you understand the difference between someone's view (opinion) and facts that can be checked (evidence). Make decisions based on the evidence you have selected and explain why you have made this decision.

It is important that you know the different weightings (%) of the assessment objectives, as this affects how the examiner will assess your work. For example, assessment objective 1 (AO1: Knowledge and Understanding) is worth 45% of the total marks in Paper 1, and 28% of the total marks in Paper 2.

The approximate weighting allocated to each of the assessment objectives is summarised below.

Component	AO1 %	AO2 %	AO3 %	AO4 %	Weighting of component in overall qualification
Paper 1 Multiple Choice	45	35	10	10	30
Paper 2 Written	28	27	25	20	70
Weighting of AO in overall qualification	33	29	21	17	

Section 4: Example candidate response

This section takes you through an example question and learner response from a Cambridge O Level Commerce past paper. It will help you to see how to identify command words within questions and to understand what is required in your response. A command word is the part of the question that tells you what you need to do with your knowledge. For example, you might need to describe something, explain something, argue a point of view or list what you know.

All information and advice in this section is specific to the example question and response being demonstrated. It should give you an idea of how your responses might be viewed by an examiner but it is not a list of what to do in all questions. In your own examination, you will need to pay careful attention to what each question is asking you to do.

This section is separated as follows:

Question

The command words in the question have been highlighted and their meaning explained. This should help you to understand clearly what is required by the question.

Example candidate response and examiner comments

This is an answer by a real candidate in exam conditions. Good points and problems have been highlighted by the examiner.

How the answer could have been improved

This summarises what could be done to gain more marks.

Common mistakes

This will help you to avoid common mistakes. Candidates often lose marks in their exams because they misread or misinterpret the questions.

Question

(d) Some of the directors of AAA Ltd want to convert to a public limited company. Discuss whether or not AAA Ltd should remain as a private limited company or convert to a public limited company. What course of action would you recommend? Give reasons for your answer.

> Discuss – this is the key instruction. This means that you should give the main advantages and disadvantages of each option. You should give the benefits and costs of remaining as a private limited company (Ltd) or changing to a public limited company. There is further guidance in the question that you must also make a recommendation.

Example candidate response

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

- Some of the directors of AAA-Ltd want to convert to a public limited company: Discuss whether or not AAA Ltd should remain as a private limited company of convert to a public limited company. What course of action would you recommend? Give reasons for your
- company can raise awy capital early by issuing shares and selling them to the public. It becomes a very huge organisation which benefits from economies of scale have influence suppliers and customers and mechanisation which increases its output leading to higher soles and profit. But real ownership does not matter muc have the control of the commany because Shaves are not sold to the public. I would recommend AAA to become a public limited company so it will [8] be easier to compete and grow. Sales will grow and profit will increase. However, AAA might not be [Total: 20] successful in controlling the organization. Also there are more documentation involved. But it will benefit from economies of scale and AAA can reduce its costs which can also be passed to the holesaley retailer or customer as how prices.

Examiner comments

- There are 8 marks available: 4 marks for knowledge and understanding, 2 marks for analysis and 2 marks for a recommendation evaluating whether or not the business should convert from a Limited (Ltd) to a public limited company.
- The candidate begins their argument with relevant knowledge and understanding of the benefits to a business of being a public limited company.
- The candidate links their knowledge and understanding with supporting analysis. The analysis considers both the benefits and problems that can result from conversion. This means that the candidate has gained marks in level 2 of the mark scheme.
- The argument is developed by showing some knowledge and understanding of staying as a private limited company.
- A recommendation is made by the candidate enabling this answer to access level 3 of the mark scheme. As there is limited reasoning, the candidate was unable to obtain maximum marks. Mark for (d) = 7 out of 8

Examiner comment

There are 8 marks available for this question.

- 4 marks for knowledge and understanding of each type of business organisation
- 2 marks for analysis
- 2 marks for the evaluation deciding if the business should convert from a private to a public limited company.

The candidate in this answer has started by giving the benefits and problems of converting to a public limited company. The candidate has explained the possible effect on the business of the benefit by explaining that huge amounts of capital can be raised. The problem of loss of control is also explained. These explanations show analysis.

The candidate also shows some knowledge and understanding of the benefits of remaining as a private limited company. However, there is very little explanation of these benefits, they are just statements. The candidate has commented upon both choices, showing analysis.

The answer concludes with a recommendation of the best choice. The conclusion repeats some of the points already stated in the answers, but the candidate mentions a new problem of documentation. This recommendation shows evaluation.

How the answer could have been improved

The answer showed the skills needed to gain marks in the top level for this question. Knowledge and understanding was shown of both types of business organisation and an explained decision was made.

The answer could have been improved by stronger knowledge of the organisation of private limited companies, especially a problem. There were also some irrelevant points made, such as economies of scale which can be gained by the growth of any type of business organisation. These points did not add to the answer. The recommendation needed to be built upon with more detailed analysis of both types of organisation to justify maximum marks.

Common mistakes

The most common mistakes when approaching the longer questions which require evaluation are:

- writing long lists of knowledge points
- producing general answers which are not applied to the business stated in the question and therefore losing the analysis
 points
- ignoring one of the options mentioned in the question, and so producing an unbalanced answer
- repeating points made earlier in the answer in the conclusion
- · not stating clearly, the decision made in the recommendation.

Section 5: Revision

	s advice will help you revise and prepare for the examinations. It is divided into general advice for all papers and more cific advice for Paper 1, and Paper 2.
Use	e the tick boxes 🔲 to keep a record of what you have done, what you plan to do or what you understand.
Ge	neral advice
	In order to do your best when answering questions in this examination you should know the meaning of each of the command words used in questions. These words will indicate the type of answer you should provide.
	In the examination read and re-read the question before attempting to answer it.
	Take note of the number of marks awarded for the question, and make sure that you allocate your time effectively. A question worth 2 marks should be given less time than a question worth 8 marks.
	Make sure that you take notice of all the guidance given in the question including the command words.
	Questions with 6–8 marks are marked on the quality of answer you provide, not the number of separate points listed. Make sure that in these questions you develop each point made with either an application to a business, or an example, i appropriate.
	Make sure that you have shown your understanding of any technical terms in your answer and that you have considered both benefits and costs, if the question will be marked for evaluation (Evaluate).
	If the question asks you to decide a course of action, make sure that your decision is clearly stated. Always provide the reasons for your decision and try not to repeat points already stated earlier in your answer.
Bef	ore the examination
	Find out when the examinations are and plan your revision, so you have time to revise. Create a revision timetable and divide it into sections to cover each topic – the revision checklist in the guide can help you with this.
	Find out how long each paper is, how many questions you have to answer, how many marks there are for each question, and work out how long you have for each question.
	Know the meaning of the command words used in questions and how to apply them to the information given. Look at past examination papers and highlight the command words and check what they mean.
	Make revision notes. Try different styles of notes.
	Work for short periods then have a break. Revise small sections of the syllabus at a time.
	Test yourself by writing out key points, completing documents, etc.
	Make sure you define, commerce terms accurately. E.g. cashless society is not that` people use less money`, it is when people use less cash and use more electronic methods such as debit or credit cards instead.
	Definitions must not reuse the words to be defined. E.g. Secondary stage of production is not just the second stage of production. It is the stage where products are made or manufactured from raw materials.
	Make your own dictionary or draw up a glossary of key terms for each section of the syllabus.
	Look at graphs, diagrams and documents, etc. to find out what are their key features.
	Practise calculations and completion of commerce documents.
	Learn to spell commerce terms correctly.
	Have a look at past questions so that you are clear of what to expect in an examination.
\neg	Look at mark schemes to help you to understand how the marks are awarded for each question.

In t	he examination
	Read the instructions carefully.
	Do not provide more points than are needed, as this will not gain you more marks in the examination.
	Plan your time according to the marks for each question. For example, a question worth three marks requires less time and a shorter answer than one worth 10 marks. If a question has several parts, then the parts with more marks will need more time and more developed answers.
	Do not leave out questions or parts of questions. Remember, no answer means no mark.
	Read each question very carefully.
	 Identify the command words – you could underline or highlight them.
	Identify the other key words and perhaps underline them too.
	 Try to put the question into your own words to understand what it is really asking.
	Read all parts of a question before starting your answer. Think carefully about what is needed for each part. You will not need to repeat material.
	Look very carefully at the resource material you are given.
	 Try using coloured pencils or pens to pick out anything that the question asks you about.
	Answer the question. This is very important!
	Use your knowledge and understanding. Do not just write all you know, only write what is needed to answer the question.
	Plan your answers. Clear, concise, well-ordered, well-argued, well-supported answers get more marks than long, rambling, muddled, repetitious answers. Quality is better than quantity.
	Use commerce terms in your answers as much as possible.
	Use the resource material given in the question to support your answer.
	Figures and calculation can be used to support your answer. Use them whenever possible but do not copy long pieces of information from the material.
	Use the information given in the stimulus response material even when it is not required specifically by the question.
	Make sure your writing is clear and easy to read. It is no good writing a brilliant answer if the examiner cannot read it.
Pap	per 1 advice
	Allocate your time effectively each question should take a maximum of 1½ minutes to complete.
	If you change your mind about an answer, follow the instructions on the exam paper which will clearly show how to alter your marks on the answer sheet.
	Attempt all questions, even if you don't know the answer.
Pac	per 2 advice
	Notice the number of marks awarded for the question.
	Use your time effectively, spend longer on questions with a higher number of marks.
	Read and re-read the questions before answering to make sure you know the level of detail needed in the answer.
	Underline the command words in the question to remind you how to answer the question.
	Underline other key words that will help you in making any conclusion such as always or best.
	Include your working out in all calculation questions – this is very important.
	In the questions with 6 or 8 marks, it is the quality of the response that decides the mark. You must fully explain each point made showing your skills of application, analysis and judgement. Long lists or bullet points of knowledge will not gain high marks.

Revision checklists

In the next part of this guide we have provided some revision checklists. These include information from the syllabus that you should revise. They don't contain all the detailed knowledge you need to know, just an overview. For more detail see the syllabus and talk to your teacher.

The table headings are explained below:

Topic	You should be able to	R	Α	G	Comments
These are the details of the 15 topics covering commercial activities and processes which are listed in the syllabus.	The content of this column explains what you need to be able to do and the content of the syllabus you need to cover before the examinations.	You can use the tick an item and how co R = RED means you you might want to f talk to your teacher A = AMBER means y some extra practice G = GREEN means y As your revision pro RED and AMBER itelitems. You might find red, orange or green	nfident you feel about are really unsure an focus your revision he for help you are reasonably covou are very confidering gresses, you can corms in order to turn to dit helpful to highli	out it. Id lack confidence; here and possibly onfident but need Int. herentrate on the chem into GREEN hight each topic in	 You can: Add further information of your own, such as examples of business add learning aids, such as rhymes, poems or word play pinpoint areas of difficulty you need to check further with your teacher or textbooks include reference to a useful resource.

Note: the tables below cannot contain absolutely everything you need to know, but it does use examples wherever it can.

Paper 1 and Paper 2

Production

Торіс	You should be able to	R	A G	Comments
1.1 The chain of production	define the term <i>production</i>			
	show understanding of the production of goods and			
	services to satisfy human wants and needs			
1.2 Primary (extractive) industries, secondary	describe these types of industries and activities with examples			
(manufacturing and construction) industries and	 explain how people working in primary industries, secondary industries and tertiary activities are part of production 			
tertiary activities (commercial services and direct services)	discuss the relative importance of each type of industry within a country			
1.3 Specialisation and division of labour	explain the terms specialisation and division of labour			
	 describe the different forms of specialisation by: country, region, town, firm, factory, individual 			
	 discuss the advantages and disadvantages of division of labour to a manufacturer and a worker 			
1.4 Commerce	define the terms <i>trade</i> and <i>commerce</i> showing the differences between them			
	discuss how distribution assists commercial activity			
	 explain the nature, purposes and importance of trade, both at home and overseas 			
	 discuss how advertising, communications, transport, warehousing, insurance, banking and finance help trade to function 			
	 evaluate the extent to which businesses are involved in trade and/or commerce 			
1.5 The relationship between industry, commerce and direct services	discuss ways in which industry, commerce and direct services are inter- related and interdependent			

Cambridge O Level Commerce 7100

Retail trade

Торіс	You should be able to	R	A G	Comments
2.1 The role of the retailer in the chain of distribution	 identify functions of the retailer as the middleman between manufacturer and consumer 			
	 evaluate possible responses to changes in customer requirements and expectations 			
2.2 Types of retailer	 describe the characteristics of different types of retailer, including: large and small (hypermarkets, supermarkets, multiples, department stores, speciality shops, unit/independent retailers, street markets) 			
	discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each type of retailer			
2.3 Large-scale and small-scale retailing	discuss the advantages and disadvantages of large-scale retailing			
	 discuss the effects of large-scale retailers on wholesalers, other retailers and consumers 			
	 explain why the small-scale retailer often survives, including: personal service, opening hours, additional services provided 			
2.4 Selling techniques and methods and the implications of e-commerce	 discuss the importance, advantages and disadvantages of selling techniques, including: branding, own brands, logos, packaging, self-service, after-sales service, barcoding, Electronic Point of Sale (EPoS), direct mail, factory outlets, shopping centres and internet auctions 			
	describe the use of computers to aid retailing			
	 describe characteristics of mail order, telesales, television shopping, online shopping (e-tailing) and discuss the advantages and disadvantages to retailers and consumers of these methods of selling 			
	 evaluate the likely implications for retail outlets and consumers of the growth of online shopping and e-commerce 			
2.5 Trends in retailing	 describe trends in retailing, including: omnichannel retailing, self-service check-outs, development of loyalty programmes, virtual retailing, mobile retailing (m-commerce), shopping anywhere/anytime 			

Consumer credit

You should be able to	Ways to practise skills	R	Α	G Comments
3.1 Use of credit	outline the concept of credit			
	analyse reasons for the increased use of credit			
	 discuss the advantages and disadvantages of credit to the buyer and the seller 			
3.2 Types of credit	3.2.1 Hire purchase			
	identify main features			
	discuss advantages and disadvantages to consumers and retailers			
	 explain how the finance of hire purchase operates compared with extended credit 			
	3.2.2 Extended credit (deferred payments)			
	identify main features			
	discuss advantages and disadvantages to consumers and retailers			
	3.2.3 Store cards			
	identify main features			
	discuss advantages and disadvantages to consumers and retailers			
	3.2.4 Credit cards			
	identify main features			
	discuss advantages and disadvantages to consumers and retailers			
	3.2.5 Informal credit			
	identify main features			
	discuss advantages and disadvantages to consumers and retailers			

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Торіс	You should be able to	R A G	Comments
3.3 Suitability of different ypes of credit	 evaluate the suitability of different methods of credit in given situations (including calculations of the cost associated with different methods of credit) 		
Vholesale trade			
Topic	You should be able to	R A G	Comments
4.1 The role of the wholesaler in the chain of distribution	 explain different patterns of distribution and evaluate their use in given situations 		
	 analyse trends in wholesaling: forces making for the elimination and the survival of the independent wholesaler 		
4.2 Functions and services of the wholesaler	describe functions and services provided by the wholesaler		
	evaluate the importance of the wholesaler to the manufacturer and retailer		
4.3 Intermediaries	 evaluate the role of agents (including brokers and factors) and export merchants in international trade 		
ocuments of trade			
Торіс	You should be able to	R A G	Comments
5.1 Documents of home trade	 identify and interpret key information and explain the purposes of documents used in home trade, including: enquiry, quotation, price list, order, invoice, advice note, delivery note, credit note, statement of account, receipt 		
5.2 Terms of payment	define the terms cash discount, trade discount and mark-up		
	 calculate cash discount, trade discount and mark-up and evaluate their use in given situations (including calculations) 		
nternational trade			
Торіс	You should be able to	R A G	Comments
6.1 The importance of international trade	define the term <i>global market</i>		
	explain the benefits of international trade to a country		

Topic	You should be able to	R	A G	Comments
	 calculate cash discount, trade discount and mark-up and evaluate their use in given situations (including calculations) 			
	define imports, exports, visible and invisible trade		╝	
	apply these terms to given products or services			
	examine the interdependence of countries within the global market			
6.2 Balance of Trade and Balance of Payments	differentiate between Balance of Trade and Balance of Payments			
	 calculate and interpret statistics relating to international trade, including Balance of Trade and Balance of Payments from given figures 			
	 explain how commercial activities may affect the Balance of Trade/Balance of Payments 			
6.3 Customs authorities	 describe the main functions of customs authorities, including: collection of duties, collection of trade statistics, enforcement of trade restrictions, supervision of bonded warehouses 			
	explain how the work of customs authorities affects trade			
6.4 Free trade, trading blocs and protectionism	describe free trade			
·	describe the main features and aims of a trading bloc			
	 discuss the advantages and disadvantages of joining a trading bloc, e.g. ASEAN, European Union, SADC 			
	evaluate the importance of free ports in international trade			
	 explain how restrictions on trade are applied, including: licences, tariffs, quotas, embargoes and their possible effects on commercial activities 			
6.5 Difficulties faced by exporters and importers	 describe the main difficulties, including: distance, language, methods of payment, documentation, transport, different customs, non-payment, currencies, exchange rates, duties, competition 			

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Advertising

Торіс	You should be able to	R	Α	G	Comments
7.1 The role of advertising	show understanding of the purposes of advertising				
	 describe the types of advertising: informative, persuasive, collective (generic) and competitive and explain when they would be used 				
	 discuss the advantages, dangers and criticisms of advertising when selling goods and services 				
7.2 Media	 identify the main forms of advertising media, including: television, radio, internet, cinema, newspapers (local and national), magazines, trade journals, trade fairs and shows, leaflets/flyers, packaging, direct mail, sponsorship, catalogues/brochures, digital billboards, transport vehicles, displays – point of sale and window, neon lights, signs 				
	 discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the main forms of advertising media 				
	evaluate the factors affecting choice of medium in given situations				
7.3 Methods of appeal (devices)	 explain methods of appeal (devices), including: colour, emotions, ambition, famous people, music 				
	select methods of appeal in given situations				
7.4 Sales promotion	 distinguish between advertising and sales promotion and explain why businesses use sales promotions 				
	 describe methods of promotion, including: point of sale, offers, sponsorship, displays, competitions, coupons, sales periods, loss leaders 				
	 evaluate the factors affecting choice of sales promotion methods in given situations 				
7.5 Trends in advertising	 describe trends, including digital billboards, product placement, importance of internet advertising, mobile phone advertising, use of social media, digital video 				

Communications

You should be able to	Ways to practise skills	R A G	Comments
8.1 Importance of communications in trade and	 show understanding of the importance of communications in trade and the global market 		
the global market	 evaluate the need for rapid and accurate communication in trade and in the global market 		
8.2 Methods of communications, internal and external	 describe methods of communication, including: oral, written, telephonic, electronic (including: mobile phones, internet, intranet, email, teleconferencing, videoconferencing) and explain how each might be used in a given situation 		
	discuss factors affecting choice of method in given situations		
8.3 Postal services	describe postal services		
	explain in what circumstances different postal services might be used		
8.4 Trends in communication	 identify trends and developments in communication, including: computer hardware (tablets, smartphones, in-touch interfaces), use of social media, application stores (app stores) and importance of the mobile phone as a multi-functional tool 		
	identify main features		
	discuss advantages and disadvantages to consumers and retailers		

Transport

You should be able to	Ways to practise skills	R	Α	G	Comments
9.1 Transportation	evaluate the importance of transportation in the chain of distribution				
	 describe the characteristics of different methods: road, rail, air, sea, waterways, pipeline 				
	 describe different modes of transport used for road, rail, air and sea, including: passenger train, goods train, ferry, tanker, bulk carrier, cruise liner, container ship, cargo liner, delivery vans, buses, shared taxis, passenger aircraft, freight planes 				

21

Торіс	You should be able to	R	A G	Comments
	evaluate the factors affecting choice of method in given situations			
	evaluate the benefits to a business of having own transport			
9.2 Containerisation	identify main features			
	discuss advantages and disadvantages			
	discuss reasons for increased use			
9.3 Ports and airports	 describe services offered at seaports and airports for the handling of goods and passengers 			
9.4 Transport documents	 identify and use the key information and explain the purposes of transport documents: delivery/consignment note, bill of lading, air waybill (including calculations) 			
9.5 Developments and trends in transportation	 explain developments and trends in the handling of goods and passengers, including: growth of air freight, express road routes, changes in use of rail transport, high speed trains, mass rapid transport, importance of logistics, increased use of freight forwarders, demands on transport from global market 			

You should be able to	Ways to practise skills	R	Α	G	Comments
10.1 Role of warehousing	describe warehousing functions				
	 evaluate the importance of warehousing to businesses and trade, including: links with seasonal production, demand, protecting supply and price stability 				
10.2 Types of warehouse	 identify the main features of bonded, cold storage, cash and carry, manufacturers' and retailers' warehouses and large-scale retailers' regional distribution centres 				
	evaluate the importance of each in either home or international trade				

Insurance

Торіс	You should be able to	R	Α	G	Comments
11.1 Purposes of insurance	 describe the purposes, including: risk reduction, compensation, financial protection, business confidence, investment 				
	evaluate the importance of pooling of risk				
11.2 Business and personal risks	 identify and describe the main types of business and personal risk and explain why they are important 				
	distinguish between insurable and non-insurable risks				
	explain why some risks are not insurable				
11.3 Insurance principles	 explain the essential elements of insurance principles, including: indemnity (including contribution and subrogation), insurable interest, utmost good faith and explain how they are applied 				
	 evaluate the importance of insurance principles when taking out insurance and making a claim in given situations (including calculations relating to insurance premiums and compensation payments) 				
11.4 Effecting insurance cover	outline procedures, including calculating premiums				
	 identify the main documents of insurance, including: proposal form, cover note, policy and explain their purposes 				
	evaluate the role of an insurance broker				
11.5 Statistical basis of insurance	analyse factors influencing the level of insurance premium				
	evaluate insurance quotations				
11.6 Effecting a claim	outline procedures, including claim form				

Cambridge O Level Commerce 7100

Banking

Торіс	You should be able to	R	Α	G	Comments
12.1 Banking services	distinguish between deposit/savings accounts and current/cheque accounts				
	 describe services and documents provided to personal and business customers, including: paying-in slip, bank statement, night safe, ATM 				
	services, internet banking, telephone banking				
	explain when each service and document would be used				
12.2 Means of payment for home and international trade	• identify the characteristics and purposes of means of payment in home and international trade, including: cash, cheques, credit transfers, standing orders				
activities	(banker's order), direct debits, debit cards, credit cards, electronic transfers, documentary credits (letters of credit), bank drafts				
	evaluate factors affecting choice of method of payment in given situations				
12.3 Trends in banking	describe trends, including mobile and digital banking, the mobile wallet				
	discuss the concept of the cashless society				
	 evaluate the implications of internet banking, including the closure of bank branches 				

The business unit

You should be able to	Ways to practise skills	R A G	Comments
13.1 Location of a business, including retail units	 evaluate factors to be considered, including: labour, markets, transport, power and raw materials, competition, suppliers, communication, government influence in given situations 		
13.2 Public and private sectors	distinguish between enterprises in the public and the private sector		
	identify the characteristics of public sector enterprises		
13.4 Franchises	describe the main characteristics of franchises		
	 discuss the advantages and disadvantages of franchises for particular businesses 		

You should be able to	Ways to practise skills	R	Α	G	Comments
13.5 Multinationals	define multinational company				
	explain reasons for the existence of multinationals in the global economy				
	evaluate the importance of multinationals in the global economy				
	 evaluate the opportunities offered to, and conflicting interests of, multinational companies locating in individual countries 				

Finance

Торіс	You should be able to	R	Α	G	Comments
14.1 Sources of finance	distinguish between long-term and short-term finance				
	discuss the main features, advantages and disadvantages of:				
	 long-term finance, e.g. shares (ordinary and preference), debentures, mortgages, loans, sale and leaseback 				
	 short-term finance, e.g. overdraft, factoring, leasing, trade credit, hire purchase 				
	 describe methods of self-financing, including: retained earnings (retained profits), sale of assets, savings 				
	 evaluate the suitability of choice of finance (including self-financing) in given situations 				
14.2 Finance for commercial activity	 identify, define, calculate and examine the importance in commercial situations of capital (fixed capital), working capital, assets and liabilities, sales turnover, rate of inventory turnover, gross profit and profit for the year (net profit) 				
14.3 Improving commercial performance	 explain methods of improving sales turnover, rate of inventory turnover, profit and working capital, including: reducing expenses, increasing mark-up, changing prices, improving marketing, introducing new products in given situations 				

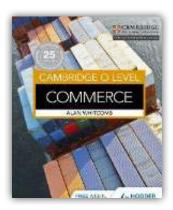
Cambridge O Level Commerce 7100 25

Changing environment of commerce

Торіс	You should be able to	R	A G	Comments
15.1 Commercial activity and the external environment	define the term <i>environment of commerce</i>			
	 identify and explain the external PEST (political, economic, social, technological and environmental) factors that affect commercial activities 			
15.2 Commercial and environmental effects of	 describe the characteristics of an e-shop, including: use of website, wide range of goods, delivery dates, return option 			
e-commerce	 explain commercial effects, including: change in supply, such as retailers supplying directly from warehouses rather than from their stores, more communications (online orders), smaller packages leading to greater use of couriers and air transport, opening of new consumer markets such as China and India 			
	 explain environmental effects, including: increased use of transport for deliveries, greater vehicle emissions, less lighting needed in stores, greater use of electricity for use of computers, search for sustainable solutions for the movement of goods 			
15.3 Commerce and the environment	 identify negative impacts of commerce on the environment, including: exploitation of some countries' natural resources, dangerous products being extensively advertised, retail developments spoiling the natural environment 			
	 explain how businesses attempt to deal with environmental impacts, including: recycling, using less packaging, ethically-produced goods, environmentally friendly products 			
15.4 Consumer protection	evaluate the growing importance of consumer protection in the global economy			
	 describe the actions buyers or sellers might take in given situations, including: making a complaint, dealing with faulty or poor quality goods or services 			

Section 6: Useful resources

Endorsed by Cambridge: Endorsed resources have been through a rigorous quality-assurance process to make sure they closely reflect the syllabus and are appropriate for Cambridge schools worldwide.



This title is designed to be accessible for students studying in a second language, while providing depth and stretch for all students. It provides varied activities and structure and multiple-choice practice questions at the end of every chapter. Key terms and important terminology are highlighted and explained.

Publisher: Hodder Education

Author: Whitcomb, A **ISBN:** 9781471859656

Published: 2015

Website: www.hoddereducation.co.uk



This title features up-to-date real-life examples, activities and practice questions to help learners apply commercial theory. Key terms are highlighted and explained and there are summary sections at the end of each chapter.

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Author: Trigwell-Jones, M **ISBN:** 9781107579095

Published: 2016

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