

Preparing to Study at A level

Work for Business Studies

Below you will find 5 weeks preparation work (around 10 hrs) for your A level course and an Enrolment Task (2 hrs). You will need to do the same for your other two subjects. The final enrolment task must be submitted to Enrolment@StratfordSchool.co.uk by Monday 12th July.

We use the exam board **OCR Business**

You can find the course specification here:

<https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/business-h031-h431-from-2015/>

Task 1

Research Tasks:

As a business student it is vitally important you can apply your business theory to the real-world. Regularly reading newspapers such as The Guardian, The Observer, The Independent or The Telegraph and watching the news, makes a real difference to your subject understanding. Students who have a wider subject knowledge and can make links between theory and real-world scenarios achieve higher in their A level.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business>, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/business>

Activities:

1. Each week choose a current business news article, summarise it in your own words and identify the impacts (positive or negative) on the business, the consumers, wider society and any other stakeholders. Make sure you reference the original article.
2. Choose 2 business entrepreneurs and create a presentation for each on the; entrepreneurial characteristics they have shown, the risks they took and overcame and why you think they have been so successful. You could consider some of the following: <https://www.careeraddict.com/women-entrepreneurs>, <https://www.bizain.com/top-10-richest-entrepreneurs-list/> or <https://www.forbes.com/30-under-30/2019/social-entrepreneurs/#6a0461f872e6>. Make sure you reference any sources of information.
3. Work through the following free online course 'Demystifying Entrepreneurship: How to Think Like an Entrepreneur' <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/demystifying-entrepreneurship>, creating study notes as you go.

Wider Reading:

As you work through your A-level course it's important to build your knowledge and understanding using a wide range of sources, some of the most useful are listed below.

Websites:

<https://www.tutor2u.net/business/blog>
<https://www.accountingcoach.com/>
<https://www.ted.com/talks?sort=newest&topics%5B%5D=Business>
<http://www.businessdictionary.com/>

Task 2

Research Tasks:

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<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business>, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/business>

Activities:

4. Each week choose one current business news article, summarise it in your own words and identify the impacts (positive or negative) on the business, the consumers, wider society and any other stakeholders. Make sure you reference the original article.
5. Choose two Business TED Talks that interest you. Watch the videos and summarise the key points in half a page. Explain why this topic interested you personally. <https://www.ted.com/topics/business>
6. Watch the following videos on the different types of business ownership and liability. Then complete the revision quiz.
<https://www.tutor2u.net/business/reference/business-organisation-introduction-to-business-ownership> / <https://www.tutor2u.net/business/reference/different-forms-of-business-introduction> / <https://www.tutor2u.net/business/reference/limited-and-unlimited-liability>
7. Take time to watch one or two of the recommended programmes below.

Wider Reading:

As you work through your A-level course it's important to build your knowledge and understanding using a wide range of sources, some interesting programmes and documentaries are listed below.

Inside the Factory: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07mddqk>

Panorama – Lockdown, how Business is coping:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000j4zl/panorama-lockdown-how-business-is-coping>

Mary Portas Secret Shopper: <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/mary-portas-secret-shopper>

The Hotel Inspector: <https://www.my5.tv/the-hotel-inspector/season-15>

The Customer is Always Right: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000hrc0/the-customer-is-always-right-series-2-episode-10>

The Apprentice: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0071b63>

Dragons Den: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006vq92>

Task 2

Research Tasks:

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<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business>, <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/business>

Activities:

8. Each week choose one current business news article, summarise it in your own words and identify the impacts (positive or negative) on the business, the consumers, wider society, and any other stakeholders. Make sure you reference the original article.

9. Watch the Tutor 2u video on the difference between **Private and Public sector** businesses <https://www.tutor2u.net/business/reference/private-and-public-sector-organisations-1> then complete the 'loose change' activity <https://www.tutor2u.net/business/reference/business-organisation-loose-change-activity> and finally the quiz <https://www.tutor2u.net/business/reference/forms-of-business-revision-quiz>.
10. Create a document that outlines the different types of business ownership (sole trader, partnership, LTD and PLC see *last weeks task*) give a definition for each, an example business and explain each businesses liability.
11. Create a document that outlines two example businesses for each of the different sectors (public, private and third sector), briefly explaining why the examples are in that sector.

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Mary Portas Secret Shopper: <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/mary-portas-secret-shopper>

The Hotel Inspector: <https://www.my5.tv/the-hotel-inspector/season-15>

The Customer is Always Right: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000hrc0/the-customer-is-always-right-series-2-episode-10>

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Enrolment task

New technology is a constant force propelling businesses forward. It creates opportunities for new products that people want even though their older versions are still working well. This boosts production, the volume of output and also creates new ways to manufacture such as the use of robotics or computer aided design.

Alongside this the growing use of e-commerce and m-commerce gives businesses a wider market to target and opportunities to grow internationally. This in turn boosts productivity, efficiency and competitiveness for businesses.

Unfortunately technology has its drawbacks as the initial cost of introducing and developing new technology can be very high, leaving some businesses unable to compete. The use of technology in the production process or in the delivery of services to customers can also lead to jobs becoming obsolete.

Evaluate the impact of new technologies on high street retailers

- Research different types of technologies
- Include the positive and negative impacts on retailers
- Use context applying your points to specific retailer examples
- Make a clear conclusion with a support judgement



Assessment objective:

To conduct and use relevant research using suitable and reliable sources

To structure a well-balanced analysis using a range of relevant research sources to support points

To use analysis to inform a well-considered and justified conclusion

This should be word processed and no longer than 1200 words, size 12 font with 1.5 line spacing

Some example research sources include:

Tutor 2u

BBC news

Smallbusiness.chron

Enrolment Task (This task must be sent to Enrolment@StratfordSchool.co.uk):

If you have any questions, please contact

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