

**Production Test**

**Name:** .....

In recent years a number of people have taken up the hobby of designing and producing their own greetings cards. They buy packs of materials which are used to make birthday, Christmas and other greetings cards.

Some have developed their hobby into businesses, selling at craft fairs and through the Internet. One such person is Fran Blake who operates her business as a sole trader.

The packs of materials to make the cards can be bought from shops and on the Internet.

- (b) Suggest and explain **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage to Fran of buying materials on the Internet. [4]

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Ruby and Dean have always wanted to start their own business. They have decided to set up their business, called Retro, on the outskirts of Swansea. Their shop will meet the increased demand for goods which were fashionable between 1950 and 1980. Some of the goods they will sell will be from the actual time and others will be reproductions.

Ruby and Dean appreciate the importance of ICT to their business.

- (d) Suggest and explain **two** ways in which they can use ICT in the operation of their business. [4]

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One way in which the **manufacturers** of audio and video equipment can maintain sales is by providing quality products.

- (d) Suggest and explain **three** ways in which the **manufacturers** of audio and video equipment can make sure that they can provide quality products. [6]

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The Virgin Group is a complicated business organisation which means that it is divided into a number of individual private limited companies. The Virgin Group was set up by Sir Richard Branson in 1970 and he is a major shareholder in all the companies.

The Virgin Group is so large that it gains economies of scale.

- (c) (i) What is meant by the term economy of scale? [2]

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- (ii) Explain **one** economy of scale from which the Virgin Group might benefit. [3]

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The directors of Radsonic plc believe that they need to expand their production lines by introducing Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM).

- (c) Outline (i) **one** advantage and (ii) **one** disadvantage for Radsonic plc of using CAM to produce their radiators. [4]

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The directors of Buble Bread Ltd want to introduce ICT to improve the running of their business. They have already introduced desk top publishing (DTP) to improve marketing.

Suggest **one** other type of ICT they might introduce to improve **each** of the following. [4]

Financial calculations .....

Customer records .....

Letter writing .....

Meetings with distant branches .....

Dyson Ltd is a British technology company founded in 1993 by James Dyson. The business designs and manufactures vacuum cleaners, hand dryers and other electrical products.

(a) What type of business is Dyson Ltd? [1]

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Much of the design work of Dyson Ltd is carried out in its offices in Wiltshire. This relies heavily on the use of Computer Aided Design (CAD). Similar technologies are used in Dyson Ltd factories in Asia where Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM) is used.

(b) Outline how firms such as Dyson Ltd benefit from using CAD and CAM. [4]

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Dyson Ltd products are found in many homes, shops, restaurants and offices.

- (c) Which type of production – job, batch or flow – is Dyson likely to use in the manufacture of its products? Explain your answer. [3]

Type of production

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Explanation

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Great Gates and Co Ltd has a factory in South Wales. In this factory it produces gates. Some are made to supply garden centres and do-it-yourself (DIY) shops. These are made to standard sizes and designs. Some gates, however, are made to meet individual orders based on sizes and designs provided by customers.



(a) Suggest and explain the **method of production** Great Gates and Co Ltd would use for making (i) standard gates and (ii) individually designed gates.

(i) Standard gates. [2]

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(ii) Individually designed gates. [2]

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In October 2009, 12 000 postal workers employed by the Royal Mail went on strike in protest against the increased use of technology and because of new working practices e.g. reducing the number of rounds covered by postmen and making the remaining rounds longer. Many postmen found that they could not finish their rounds in time.

(a) Suggest and explain how the new technology and new working practices might affect (i) the workers **and** (ii) the customers as stakeholders of the Royal Mail. [4]

(i) The workers .....

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(ii) The customers .....

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**Do Not Write in This Box**

Mark (out of 43)	
Percentage	
Grade (2014 Grade Boundary)	