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Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme 2025

Link Modules Examination

Common Level

Wednesday 30 April Morning 10:00 - 12:30

160 marks

Examination Number

Date of Birth

For example, 3rd February 2005 is entered as 03 02 05

The 2025 examination papers were adjusted to compensate for disruptions to learning due to COVID-19. This examination paper does not necessarily reflect the same structure and format as the examination papers of past or subsequent years.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Examination Number in the box on the front cover.

Write all answers into this booklet. There is space for extra work at the end of the booklet. If you need to use it, make sure to label the work clearly with the question number and part.

This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.

There are **three** sections in this examination, as follows:

Section A – Audio Visual – Compulsory

There are eight questions. Answer **all eight** of them. 30 marks

Section B – Case Study – Compulsory

There are three questions. Answer **all three** of them. 30 marks

Section C – General Questions – Compulsory

There are seven questions. Answer **any four** of them. 100 marks

You may only use blue or black pen when writing your answers.
Do not use red pen, pencil or any other coloured pen.

Section A	Audio Visual	30 marks

- You will have **three** minutes to read the questions in Section A.
- You will be shown a DVD about Voluntary Work in a Charity Shop as the theme.
- You will see the DVD **three** times.
    - The first showing will include the whole sequence.
    - It will then be shown in **three** parts. After each part is shown, you will be given time to write your answers in the appropriate section of the answer book.
    - You will then see the entire DVD sequence again.

Answer **all eight** questions on the pages that follow. This page may be used for notes.

Part 1

Q.1 Name the manager of the charity shop. **(1 mark)**

Q.2 Why did the teacher think it was a good idea to have a speaker from a charity organisation? **(2 marks)**

Q.3 Explain why the manager accepted the invitation to speak to the LCVP class. **(3 marks)**

Part 2

Q.4 List the jobs involved in the charity shop. **(2 marks)**

Q.5 Explain how the students benefit from volunteering. **(4 marks)**

Q.6 **(i)** What resources are needed for the presentation?

(ii) Why is using ICT beneficial when doing a presentation? **(6 marks)**

Part 3

Q.7 How can volunteer work enhance social skills and community involvement? **(6 marks)**

Q.8 Why is the charity shop a good example of a social enterprise? **(6 marks)**

Section B	Case Study	30 marks

Glenhale

Glenhale, a market town, is located in the midlands of Ireland with easy access to a motorway offering connectivity to two large cities. It is steeped in architectural and historical heritage with a castle and gardens attracting tourists during the summer months. The town has a very active historical society who have identified a number of sites which, if developed, could increase the town's tourism potential.

Glenhale has a business and innovation park on the outskirts of the town. There is potential for growth in the pharmaceutical and food sectors. Enterprise Ireland and the IDA are actively seeking appropriate enterprises to occupy the last remaining business units to ensure there are adequate job opportunities for local people. The local education and training centres are offering courses relevant to the pharmaceutical and food sectors, attracting students from outside the town.

The town has five primary schools and one large co-educational secondary school. Three of the primary schools are located in the town centre. During school drop off and collection times there is major traffic congestion and the town is inaccessible to the local people trying to get to work or use the businesses in the town. Business owners have complained that it is affecting footfall, sales and ability to recruit staff. Fewer businesses are setting up in the town centre due to issues with traffic congestion, including major international retailers who chose alternative towns.

To maintain the vibrancy and vitality of the town centre, the Glenhale Improvement Team was formed which consisted of all local major stakeholders. At its inaugural meeting many issues were identified including the areas of traffic congestion in the town. Developing tourism potential and securing suitable industry for the area were also discussed.

The Glenhale Improvement Team set about undertaking a public consultation process to identify the concerns and suggestions of the local community in relation to the development of the town centre. Locals were surveyed for their thoughts.

After analysing the suggestions put forward the Glenhale Improvement Team have prioritised and costed some of the suggestions made and created a number of action plans to put these projects in place. They communicate with the local townspeople about their progress via an email mailing list, a dedicated website and social media accounts. They also use these channels to appeal for volunteers to assist with certain aspects of the projects. They have appealed to local businesses to stay open while the traffic congestion solutions are being put in place. The Glenhale Improvement Team model is a collaborative approach which has promoted genuine solutions to sustain and revive the town centre.

Answer **all three** questions.

Q.1 A SWOT analysis is a study undertaken to identify Strengths, Weaknessess, Opportunities and Threats of an organisation or an area. Using the case study, identify **one** strength, **one** weakness, **one** opportunity and **one** threat of the town of Glenhale. **(6 marks)**

Q.2 **(i)** Why is it important for the committee to engage in market research?

(ii) Describe **three** ways you could ask the people of Glenhale for their opinion as part of the public consultation process.

(iii) Of the methods described in part (ii) above, which one do you consider to be the most successful method? Give reasons for your answer. **(12 marks)**

Q.3 **(i)** Why is it important to consult the stakeholders of a project when developing an action plan?

(ii) Locals put forward suggestions to improve their town centre. Identify **one** specific suggestion that may have been put forward by the locals and develop an action plan for your suggestion.

(iii) Why would the people of Glenhale evaluate their action plan? **(12 marks)**

Section C	General Questions	100 marks

This section has seven questions. Each question carries 25 marks. Answer **any four** questions.

To help you decide which questions to answer and to help you find them in the booklet, here are all the questions with the page range for each. Answer your chosen questions in the appropriate pages in this booklet.

Q.1 **Pages 16 to 18**

Consider your local area.

(a) State **two** reasons why you think your school is located where it is.

(b) Outline the benefits of recreational facilities and organised activities for teenagers in local areas.

(c) A group in your local area wants to improve facilities for young people.
Design a questionnaire, with **five** questions, this group would use to carry out the research.

(d) What factors would the group in part (c) need to consider to ensure the success of the research?

Q.2 **Pages 19 to 21**

You have been asked to complete an investigation on a career of your choice.

(a) **(i)** Name **two** Leaving Certificate subjects you are studying.

(ii) Outline how these subjects have helped in completing your work experience.

(b) List **three** characteristics that employers look for in potential employees.
Explain why you think **each** is important.

(c) Describe how your work experience/shadowing might influence you in your choice of career.

(d) Describe **three** sources of information you used when investigating your chosen career.
Give a reason for choosing **each** source.

Q.3 **Pages 22 to 24**

The world of work.

(a) Why would a student use a CV to apply for a job?

(b) Outline **two** ways the world of work differs from school.

(c) Why would it be helpful to have a clearly defined role in the workplace?

(d) Outline **three** legal responsibilities that employers have when employing workers under 18 years of age.

Q.4 **Pages 25 to 27**

Your Link Modules class took part in a visit out to a local business enterprise.

(a) Name a business enterprise that you visited. Identify the product/service it provides.

(b) Outline **four** key areas you were informed about during this visit.

(c) What steps should be taken to ensure that this visit is organised and run efficiently?

(d) Describe the challenges facing this business enterprise and how they can be overcome.

Q.5 **Pages 28 to 30**

Your Link Modules class has been asked to fundraise for a charity of your choice.

(a) Prepare the agenda for the first meeting to plan and organise the fundraising activity.

(b) Why is it important to plan for this activity?

(c) What are the benefits of doing a whole class project rather than an individual project?

(d) Describe **four** key areas of information that you would include in the body of the report on this activity.

Q.6 **Pages 31 to 33**

Technology is keeping people connected in today's business world.

(a) Why are Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills important in the world of business today?

(b) List **four** ways you have used ICT during LCVP.

(c) Discuss **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of using technology by an employee who is working from home.

(d) How may a business fund the cost of upgrading or improving ICT in their organisation?

Q.7 **Pages 34 to 36**

Trade unions play a vital role in maintaining good industrial relations.

(a) **(i)** What is a trade union?

(ii) Name **one** trade union.

(b) Outline **two** advantages to an employee from being a member of a trade union.

(c) What responsibilities do employers have when employing workers in their business? **Four** points required.

(d) Explain **three** implications to a business of poor industrial relations between workers and management.

Q.1 **25 marks**

Consider your local area.

(a) State **two** reasons why you think your school is located where it is. **(4 marks)**

(b) Outline the benefits of recreational facilities and organised activities for teenagers in local areas. **(4 marks)**

(c) A group in your local area wants to improve facilities for young people. Design a questionnaire, with **five** questions, this group would use to carry out the research. **(8 marks)**

(d) What factors would the group in part (c) need to consider to ensure the success of the research? **(9 marks)**

Q.2 **25 marks**

You have been asked to complete an investigation on a career of your choice.

(a) **(i)** Name **two** Leaving Certificate subjects you are studying.

(ii) Outline how these subjects have helped in completing your work experience. **(4 marks)**

(b) List **three** characteristics that employers look for in potential employees.
Explain why you think **each** is important. **(6 marks)**

(c) Describe how your work experience/shadowing might influence you in your choice of career.
(6 marks)

(d) Describe **three** sources of information you used when investigating your chosen career. Give a reason for choosing **each** source. **(9 marks)**

Q.3 **25 marks**

The world of work.

(a) Why would a student use a CV to apply for a job? **(4 marks)**

(b) Outline **two** ways the world of work differs from school. **(4 marks)**

(c) Why would it be helpful to have a clearly defined role in the workplace? **(8 marks)**

(d) Outline **three** legal responsibilities that employers have when employing workers under 18 years of age. **(9 marks)**

Q.4 **25 marks**

Your Link Modules class took part in a visit out to a local business enterprise.

(a) Name a business enterprise that you visited. Identify the product/service it provides. **(4 marks)**

(b) Outline **four** key areas you were informed about during this visit. **(4 marks)**

(c) What steps should be taken to ensure that this visit is organised and run efficiently?

(8 marks)

(d) Describe the challenges facing this business enterprise and how they can be overcome.

(9 marks)

Q.5 **25 marks**

Your Link Modules class has been asked to fundraise for a charity of your choice.

(a) Prepare the agenda for the first meeting to plan and organise the fundraising activity.

(4 marks)

(b) Why is it important to plan for this activity? **(4 marks)**

(c) What are the benefits of doing a whole class project rather than an individual project?

(9 marks)

(d) Describe **four** key areas of information that you would include in the body of the report on this activity. **(8 marks)**

Q.6 **25 marks**

Technology is keeping people connected in today's business world.

(a) Why are Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills important in the world of business today? **(4 marks)**

(b) List **four** ways you have used ICT during LCVP. **(4 marks)**

(c) Discuss **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of using technology by an employee who is working from home. **(8 marks)**

(d) How may a business fund the cost of upgrading or improving ICT in their organisation?

(9 marks)

Q.7 **25 marks**

Trade unions play a vital role in maintaining good industrial relations.

(a) **(i)** What is a trade union?

(ii) Name **one** trade union. **(4 marks)**

(b) Outline **two** advantages to an employee from being a member of a trade union. **(4 marks)**

(c) What responsibilities do employers have when employing workers in their business?
Four points required. **(8 marks)**

(d) Explain **three** implications to a business of poor industrial relations between workers and management. **(9 marks)**

You may use this page for extra work.

Make sure to label extra work clearly with the question number and part.

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Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme – Common Level

Link Modules Examination

Wednesday 30 April

Morning 10:00 - 12:30