

Years 5–6 assessment techniques and conditions v1.0

Humanities and Social Sciences — Economics and Business

This document outlines assessment techniques and response conditions to achieve range and balance within an assessment program. Schools consider the local context, and the age and capabilities of the students, when selecting appropriate assessment techniques and response conditions.

Techniques	Investigation	Project	Test
Description	An investigation assesses students' abilities to question and research; interpret and analyse; apply decision-making and application skills; and communicate.	A project assesses students' responses to a single task, stimulus, question, situation or scenario that gives students authentic opportunities to demonstrate their economics and business knowledge, understanding and skills.	A test assesses students' responses that are produced independently, under supervised conditions and in a set timeframe. A test ensures student authorship.
	An investigation requires students to locate and use evidence that goes beyond the data or knowledge they have been given and the knowledge they currently have. Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply economics and business knowledge, skills and concepts to everyday or familiar problems • develop questions and gather relevant data and information from different sources to frame an investigation about an economics or business issue, event or challenge (Year 6) • present evidence-based conclusions. Research conventions must be followed, e.g. acknowledging sources, regardless of the presentation format.	A project requires students to interpret and draw conclusions about primary and secondary sources. A project could include creating a business, or studying possible expansion of an existing business. A project consists of at least two components drawn from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practical • written • spoken. 	A test requires students to respond to one or more assessment items. These items are based on questions or tasks that are typically unseen. Questions or tasks may be based on stimulus material.
Formats (examples only)	Formats include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – analytical, persuasive or argumentative essay or response that answers a research 	Formats include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – brochure – article 	Formats include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • short response items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – single-word, true/false, multiple choice, cloze exercises or sentence answers

Techniques	Investigation	Project	Test
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> question - business feasibility or research report - journal • spoken/signed or multimodal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - formal speech suitable for a public audience with notes - interview. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - report (business plan) - essay • spoken/signed or multimodal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - podcast - oral presentation - slideshow - webpage • practical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - graphics, e.g. logo design, letterhead, flowchart, advertisement - business forecast, e.g. budget, statements, survey results - documentation, e.g. banking, forms, accounts, agendas, run sheets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sentence responses that define terms and give explanations and examples of these terms • response to stimulus.
Conditions	<p>Suggested length:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written responses 100–200 words • spoken/signed or multimodal responses up to 1 minute. 	<p>Suggested length:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written responses 100–200 words • spoken/signed or multimodal responses 1–2 minutes. 	<p>Suggested time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 60 minutes, plus 10 minutes perusal. <p>Suggested length:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100–200 words, comprising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - short response 25–50 words per item - extended response 50–100 words per item.

Notes

Responses can be written, spoken/signed or multimodal (integrating visual, print and/or audio features), recorded or live and may be presented digitally.

* Length of student responses should be considered in the context of the assessment. Longer responses do not necessarily provide better quality evidence of achievement.