

Stock Market Challenge

Learning Opportunities: Business Studies/Economics GCSE

Aims and learning outcomes**	Subject content	Application of learning in Stock Market Challenge
<p>Actively engage in the study of business and economics to develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.</p> <p>Use an enquiring, critical approach to distinguish facts and opinions, to build arguments and make informed judgements.</p> <p>Develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills to contemporary issues in a range of local, national and global contexts.</p> <p>Appreciate the range of perspectives of different stakeholders in relation to business and economic activities.</p>	<p>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: business activity (why and how businesses start, succeed and fail); the differing interests of stakeholders; competition – reaction and recognition, actual and potential; uncertainty – risk, reward and change; decision making – use of data and problem-solving; changing use of ICT – in business and economic activities; use of relevant terms, concepts and methods – to understand business and economic behaviour.</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: the dynamic nature of business; local, national and international contexts; the integrated nature of business problems and solutions.</p> <p>Develop the ability to: apply a critical perspective to the theory and current practice of business; evaluate quantitative and qualitative evidence to make reasoned judgements; develop a conceptual framework of business within society.</p> <p>Investigate how employers and employees operate in enterprising ways, develop their working relationships, and meet their various rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>Develop and apply the following skills within business contexts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ practical skills – time management, personal organisation and action planning ■ presentational skills – addressing audiences using a variety of media and forms ■ personal skills – showing evidence of progression ■ interpersonal skills – communication and group work ■ cognitive skills – reflection and review of own and others’ performances. 	<p>Opportunities</p> <p>Learn how the capital and currency markets function. Understand the effect of supply and demand on share prices. Learn about public limited companies, what shares are and why companies issue shares.</p> <p>The company narratives within the game offer a good introduction to the business environment and to different sectors of the economy. Students learn how companies within the game are affected by and react to external events.</p> <p>The game’s news reports and market data offer a thorough and authentic introduction to businesses and the media. Students learn how events in the news and human behaviour can affect the confidence of investors and determine share and currency prices.</p> <p>Exercises</p> <p>Manage a portfolio of investments. Students could be asked to produce a basic financial report for an imaginary client on the management of their fund.</p> <p>Compare the game scenarios with the experience of real-life businesses and the industrial sectors they operate in. Explore actual company flotations, mergers and acquisitions and compare them to events in the game.</p> <p>Learn the language of the financial markets and the business media, Understand how companies are portrayed in, and how they try to influence, the media.</p> <p>Use risk assessment and risk management skills and apply and develop a strategy for managing risk.</p>

** From OFQUAL's GCSE subject criteria for business subjects. There may be minor variations in the UK's regional curricula e.g. Scotland's SCE.