

Grade 7 EMS Worksheet

Assessment Task: Sustainable business practices

Responsible and sustainable business practices (Individual activity)

Read the scenarios below and complete the table that follows.

Scenario 1

A global food shortage has led to large-scale unrest in most countries. Looting caused damage to many supermarkets. Super Supermarket Chain has decided to increase its spending on safety and security to protect its supermarket outlets. Super Supermarket Chain has also decided to increase its food prices in order to offset its extra expenses on safety and security.

Scenario 2

'Hands-on' is a community initiative sponsored by two restaurants in a local community. All unemployed people are asked to pick up rubble in the community and to recycle the rubble in exchange for a plate of food at the community feeding scheme. The restaurants provide the food, the cost of which is partly covered by the money the recyclers pay for the rubble that gets recycled. The newspapers reported on the success of the initiative and commented on how much cleaner the community is.

Scenario 3

'Smokey Joe's' is a cigarette manufacturer that wants to buy cheap land next to the community school for its cigarette factory. The land has been standing vacant for some time. Smokey Joe's offered to paint the school hall and said that they would be very willing to allow the school to bring the children on field trips to see how a factory works.

Scenario 4

Farmer Holstein is a commercial farmer. He has trouble with moths laying their eggs in his vegetables and decides to use DDT to get rid of the problem. When his farm manager points out to him that DDT is harmful to wildlife, smaller farm animals and the environment (even to humans), Farmer Holstein tells him that using it would increase productivity and save the jobs of the farm workers. If he doesn't stop the moth epidemic, he would have to lay off at least half the workers on the farm.

Grade 7 EMS Worksheet

In the table below, indicate whether the business practice in each of the scenarios is sustainable or unsustainable. Provide a reason for your answer.

[8 marks]

Scenario	Sustainable or unsustainable business practice	Reason
1		
2		
3		
4		

Group assessment checklist

Criteria	Yes	No
Our group could correctly spot which scenarios are sustainable and which ones are unsustainable.		
Our group could explain the reasons for the answers we chose.		
Our group appreciates the importance of ensuring that business practices are sustainable in terms of the society, the environment and the businesses involved.		
Our group members displayed a grasp of business ethics in their reasoning.		

Grade 7 EMS Worksheet

Suggested Solutions

Question number	Possible marks	Solution		
1	8	Scenario	Sustainable or unsustainable business practice	Reason
		1	Unsustainable	The business practice disadvantages the community that buys from Super Supermarket Chain. The prices of food will already be high due to a food shortage. People will not be able to keep buying food if the prices keep rising.
		2	Sustainable	The community benefits from the initiative because the streets and other areas are cleaner. The unemployed people benefit because they receive food daily and they experience the upliftment of doing something worthwhile.
		3	Unsustainable	The business will benefit and the land owner will benefit. Although it might seem that the school will benefit in the short run, the community will be disadvantaged because the children will be exposed to the harmful effects of having a cigarette factory in their immediate vicinity.
		4	Unsustainable	The farmer will increase his productivity in the short run, but he will cause damage to the environment in the long run. That means that he will damage the soil that he wants to plant in for the next season. The use of DDT could also be harmful to the people who live and work on the farm.

Grade 7 EMS Worksheet

Appendix of Assessment Tools

Group assessment checklist

Criteria	Yes	No
Our group could correctly spot which scenarios are sustainable and which ones are unsustainable.		
Our group could explain the reasons for the answers we chose.		
Our group appreciates the importance of ensuring that business practices are sustainable in terms of the society, the environment and the businesses involved.		
Our group members displayed a grasp of business ethics in their reasoning.		