

## Grade 9 EMS Worksheet

### Productivity and global competition

Read the information below about South Africa's global competitiveness and complete the activity that follows.

In 2009 South Africa ranked 48<sup>th</sup> in the IMD World Competitiveness survey that tested the global competitiveness of countries. This is an improvement from its 53<sup>rd</sup> position in 2008. However, in comparing its 2008 and 2009 rankings, the survey shows a decline in the productivity of companies. Another decline is in total tax revenues collected.

In terms of economic performance the report also revealed weaknesses in the following:

- Unemployment rate in terms of percentage of labour force
- Employment rate as a percentage of the population
- Youth unemployment as a percentage of the youth labour force (those under 25 years)
- Long-term unemployment

In terms of business efficiency, weaknesses were revealed in the following areas:

- The brain drain
- Skilled labour
- Financial skills
- Labour force
- Competency of senior managers

(Source: [www.npi.co.za](http://www.npi.co.za); National Productivity Institute)

Do a word search in the word puzzle to complete the sentences below:

[10 marks]

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| v i s r g o g b s e e b e p p |                 |
| n i i o p r l u a t i e y a r | unemployment    |
| s s r f y n d o o t e t e o o | braindrain      |
| e n b r a i n d r a i n b l d | foreign         |
| s o g t n e m y o l p m e n u | revenue         |
| s s e n e v i t i t e p m o c | weaknesses      |
| e l y b g r r b e e d m e c t | productivity    |
| n f l i i i a r e u o b b v i | profitability   |
| k l l a t t e n e y n e e l v | competitiveness |
| a a a i i e o r s i c e e g i | labourforce     |
| e b b f d i o n o a e f v n t | globally        |
| w i o l a b o u r f o r c e y |                 |
| r r l r m t l e c i n n r i r |                 |
| p l g t s n o n t o m o t v o |                 |
| l c m p e r f w e t l e r n l |                 |

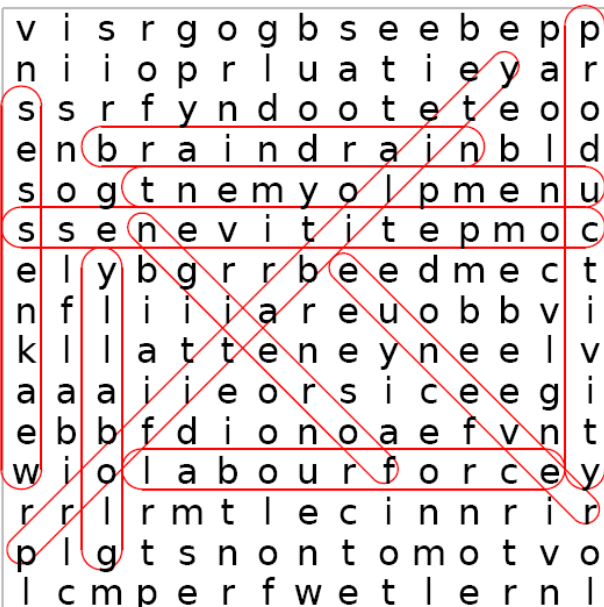
## Grade 9 EMS Worksheet

---

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ influences productivity because people who don't have a job cannot be productive.
- b) The \_\_\_\_\_ refers to people with skills and expertise emigrating, which means their skills and expertise are lost to the country.
- c) It is important for South Africa to be globally competitive, because if we can compete on the world market we earn \_\_\_\_\_ income.
- d) Total tax \_\_\_\_\_ declined because people and companies paid less tax.
- e) The \_\_\_\_\_ in business efficiency contribute to poor productivity in companies.
- f) If business \_\_\_\_\_ could be improved, profits would increase and more people could be employed.
- g) An increase in productivity would also lead to an increase in \_\_\_\_\_.
- h) The IMD survey tests the \_\_\_\_\_ of countries in various fields, such as infrastructure, business efficiency and government efficiency.
- i) The \_\_\_\_\_ is the number of people who are of working age in a country, whether they are working, seeking employment or unemployed.
- j) Increasing our productivity could contribute to South Africa being more \_\_\_\_\_ competitive.

## Grade 9 EMS Worksheet

### Suggested Solutions

| Question number | Possible marks | Solution  |
|-----------------|----------------|---|
| 1               | 10             |  |