



Unit:
Understanding Business Organisations

Assignment title:
Understanding Business Organisations

Sample Assignment

Important notes

- Please refer to the *Assignment Presentation Requirements* for advice on how to set out your assignment. These can be found on the NCC Education website. Click on 'Policies & Advice' on the main menu and then click on 'Student Support'.
- You must read the NCC Education documents *What is Academic Misconduct? Guidance for Candidates* and *Avoiding Plagiarism and Collusion: Guidance for Candidates* and ensure that you acknowledge all the sources that you use in your work. These documents are available on the NCC Education website. Click on 'Policies & Advice' on the main menu and then click on 'Student Support'.
- You **must** complete the *Statement and Confirmation of Own Work*. The form is available on the NCC Education website. Click on 'Policies & Advice' on the main menu and then click on 'Student Support'.
- Please make a note of the recommended word count. You could lose marks if you write 10% more or less than this.
- You must submit a paper copy and digital copy. Media containing viruses, or media that cannot be run directly, will result in a fail grade being awarded for this assessment.
- All electronic media will be checked for plagiarism.

Introduction

This assignment requires you to demonstrate knowledge and skills you have acquired throughout the course of this module by producing a 3,000 word, fully referenced, academic report that addresses the tasks given below. In order to complete the assignment, you will need to choose an industry and an appropriate organisation within it to research.

Choosing an appropriate organisation

Step 1: select an industry or sector with which you are familiar.

Step 2: select a large multinational, public limited company in that industry. This should be a private sector organisation, with the parent or holding company listed on the national stock exchange or equivalent.

A feature of these sorts of organisations is that they:

- Have high numbers of assets and high turnover
- Network of locations and subsidiary companies
- Constantly growing, often through mergers and acquisitions

Researching your organisation

You can use web resources to enable you to understand the context in which your selected organisation operates.

Do not limit yourself, however, to web-based sources of information. You should also use academic, industry and other sources such as the financial reports of your chosen organisation.

Example – Rolls Royce Plc

NB. You will not be expected to submit your background research, it should be used purely to help formulate your responses.

Rolls Royce Plc operates in three core markets; civil aerospace, power systems and defence. Their revolutionary Total Care package for the airline industry allows airlines to spread the cost of their aircraft engines and maintenance, improving their own profits on the process.

Shareholder profits for Rolls Royce Plc have once again started to increase following the significant drop in performance due to the pandemic, largely due to the decrease in demand from airlines, but also a decrease in government spending on defence.

Sources of information on this business include:

<https://www.rolls-royce.com/> (accessed 9 July 2022)

<https://www.londonstockexchange.com/news-article/RR./2021-full-year-results/15340927>
(accessed 9 July 2022)

<https://www.marketresearch.com/Heavy-Industry-c1595/Transportation-Shipping-c95/>
(accessed 9 July 2022)

<https://www.reuters.com/business/autos-transportation/rolls-royce-boosted-by-return-flying-defence-demand-2022-05-12/> (accessed 9 July 2022)

Do NOT use Rolls Royce Plc as the basis of your assignment. This is just an example. You must choose the organisation yourself.

Please note, this assignment must be your own work as it is designed to test your abilities. Submitted assignments will be checked for plagiarism. For more information, please refer to NCC Education's Academic Misconduct Policy, which can be found on the website.

Instructions

Answer all FIVE (5) questions.

Task 1 – 20 Marks

A multinational organisation is likely to select either a centralised or a variation on a decentralised structure. Compare the centralised and decentralised approach, discussing the benefits and drawbacks of each structure, ensuring that you identify clearly how your chosen organisation benefits from its chosen approach.

(20 marks)

Task 2 – 20 Marks

(a) With reference to a recent global event, identify where your chosen organisation has made changes to its operations, product range, marketing approach etc. Discuss at least THREE (3) examples of changes that the organisation has undergone in response to this event.

(15 marks)

(b) Evaluate the likelihood of resistance to change for ONE (1) of the changes discussed in Task 2 (a). Discuss the possible impact of this resistance on the performance of the organisation.

(5 marks)

Task 3 – 20 Marks

(a) Identify and discuss TWO (2) reasons why effective communication is essential for multinational organisations.

(10 marks)

(b) Examine the power held by stakeholders involved in decision-making in your chosen organisation. You should identify both the stakeholder's expectations and the type of power used to influence the organisation.

(10 marks)

Task 4 – 20 Marks

Review both a recent and an older (within the last 4 years) set of financial statements from your chosen organisation, These should be readily available as all public limited companies must file or publish their financial statements.

(a) Use the key measures to compare financial performance of the organisation over the TWO (2) periods and analyse why these changes might have occurred

(15 marks)

(b) Produce a summary of your interpretation of the financial health of your organisation, giving reasons for your conclusions.

(5 marks)

Task 5 – 20 Marks

Technology has the potential to improve the operation of many different types of organisations. Identify and discuss at least FOUR (4) ways in which your chosen organisation has adopted new technology for internal and external applications.

(20 marks)

Guidance

Consult with your tutor if you are uncertain about any aspect of this assignment.

Submission requirements

You must submit a word-processed report.

Your report should answer Tasks 1 to 5. The word count for your report is **3000 words**.

Candidate checklist

Please use the following checklist to ensure that your work is ready for submission.

Have you read the NCC Education documents *What is Academic Misconduct? Guidance for Candidates* and *Avoiding Plagiarism and Collusion: Guidance for Candidates* and ensured that you have acknowledged all the sources that you have used in your work?

Have you completed the *Statement and Confirmation of Own Work* form and attached it to your assignment? **You must do this.**

Have you ensured that your work has not gone over or under the recommended word count by more than 10%?

Have you ensured that your work does not contain viruses and can be run directly?