

LO1 How to target a market

# Importance of customer segmentation

Market segmentation is the process of dividing a market of potential customers into groups, or segments, based on different characteristics

### The need to segment the market

- Customers require different benefits from a product
- · Different customers have different budgets
- · Different incomes
- · Expect different quality of goods
- · Want to buy larger amounts
- · Want to be able to purchase online or in store



### Types of market segmentation

**Demographic** – segmentation according to age, race, religion, gender, family size, ethnicity, income and education.

Behavioural – based on differences in consumer's lifestyle, patterns of buying, using, spending

**Psychographic** – based on personality traits, values, attitudes, interests and lifestyles

Geographic – based on geography i.e. area, city, country, region etc.



### Benefits of market segmentation

- Ensuring customer needs are matched and met
- Increased profit
- · Increased customer retention
- · Targeted marketing
- · Increase in market share



### Market research

Market research is the gathering of data and information about the market a business operates in

Purpose of market research

- · Aid decision making (like price, colour)
- · Reduce risk
- Understand the market (competitors)
- Promote the organisation
- · Gain customers' views and needs
- · Inform product development



See R065

REMEMBER:



you need to know the benefits and drawbacks of each of the market research methods for higher marks

## Primary & Secondary

**Primary research** – this is research conducted by the business – Research can be tailored to your specific product so more relevant, Results are more likely to be upto-date, Results not available to competitors, helps make less risky decisions

- Questionnaire
- Survey
- Consumer trial
- Observations
- Focus groups

Secondary research – this is research that has been conducted by someone else - Cost of accessing information usually low. Relatively quick to obtain

Internal data

- Books/newspapers
- · trade magazines
- · Competitors' data
- · Government publications and statistics
- Mintel reports



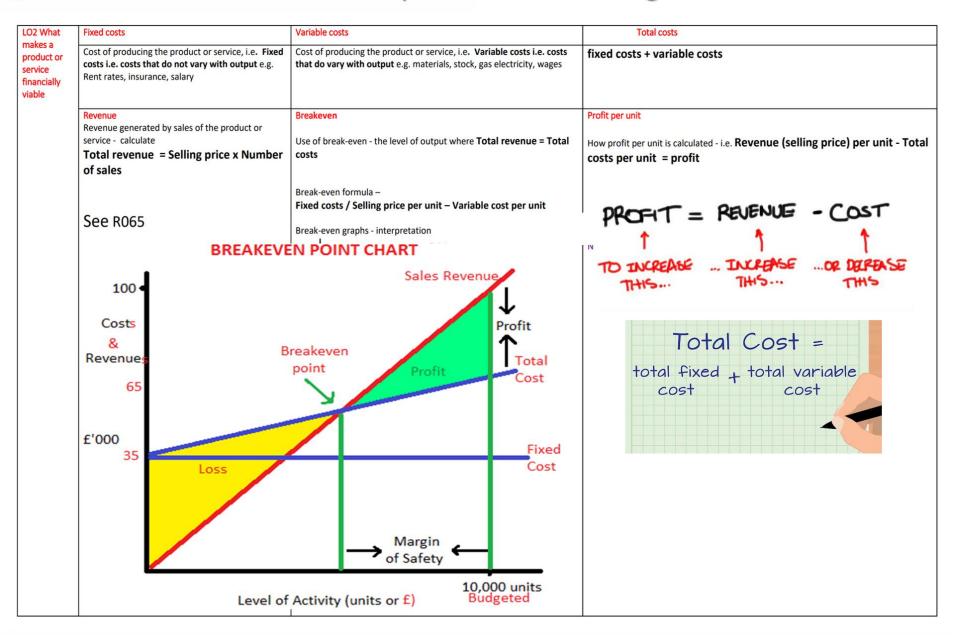
## Feedback techniques

- Customer comment card
- · Social media reviews and comments
- Online surveys
- Comments made to staff
- Telephone or email surveys
- · Email contact forms











Understand product development

### **Product Lifecycle**

The product lifecycle is the period of time in the life of a product - from its initial launch until it is eventually taken off the market.

There are 5 stages in the product lifecycle:

- Development
- Introduction
- Growth
- Maturity
- Decline

# PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE



### **Extension strategies**

Before a product reaches the decline stage, the business will try it's best to extend the life of the product by adding extension strategies such as:

**Advertising** – help attract new customers, remind existing customers, encourage repeat purchases

**Price changes** – usually the price is reduced to encourage customers to buy again

Adding value – examples are providing sugar free versions of foods, provide a 1-year warranty

Exploring new markets – sometimes a business will need to find a brand new market for its products

**New packaging** – provide a fresh new look to encourage existing and new customers to buy again

#### Product differentiation

Product differentiation is a way of making a product stand out, and be different from competing products.

#### Methods:-

**Branding** – this is the visual identity of the product and this is usually a combination of a name, logo or symbol, strapline and a distinct feature. The idea is that it will make it easier to influence customers.

Design mix model – this is what to consider when designing a product:

Function –does the product work? Is it reliable? Does it have more than 1 function?

Aesthetics - how does the product look/feel/smell?

Economics - can the product be made quickly and cost-effectively?

Unique Selling Point (USP) – John Lewis offer life time warranty on their products

Improving a product – features, functions, location, design, selling price, appearance

#### External factors

On occasions there are some things that a business cannot control that is going on in the world around them/outside of the business.

These external factors are:

Technological developments, economics issues and legal issues.

### Technology in production

By using machines and robotics production can be automated

New technology has changed the way what consumers expect from a product (TV's are expected to connect to Wi-Fi and browse online), How we pay (PayPal, mobile payments, contactless debit cards) and how we buy products (online access)

#### Legal Issues

There are two main areas of law that affect businesses:

**Consumer Protection –** Consumer Rights Act 2015 and Consumer Protection Act 1987

Intellectual Property – Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. Data Protection

### External factors cont....

Economic Issues e.g. recession, boom and their effects)





Product Development DEEL



LO4 Understand how to attract and retain customers

# Factors to consider when setting price

Business need to think carefully about the price they will charge as this will depend on:

- Income levels of customers how much they earn
- · Price of competitor goods
- · Cost of production
- · Local factors (unemployment)



# Pricing strategies

# **Competitive Pricing**

Takes into account the prices charged by competitors in the same industry

# **Psychological Pricing**

Designed to cause an emotional reaction by consumers. Often a business decides to set the price at just below a rounded number in order to make it feel more attractive to consumers. For example, charging £299 instead of £300.

# **Price Skimming**

Where a business decides to set a high price in order to maximise profits. The strategy is often used when a new, innovative product is launched.

### **Price Penetration**

Where a business decides to set a low price initially in order to maximise the number of customers and then increases it over time. The strategy is often used to attract customers away from their normal brand.

### Customer Service

Customer service refers to any help, advice and support provided by a business to consumers. It is the experience the customer has when purchasing the product.

Business should ensure that customer service staff know about:

- The product
- Customer engagement
- · After sales service



# Sales Promotion Techniques

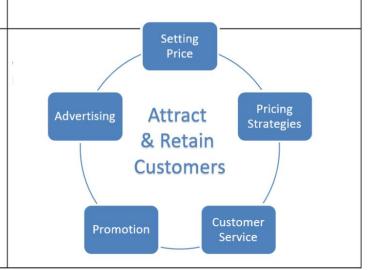
- Discounts
- Competitions
- Buy One Get One Free (BOGOF)
- · Point of sale advertising
- Free gifts/product trials
- Loyalty schemes
   The advantages a

The advantages and disadvantages of each of the promotional methods and recommend the most appropriate method for a start-up business in a specific situation

# Type of advertising methods

- Leaflets
- Social Media
- Websites
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Radio

The advantages and disadvantages of each of the advertising methods and recommend the most appropriate advertising method for a start-up business in a specific situation.





LO5: Understand factors for consideration when starting up a

business

### Appropriate forms of ownership for business

- Sole trader (1 owner)
- Partnership (2-20 owners)
- Limited Liability partnerships
- Franchise

### Features of each form of ownership

- Owners
- Basic legal requirements to start the business (e.g. business registration, HMRC)
- · Liability limited, unlimited
- · Responsibility for decision making
- Distribution of profit to the owners

To include the advantages and disadvantages of each form of ownership



# Sources of capital/finance for business start ups

- Own savings
- Friends and family
- Loans
- Crowd funding
- Small Business Grants
- Business Angels (investors like Dragons Den)

Know the reasons why additional finance may be required during the first few years of operating a typical new business.

Know the definition and key features of each source of capital/finance.

Know the advantages and disadvantages of each source of capital/finance, and their appropriateness to a specific business and/or situation.



#### **Business Plans**

The importance of a business plan (Why a business plan is needed)

- to clarify a business idea to others (e.g. to secure funding)
- to measure progress towards goals (e.g. timescales, sales forecasts)
- to help manage cash flow
- · to help identify potential problems (e.g. financial shortages)

## What the business plan should detail

- business objectives
- business strategies
- sales plan
- marketing plan
- financial forecasts

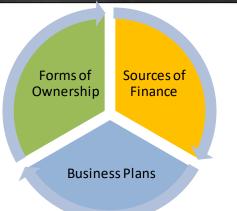
To include who may wish to see a business plan and for what purpose



# Wider materials and links

Pocket guide
Revision mind maps
Exam builders
Past Papers and mark
schemes







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Need more help?

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Review and learn the Key Terms.

Visit:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business

**Try Past Paper Questions** 







LO6: Understand different functional activities needed to support a business

start-up

# Functional areas

Purpose of each functional activities

# Human Resources

Main activities of each functional area

Human Resources (HR) Marketing Operations Finance

## **Human Resources**

Responsible for all aspects of managing individuals who work within a business

### Dear-it-seat and

Recruitment and selection, training and development and performance management of employees, responsibility of health and safety in the workplace, ensuring compliance with employment legislation.

# Marketing

Responsible for identifying the needs and wants of business customers and developing products/services to meet those needs

### Marketing

Market research – to research the market and find out customer opinions, developing a marketing mix (4 P's): Product. Price, Plan, Promotion

# **Operations**

Organising the process that turns inputs into outputs/finished goods that can be sold to customers

### **Operations**

production planning, producing the product or service, quality control, stock control, logistics (organising what goes where),.

### **Finance**

Managing the financial resources in a small business and reporting on financial performance.

### **Finance**

Organisation and allocation of financial resources, financial performance reporting, monitoring of cash flow.

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