

Year 11 to 12 suggestions for activities to prepare for Business in Year 12

The way you record this work is up to you; you may keep a paper record, electronic record or just work through and think about and read about the topics. Some record would be great to refer back to in Year 12.

The specification we follow is Edexcel;

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/business-2015.html>

If you wish to have look at the details of the specification it is in this link.

A One area of study is the role of the entrepreneur and there are various things here to do:

Crash Course Business “Who even is an entrepreneur?” (13 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aozlwC3XwfY>

50 Entrepreneurs share priceless advice video (19 minutes) see how many you can recognise; you can see the list in the comment box below the screen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QoqohmccTSc&t=24s>

Also, this link has lots of interesting stories of entrepreneurship

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-22449886>

1 Produce a mind map illustrating what you think makes a successful entrepreneur.

2 Listen to the Disruptors – Julie Deane Cambridge Satchel Company - pick 5 characteristics of an entrepreneur and show how Julie displayed them

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p06rn2dw>

3 Choose an entrepreneur - it doesn't have to be one of the obvious, famous examples, it might be someone you know.

Undertake some research to answer the following questions:

- What reasons did they have for becoming an entrepreneur?
- What business did they establish?

- How has their business been successful?
- What qualities do they possess which have helped them to be successful and how have they displayed them?

B Another area of study is the impact of external influences on businesses; for example, interest rates are rising and the cost of raw materials are rising but not all businesses are affected to the same extent:

4 Research some of the following businesses [or indeed, any others that interest you] and see how they have been dealing with current external challenges. They are all high profile companies so there should be plenty of information available.

Start your research by producing a fact sheet about the business e.g. who they are, what do they produce, where are they based, how much profit (or loss?) did they make last year, how many people do they employ etc and then research any recent news stories. Read the news stories you find and write a short summary of each.

You could keep your findings as a Word document or similar.

You could keep this research going over the next few weeks or months. We can return to your chosen business over the duration of your Business A Level course.

Pick one of the following:

- John Lewis & Waitrose
- Sainsburys
- BP
- Easyjet
- Carnival Cruises
- HSBC
- Lloyds Bank
- Next
- Taylor Wimpey
- Pret a Manger
- Marstons
- Restaurant Group
- Marks & Spencer

C General Business: There are lots of TV shows on business which in school there is not time to watch; so this is an opportunity to really improve your practical knowledge of business which will be great for applying to the theory you learn next year.

One from last year was "Inside the Supermarket" which opened the doors to Sainsburys as they celebrated their 150th birthday. These are no longer available on the BBC iPlayer but you can watch some of them via YouTube (episodes 1, 5 and 6) .

www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwucutFTsQ

www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWeAEqmo-Kc

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mtz-uc4AVdA

Another is the BBC programme "Inside the factory".

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07mddqk/episodes/player>

This is a link to available programmes

5 Reading and further research:

For Business I suggest that you read the BBC Business pages regularly and perhaps make a note of any stories that illustrate topic such as marketing, Human Resources and Finance. Of course, there was a huge amount on the virus which may feel you would like to avoid, however it is an excellent example of an external factor and how businesses are dealing with it is an example of contingency planning, which is a topic in year 13.

If you want to look at some financial stuff, have a look at some of the published accounts of plcs and see what you make of them.

Books/Audiobooks

- Anyone can do it – Duncan Bannatyne
- The Business Book – Big Ideas Simply Explained, Sam Atkinson
- Fifty things that made the modern economy – Tim Harford
- The Rise And Fall Of Marks & Spencer: ..and How It Rose Again – Judi Bevan
- What You See Is What You Get: My Autobiography by Alan sugar
- Management in ten words by Terry Leahy
- The Virgin Way – Richard Branson

- Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wz40rdz7i4>
- The New One Minute Manager – Blanchard & Johnson
- Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ar4lrwXM4ao>
- Wake Up and Change Your Life by Duncan Bannatyne
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqLVkMeJwE4&list=PLosYlgqowJvECmirOpdII_Ynw5Lb4M-Tf&index=10&t=0s