



Higher National Unit Specification

General information

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Unit code: H2VX 34

Superclass: AA

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Unit purpose

This Unit provides candidates with an understanding of the various International Trade Institutions and their influence on Global Trade and the World Economy. It covers the origins of International Trade Institutions, their initial aims, how these aims have developed over time and their impact on International Business and Trade today. On completion of the Unit candidates will be able to analyse the contribution of these Institutions to the World Economy and their influence on Global Trade.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 explain the development of International Trade Institutions
- 2 explain the aims of International Trade Institutions
- 3 analyse the contribution of International Trade Institutions to the World Economy and Global Trade

Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7)

Recommended entry to the Unit

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre; however it would be beneficial if the candidate had good written and oral communication skills by possession of Higher English or a suitable HN Communication Unit at SCQF level 6.

Higher National Unit Specification: General information (cont)

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Communication* and the components *Problem Solving (Critical Thinking)* and *Problem Solving (Planning and Organising)* at SCQF level 6; the Core Skills of *Information Technology* at SCQF level 5 and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

The Assessment Support Pack (ASP) for this Unit provides assessment and marking guidelines that exemplify the national standard for achievement. It is a valid, reliable and practicable assessment. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the ASP to ensure a comparable standard. A list of existing ASPs is available to download from SQA's website (<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/46233.2769.html>).

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Explain the development of International Trade Institutions.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Origins of International Trade Institutions
- ◆ Roles of International Trade Institutions
- ◆ Development of International Institutions

Outcome 2

Explain the aims of International Trade Institutions.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Aims of International Trade Institutions
- ◆ Modification to aims
- ◆ Achievement of aims

Outcome 3

Analyse the contribution of International Trade Institutions to the World Economy and trade.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ International Trade Institutions' impact on the World Economy
- ◆ International Trade Institutions' influence on Global Trade

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

Outcome 1

- ◆ Explain the development of two International Trade Institutions from their inception to present day, including origins and roles.

Outcome 2

- ◆ Explain the original aims of two International Trade Institutions.
- ◆ Explain any changes which have taken place since these aims were set.
- ◆ Explain whether these aims have been achieved.

Outcome 3

- ◆ Analyse the impact of two International Trade Institutions on the World Economy.
- ◆ Analyse the current influence of these International Trade Institutions on Global Trade.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Candidates should study the main International Trade Institutions and analyse the effect they have on Global Trade and the Global Economy. This will provide an appreciation of the roles of the various International Trade Institutions in assisting Business and International Trade.

This Unit is designed to allow candidates to understand how Global Trade and the Global Economy have developed, and are still developing today with the aid of the relevant International Trade Institutions, including those established at the Bretton Woods Conference, ie IMF, World Bank etc. This may include the effect World War II had on Global Trade. Candidates should be able to explain and analyse the reasons that other Institutions were established, ie WTO, UNCTAD, OPEC, OECD, etc.

Outcome 1 covers the history of the International Trade Institutions selected, whilst Outcome 2 goes on to deal with the aims of International Trade Institutions from their inception in relation to the development of Global Trade and the Global Economy. In Outcome 3 candidates analyse the contribution and the current influence of International Trade Institutions on the Global Economy.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit is optional in the HNC/HND International Business and Trade and tends to be offered nearer the end of the programme as it encompasses concepts and information gained through other Units.

The Unit is also mandatory in the HND Global Trade and Business and may form part of other Group Awards.

As candidates are required to describe two International Trade Institutions it is likely that they will be required to plan, schedule and carry out a significant amount of research activity in addition to the taught material in the Unit. Both taught and self-directed aspects of learning will be combined to enable candidates to complete an appropriate report.

It is recommended that equal time should be allocated to lecturing and independent research.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment instrument. The guidance provided here are suggestions only; there may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

The Unit could be assessed by a single holistic assessment covering all Unit Outcomes. The assessment could comprise of a report of approximately 2,000 words, or equivalent, completed in candidates' own time. This would allow the candidate sufficient scope to demonstrate their knowledge and skills across various International Trade Institutions and the effect they have on Global Trade and the Global Economy. It is recommended that candidates identify sources of information used in the compilation of the report.

Candidates are required to choose two International Trade Institutions and explain them in the context of the effect on the World Economy and International Trade.

Prior Verification of centre devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. The use of a range of assessment methods can help learners to develop different skills that should be transferable to employment or Further and Higher Education.

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There are no Core Skills embedded in this Unit. However, the following table gives some examples of the opportunities for developing Core Skills within this Unit.

Core Skill	SCQF level	Opportunities for development
Communication	Level 6	All three Outcomes can contribute to the reading and writing aspects of this Core Skill.
Written Communication (Reading)	Level 6	Candidates are expected to read and understand complex written information.
Written Communication (Writing)	Level 6	There are opportunities to develop written communication where candidates produce written responses as these have to be well-structured and clear, addressing the Evidence Requirements. Evidence is required in the form of the production of a structured report.
Problem Solving	Level 6	In researching the developments of International trade institutions and in the analyse required in Outcome 3, there are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of the components Problem Solving (Critical Thinking) and Problem Solving (Planning and Organising) at SCQF level 6.
Information Technology	Level 5	Candidates are likely to use Information Technology when undertaking research into their chosen organisations. Finished reports may include graphics, tables or spreadsheets to illustrate points.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

Core Skill	SCQF level	Opportunities for development
Working with others	Level 4	Throughout the Unit the candidate may have the opportunity to take part in group discussion and group work.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: International Trade Institutions

This Unit is designed to give you knowledge of the various International Trade Institutions and the effect they have on Global Trade and the Global Economy. It will also give you an appreciation of how business is assisted by the various International Trade Institutions and their importance in International Business and Trade.

It explores how International Trade and the Global Economy have developed, and continue to develop with the aid of Institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Outcome 1 deals with the history and role of International Trade Institutions.

Outcome 2 explains their aims in relation to developing the Global Economy.

Outcome 3 is concerned with the current role of these Institutions.

On completion of the Unit, you will be able to:

- 1 explain the development of International Trade Institutions
- 2 explain the aims of International Trade Institutions
- 3 analyse the contribution of International Trade Institutions to the World Economy and Global Trade

The Unit may be assessed by a report of approximately 2,000 words.

The activities undertaken whilst completing this Unit may provide opportunities for you to develop Core Skills in the areas of *Communication, Problem Solving, Working with Others* and *Information Technology*.