



Unit Number

U3051249/KC3T

Key Skills

Communication

Level 3 - Who needs a degree?

Tuesday 11 November 2008

Total Marks: 50

No. of Questions: 5

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes (including reading time)

Materials required for examination

This question paper

The source booklet

An answer booklet

A pen with black or blue ink

You may NOT use a dictionary

Instructions to Candidates

Do NOT open this test paper until you are told to do so by the supervisor.

In the boxes on the answer book, write your centre number, registration number, surname and initials. The paper reference is shown above.

If you use extra paper, make sure it has your name and registration number on it and is securely attached to your answer booklet.

At the end of the test, hand the test paper, the Answer Booklet(s) and all notes to the supervisor.

Marks will be awarded for accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Information for Candidates

There are two parts to this test.

Part A (total 25 marks) consists of 4 short-answer questions.

Part B (total 25 marks) consists of 1 extended-answer question.

Read each question carefully and try to answer ALL the questions.

Advice to Candidates

Try to complete All the tasks

Instructions to Centres

This paper must not be photocopied

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Ref: COM-L3-Q4-P4-v7.1-URN:662

Who needs a degree?

Read Documents 1 to 3 then answer the questions which follow.

Document 1 Adapted from *Students set sail on choppy waters*, The Guardian, 19 September 2006.

Document 2 Adapted from *The value of a degree and the demand for graduates*, Peter Elias and Kate Purcell, Graduate Prospects careers website, Autumn 2004.

Document 3 Adapted from *Useless? To a degree*, The Times, 16 March 2006, and CSL CartoonStock, 2006.

Part A: Short-answer questions

In this section you will be given marks for:

- identifying accurately, and comparing, the lines of reasoning and main points from the documents
 - synthesising the key information in a way that is relevant to the purpose.
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1 Using information from Documents 1 and 2, identify **three** reasons why gaining a degree is seen as worthwhile.

4 marks

2 Using information from Document 3, identify **three** specific reasons why some people are questioning the value of a degree. To what extent do the writers of Documents 2 and 3 agree about the value of a degree?

8 marks

3 Identify the meaning of the image in Document 1 and the meaning of the image in Document 3. Explain to what extent each image supports the arguments in the document in which it appears.

6 marks

4 Using information from Document 2, identify **three** factors which might affect the growth of graduate earnings. Consider the extent to which Documents 1 and 2 agree that a degree is a good investment for future employment.

7 marks

Part A Total 25 marks

Part B: Extended-answer question

In this section you will be given marks for:

- using a format and style of writing that is appropriate to the purpose
 - organising the relevant information from all three documents clearly and coherently
 - using your own words where appropriate
 - writing legibly using accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar.
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- 5 You have been asked to write an article for a local school/college magazine on the value of a degree in today's world. In your article, you should:
- consider the different views about the value of having a degree
 - discuss the alternatives to undertaking a degree
 - give advice to those readers who are unsure about going on to higher education.

Base your response on information from the documents.

25 marks

End of test

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