

Name: _____

Internal Assessment Resource
Economics Level 1

This resource supports assessment against:

Achievement Standard 90987

Demonstrate understanding of a government choice where affected groups have different viewpoints

4 credits

Internal Assessment Resource

Achievement Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate understanding of a government choice where affected groups have different viewpoints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate in-depth understanding of a government choice where affected groups have different viewpoints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of a government choice where affected groups have different viewpoints.

Economics Achievement Standard 90987: Demonstrate understanding of a government choice where affected groups have different viewpoints

Resource reference: Economics

Resource title: IT versus sport

Credits: 4

Student instructions

Introduction

This assessment activity requires you to demonstrate an understanding of a government economic choice where affected groups have different viewpoints.

The school has received an unrestricted donation of **\$100,000** and the Board of Trustees is thinking about how to spend the money. Three ideas have been put forward, but the Board is open to other ideas. The ideas provided so far are:

- **Upgrade of the computer network to make computers quicker and more reliable.**
- **New sports uniforms and equipment.**
- **New outdoor furniture and sheltered places for students during poor weather.**

The Board of Trustees (BOT) has asked you to decide on the best way to spend the \$100 000. They have asked you to keep in mind three important strategic goals that are relevant to the economic decision:

- 1 The donation must be used in a way that benefits the most students possible;
- 2 Improves student achievement;
- 3 Helps to create a closer relationship between the school and the wider community.

Task

There are two parts in this assessment activity.

As a group, you will:

- a. identify the **limited means/scarce resources** in this situation;
- b. describe the economic decision the Board must make, explaining how the economic decision is affected by limited means and/or scarce resources;
- c. Analyse information about the different opinions of the different groups affected.

Part 2

Working by yourself and referring to the information collected:

- a. Identify the options that different groups suggest and the compromises they are prepared to make;
- b. Identify the main factors you will consider when evaluating each option, for example, the BOT strategic goals, and consider the weightings for these factors;
- c. Identify and explain the major costs and benefits (positive and negative) of these options by considering all the factors and how each group feels about them, and apply weightings to the costs and benefits;
- d. Rank the options based on the weightings given to the costs and benefits;
- e. Make a recommendation of the decision the Board should make and justify it by explaining the weightings you gave to the different costs and benefits, referring to the idea that some costs and benefits are more significant than others. Consider the influence of the compromises on your recommendation.

Resources

Resource 1: Collecting the information from all viewpoints

The following questions are suggested as a starting point.

- What does the person or group believe the \$100,000 should be spent on?
- Why do they have this viewpoint?
- How could they be affected by this decision and other decisions?
- What options are they proposing?
- What compromises are they willing to make?
- For each of the proposals who need to identify the costs and benefits of the proposal and then weight them.

NB: It is essential that you can identify options from the different groups.

Resource 2: Gathering information from the Board of Trustees

School Goals

CARING: (Integrity, Respect, Diversity).

Support Student Learning Through:

- A safe and supportive student culture that continues to flourish and grow.

EXCELLENCE:

Enhance Student Learning By Ensuring:

- Endorsements with Achieve, Merit and Excellence are above National means in all areas
- We provide an extensive range of quality opportunities outside the classroom.

Board of Trustees Opinion

The board values student achievement and feels that this is the core role of Freyberg.

- The school has the goal of improving student performance, and the board feels that spending money on the school network would be the best ways to do this.
- Giving students quick and reliable access to computers would help to improve students ability to get information and therefore gain better grades.
- Feel that it would help internal assessment results as students would be able to better use their time in class as logging on would become quicker.
- The board is at present unable to afford to upgrade the network and so using the donation would help to make this happen.
- With NCEA level 1 external examinations going to be assessed by computer in the future a reliable and quick network will be necessary.

Compromise.

Could only upgrade parts of the school most used for computing which would cost \$60,000 and use the rest of the money to help with sports uniforms which also meet the goals of providing extensive opportunities outside the classroom.

Sports Coordinator Opinion

Values looking after the whole student – which means that she feels that students should not only focus on academic areas of the school but also on culture and sports, which fits into the school goal of providing opportunity outside the classroom.

- Feels that the money should be spent on sports uniforms.
- Thinks that by supporting extra-curricular activities overall student performance will increase as students feel part of the school community and so are more likely to achieve better.
- School sports uniforms are not in good condition and in desperate need of replacement. Would also spend money on culture uniforms.

Compromise

Could buy new uniforms for only the top teams and pass the uniforms still in acceptable condition onto lower sports teams. This would cost \$40,000 and the rest of the money could be spent on the upgrading of the network as she feels that this is important also.

Staff.

Value student performance and ability to work well in the classroom without being affected by slow network.

- Often frustrated with the slowness of the network can take students 10 minutes or more to log in – using up valuable class time.
- Giving students quick and reliable access to computers would help to improve students ability to get information and therefore gain better grades.
- Feel that it would help internal assessment results as students would be able to better use their time in class as logging on would become quicker.

Compromise

Could make do with only some of the network being upgraded, especially in areas where computers are used a lot such as the library and E3 and E4.

Feel that 60,000 or 70,000 could be spent on computers and the rest on seating for students, as they feel that students would be more focused if they had better rest areas for interval and lunch.

Students (from student's rep on board of trustees who interviewed students.)

Value being comfortable at school and being able to spend time with friends at lunchtime and interval. Meets goal of providing a safe and supportive environment.

- Feel that places for students to hang out during breaks are limited and during bad weather there is not many places for the students to go.
- Feel that being comfortable would help students attitude towards the school and so help improve student performance.
- Desperate need for more seating and tables for students to eat lunch as at present nowhere near enough.
- Would help students to feel positive about the school.

Compromise

Would be willing to have seating only around café and shelter in concourse, as these are the places most students hang out. This would cost \$45,000 and the remainder should be split evenly between uniforms and upgrading the network.