

## Section B - Question 4 Past Exam Questions

### 2015

Money management skills are vital to running the house as a financial unit.

- (a) Analyse three social factors that affect **household income**. (18)
- (b) Design a **family budget** (two adults and two young children) where the net weekly income is €650. Give a reason for the proposed allocation of income for each area of expenditure. (18)
- (c) Recommend one type of **savings scheme** suitable for a family. Refer to:
- name of institution
  - type of savings scheme
  - interest paid
  - ease of access to funds
  - tax payable. (14)

### 2014

**Kitchen appliances** play a prominent role in enhancing the performance of modern kitchens.

- (a) Discuss the following factors that should be considered when selecting kitchen appliances for a family home:
- sourcing consumer information
  - design
  - value for money (12)
- (b) Set out details of a study you have undertaken on **microwave ovens**. Refer to each of the following:
- construction and working principle
  - guidelines for use (26)
- (c) Explain how the consumer can protect the environment when choosing, using and **disposing of electrical appliances**. (12)

### 2013

Management may be defined as planning for and implementing the use of resources to meet demands.

- (a) Discuss four factors that can influence the **management of family resources**. (20)
- (b) You have been elected as chairperson of your school's graduation committee. Using the management framework (**inputs, throughputs and outputs**), set out the plan for the event. (18)
- (c) Give an account of the importance of **decision making** in family resource management (12)

### 2012

'Buying a home is one of the most significant financial decisions you will make in your lifetime.'  
([www.myhome.ie](http://www.myhome.ie))

- (a) Discuss the factors which influence individual and family **housing choices**. Refer to each of the following:
- economic factors
  - national housing policy
  - trends in housing developments. (24)
- (b) Name and describe one **type of mortgage** available to potential house buyers. (14)
- (c) Name and give details of one **Local Authority scheme** available to people in need of housing (12)

### 2011

'The performance of the economy has had a significant impact on the family unit.' (*The Irish Times, 13th September 2010*)

- (a) Outline the **role of the household/family as a financial unit** within the economy. (10)
- (b) Discuss the impact of the following social factors on **household income**:
- age
  - gender
  - social class
  - culture. (24)
- (c) Identify and explain four factors that may contribute to varying patterns of **household expenditure**. (16)



## 2010

The average household in Ireland owes a whopping €115,000 according to the Central Statistics Office and as the recession bites a growing number of people are struggling with the burden of personal debt. (CSO – Press release April '09)

(a) Suggest some strategies that should be followed when planning **family budgets** to ensure effective management of financial resources. (20)

(b) Explain why each of the following are important considerations when selecting a **saving scheme**:

- security of savings
- interest payable
- access to funds
- tax payable. (20)

(c) Explain how **MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Service)** assist families who are experiencing financial difficulties. (10)

## 2009

Today's kitchen appliances must offer convenience, technology and style that keep up with the way we live.

(a) Discuss how **technology** has contributed to the **efficient management** of the home. (16)

(b) Set out details of a study you have undertaken on one type of **electrical appliance** suitable for a kitchen.

Refer to:

- type of appliance
- working principle
- guidelines for use
- energy efficiency. (26)

(c) Explain how the rights of the consumer are protected by the **Sale of Good of Goods & Supply of Services Act (1980)**. (8)

## 2008

Developments in housing are influenced by lifestyle patterns and demographic trends.

(a) Discuss how (i) socio-economic factors and (ii) trends in housing development influence **housing choices**. (20)

(b) Identify and elaborate on the general terms and conditions that have to be fulfilled before a **mortgage** is granted. (20)

(c) Explain the term **mortgage protection** and state why mortgage protection is necessary. (10)

## 2007

**Refrigeration appliances** are an integral part of modern day kitchens.

(a) Set out details of a study that you have undertaken on a refrigeration appliance.

Refer to:

- (i) type of refrigeration appliance
- (ii) working principle
- (iii) guidelines for use
- (iv) modern features
- (v) energy efficiency rating. (38)

(b) Give a detailed account of the star rating system found on refrigeration appliances. (12)

## 2006

Colm and Jane Brown live with their two teenagers – David aged fifteen and Yvonne aged seventeen.

Monday is a hectic day in the household. Colm leaves for work at 7.30 am and returns at 5.30 pm. Jane works from 9.00am to 4.00pm. David and Yvonne have training for the local swimming team from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Yvonne also goes to guitar lessons at 6.30pm. As they live in a rural area transport is necessary for all activities. The family try to apply a management system to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

- (a) Explain why a good **management system** can contribute to a well run home and the well being of all family members. (16)
- (b) Using the components of management (**inputs, throughputs and outputs**) explain how the Brown family could apply a management system to ensure that Mondays run smoothly in the household. (18)
- (c) Give details of four **consumer responsibilities**. (16)

## **2005**

**Studies show that impulse buying can account for 65% of purchases in supermarkets. (Consumer Choice May 2001)**

- (a) Describe four *in-store techniques* that supermarkets use to encourage consumer spending. (20)**
- (b) Name three *research methods* used to gather information on the consumer. Explain how consumer research benefits (i) the retailer and (ii) the consumer. (19)**
- (c) Name and outline the role of any one *voluntary agency* concerned with *consumer protection*. (11)**

## **2004**

**A responsible consumer will make informed choices when selecting goods and services, will know how to get best value for money and know how to seek redress if things go wrong.**

- (a) Discuss three factors that affect consumers' *decision-making* when selecting goods and services. (12)**
- (b) Name two types of *retail outlets* where household appliances can be purchased. State one advantage and one disadvantage of each outlet. (12)**
- (c) Set out details of a study that you have undertaken on a *household appliance with a heating element*.  
Refer to:
  - (i) working principle
  - (ii) guidelines for using the appliance
  - (iii) energy efficiency. (18)**
- (d) Outline the role of the *Sale of Goods and Supply of Services Act (1980)* in protecting the consumer should the product prove faulty. (8)**