

Sample Assessment Items for Higher Education

Multiple Choice

Which statement best explains a significant risk to users of cryptocurrency?

- A. It is currency that can only be used online.
- B. It is a commodity that can fluctuate in value.*
- C. It is currency that can transfer owners frequently.
- D. It is a commodity that is banned in several countries.
- E. It is a commodity that is mainly popular on social media.

Which example best illustrates a partnership between employer and employee?

- A. A weekly staff meeting
- B. A share of company stocks*
- C. A confidentiality agreement
- D. A pay increase for performance
- E. A yearly performance evaluation

Short Answer

What is a stakeholder in a business?

A stakeholder is an individual with financial interest or benefit in a business.

Evidence-Based Selected Response (EBSR)

On March 15, 2018, US-based toy retail giant Toys “R” Us filed for liquidation with the United States bankruptcy court. The company had about 735 US stores which may be closed as a result of the liquidation. The filing came after revenue from the US holidays fell short of the company’s expectations. Toys “R” Us was seeking cooperation with its Canadian business to leave 200 stores open, the court papers said. The company said it would be unable to realize an earlier goal to leave as many as 400 stores open.

The papers filed in court indicated that revenue from US holiday sales fell US\$250 million short of the company’s expectations. In its report to the court, Toys “R” Us blamed in part its weakened e-commerce business. It wrote, “The stark reality is that the debtors are projected to run out of cash in the U.S. in May 2018.” Toys “R” Us chief executive officer Dave Brandon said, “This is a profoundly sad day for us as well as the millions of kids and families who we have served for the past 70 years.”

Toys “R” Us said it was preparing to sell its businesses in Asia and Central Europe, including Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. In September 2017, Toys “R” Us filed for bankruptcy in the United States and Canada, and a judge allowed a US\$2 billion loan. Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, Bain Capital Partners, and Vornado Realty Trust purchased Toys “R” Us for US\$6.6 billion in 2005. According to CNBC, the company had US\$4.9 billion in debt at that time, which made it difficult for the company to adapt to the changing market.

Sources:

https://en.wikinews.org/wiki/US_toy_retail_giant_Toys_%27R%27_Us_files_for_liquidation_in_United_States?dpl_id=2838274

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What does the author suggest as a primary reason for the Toys “R” Us bankruptcy?

- A. Increase in online retailers
- B. Excess of unsold inventory
- C. Acquisition by a larger company
- D. Substantial debt in the United States*
- E. Competition from overseas companies

Which piece of evidence from the article best supports the answer to the previous question?

- A. “The company had about 735 US stores which may be closed as a result of the liquidation.”
- B. “Toys “R” Us was seeking cooperation with its Canadian business to leave 200 stores open, the court papers said.”
- C. “In its report to the court, Toys “R” Us blamed in part its weakened e-commerce business.”
- D. “Toys “R” Us said it was preparing to sell its businesses in Asia and Central Europe, including Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.”
- E. “According to CNBC, the company had US\$4.9 billion in debt at that time, which made it difficult for the company to adapt to the changing market.”*

Constructed Response

A young couple developed an app in which individuals can sign up to share their home electric car-charging stations with the public. Individuals who contract to offer their charging stations must undergo a criminal background check and provide clear and safe access to the charging stations during designated hours. All charging stations must be equipped with a monitored security camera. Users would pay a fee through the app and agree to a window of time for arrival and departure. Discuss the potential benefits and risks of such a business venture.

Scoring Rubric:

Score	Description
3	<p>The student’s response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reflects thorough knowledge of consumer marketing, travel needs, comparable service, safety concerns, and government regulations ● Develops valid claims regarding charging station use, probable app usage, and consumer travel ● Supports the claims with well-chosen evidence from the sources in the automotive industry ● Includes unbiased acknowledgements of usage barriers, i.e. unknown locations, unknown providers, insurance provided, app glitches, cost, marketing, maintenance ● Is organized in a logical manner that fully addresses all parts of the prompt with no errors significant enough to detract from the overall response

2	<p>The student's response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reflects general knowledge of marketing, comparable service, and safety concerns ● Develops relevant claims which express thoughtful consideration of usage statistics and government regulations ● Includes unbiased acknowledgements of success barriers, i.e. app glitches, cost, marketing, maintenance ● Is organized and addresses all parts of the prompt with minimal errors that do not substantially detract from the overall response
1	<p>The student's response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reflects limited thought regarding marketing of the app, comparable service, and/or safety of consumers ● Presents insufficient reasons as to why the service is needed ● Contains some accurate understandings with a few errors that detract from the overall response such as no knowledge of car type or methods to run and/or service
0	<p>The student's response is blank, incorrect, or does not address the prompt.</p>