

The context for the task in 2009/2010 is ‘business modelling’.

Care must be taken to ensure an appropriately demanding task is undertaken which addresses the features listed below.

Candidates will be given credit when providing practical evidence from their task to support their answers in the written examination. Candidates should produce a spreadsheet workbook which contains **evidence** of;

- worksheets showing labels, data, formula
- multiple sheets and the use of 3D referencing between them
- lookup or vlookup or hlookup tables
 - drop down list boxes
 - spinners for data entry
 - logical True or False or Tick Boxes or Option boxes
- startup user interface
- validation techniques and error messages produced
- sorting techniques
- Search for specific criteria
- Control buttons should be used to initiate macros.
- Appropriate use of graphs such as bar or column graphs, line graphs, pie charts, scatter graphs, pictographs

Candidates should be familiar with the following formulas / standard functions:

A	B
SUM COUNT MAX MIN AVERAGE RAND	SINGLE IF MULTIPLE IF DATE ROUND

and should include evidence of at least two formulas or standard functions from list A and two from list B in their workbook.

Simulation Modelling

Candidates should understand and be able to discuss the following;

- Definition of a simulation model.
- Uses of simulation modelling for weather forecasting, car crash analysis and financial forecasting.
- Advantages and disadvantages of using simulation models.
- Issues relating to hardware used for simulation modelling, including parallel and distributed processing.