

OCR A-Level

**Health and Safety at
Work Act (HASAW)
(9.2a)**

Materials required for questions

- Pencil
- Rubber
- Calculator

Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen
- Try answer all questions
- Use the space provided to answer questions
- Calculators can be used if necessary
- For the multiple choice questions, circle your answer

Advice

- Marks for each question are in brackets
- Read each question fully
- Try to answer every question
- Don't spend too much time on one question

Good luck!

Q1. What is the main purpose of the Health and Safety at Work Act (HASAW)?

- A** To improve the quality of finished products
- B** To protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and others at work
- C** To ensure products are cheaper to manufacture

Q2. Under HASAW, what is one duty of employers?

- A** Provide safe systems of work and adequate training
- B** Ensure employees always wear a company uniform
- C** Guarantee that products are completed on time

Q3. What does COSHH mainly regulate?

- A** The handling and use of hazardous substances in the workplace
- B** The storage of finished goods
- C** The control of waste packaging

Q4. Which of the following is an example of PPE?

- A** A fire extinguisher
- B** A first-aid box
- C** Safety goggles and ear defenders

Q5. Why is PPE important in product manufacturing?

- A** It reduces the risk of injury from hazards such as dust, noise, or chemicals
- B** It allows workers to use equipment more quickly
- C** It guarantees higher quality products

Q6. What is one duty of employees under HASAW?

- A** To design safer products for consumers
- B** To take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others
- C** To ensure profit margins are maintained

Q7. The regulatory and legislative framework in the Health and Safety at Work Act (HASAW) sets out duties of employers and employees.

Discuss the implications for manufacturers of health and safety legislation. Refer to specific examples in your answer. **(8 marks)**

Answers

Q1. B

Q2. A

Q3. A

Q4. C

Q5. A

Q6. B

Q7.

Indicative content:

- Ensuring that the workplace is safe and without risk. This can be done with regular risk assessments and control measures put in place. This could be with clear signage and zones.
- Machinery must be safe and procedures of work are set and followed. There needs to be a logged set of checks on a regular basis.
- Providing safe equipment and PPE e.g. correct dust masks for cutting MDF/ goggles/visors/gloves etc.
- Providing first aid stations and logging accidents.
- COSHH regulations should be adhered to and risks minimised. Ensuring that chemicals are locked in a flammable liquids cupboard and spill kits are available.
- Up to date training for all staff.
- All of these measures will have a cost and time implication however they will prevent larger implications of putting employees and an unnecessary risk, potential tragic accidents and liability.
- Any other valid suggestion

Q8.

- Users should be aware of COSHH guidance that governs their use, storage and disposal. (1)
- Users must store the adhesive in a COSHH cupboard when not in use. (1)
 - The adhesive may be irritant to skin so correct PPE should be worn e.g. gloves
- The adhesive may be a liquid so correct PPE such as goggles should be worn. (1)
- Vapours that can be released can be highly flammable so no naked flames should be present when using the adhesive. (1)
- Users must ensure that instructions have been read and guidance is followed. (1)

- Vapours can be released therefore the adhesive should be used in well ventilated areas. (1)
- Users must identify and understand the COSHH symbol present which will both govern its use and disposal. (1)

Q9a.

- Check blade tension / movement / damage (1)
- Use a guard / adjust the blade guard and top guides as close as possible to the workpiece (1)
- Use of a push stick for straight cuts / narrow workpiece (1)
- Replace blunt blades to avoid having to use too much forward force (1)
- Keep fingers / thumbs well clear of blade (1)
- Tie back long hair / secure loose clothing / remove gloves (1)
- Check position and operation of emergency stop / kick stop (1)
- Switch off immediately if a blade breaks / becomes jammed / requires clearing (1)
- Use a slide fence for cross cuts (1)
- Always keep the workpiece flat on the table (1)
- Only cut materials that can be fully supported on the bed of the table/do not cut cylindrical materials (1)
- A marked exclusion zone around the machine should be clear of people before starting work. (1)
- Use extraction equipment (1)
- Only used by trained operatives (1)
- Switch off after use (1)
- Lower blade guard after use (1)
- Avoid working alone / work under supervision (1)
- Ensure the area around the machine is clean and clear of clutter / debris (1)

Q9b.

Candidates might refer to the following in their responses:

- Requirements for a safety policy
- Risk assessments
- Method statements
- Safety officer requirements
- Union representation
- Staff training and certification
- Authority of the safety officer

- Ultimate responsibility of owners / directors
- Role of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
- Improvement notices (HSE)
- Prohibition notices (HSE)
- Withdrawing approvals, licences or exemptions (HSE)
- HSE cautions
- Prosecution – unlimited fines or imprisonment
- Company reputation
- Difficulties recruiting new employees
- Blacklisting / loss of consumer confidence
- Negative publicity / reputation loss
- Difficulties obtaining employers liability insurance
- Increased costs to the company