

Case study: written assignment

This case study explores an example of online assessment by a written assignment. Designing assessment around an assigned task or scenario allows you to evaluate whether learners can apply their learning in a practical context.

The assessment context

This assessment was designed to assess learners studying at master's level for an online Senior Leadership Masters Degree Apprenticeship. Learners were completing the module Finance for Practice worth 15 credits.

The written assignment represented 20% of the final awarded mark for the module.

Assessment criteria and set-up

Learners were asked to write a 750 word assignment focused on an analysis of a company's financial position. The assessment asked learners to imagine they were producing a report for the board of a company listed on the London Stock Exchange outlining the company's position in terms of quantitative and qualitative measures. Learners were given specific guidance about how to select an appropriate company, where to locate financial reports and the scope of the financial measures they should include.

The report was designed with this rubric:

- Learners to complete a 750 word assignment including graphs and figures.
- A 350 word executive summary and reference list should accompany the assignment.
- The assignment should be fully referenced using the Leeds Harvard System.
- Learners to submit their work via Turnitin on Minerva by a given submission date.
- Penalties for late submission were applied of -5% for each day beyond the deadline.

Learners were notified by email when feedback on their submission was available to download from Minerva.

The assessment

The assignment task tested learners' ability to extract information from relevant financial reports and statements to present an analysis of their chosen company. Learners were to provide an analysis of company strengths and weaknesses, indicators of profitability and liquidity, key ratios measuring performance and qualitative factors outlining the company's position.

Learners were awarded marks using the faculty's framework for assessment at Level 5 including assessment of knowledge and understanding, research and evaluation, analysis and evaluation and presentation.

Find out more

To find out more about setting up assignments using Turnitin and providing feedback to learners, explore the [Turnitin Getting Started Guide](#).