



Assignment: Case Study Part 1

The Case Study will be due in Unit 4.

VERY IMPORTANT INITIAL GENTLE REMINDER: If you do not understand Plagiarism and how to avoid violating the rules of Academic Integrity, please review the tutorial in the classroom title "Plagiarism." It can be found under the "Academic Tools" tab in each unit. All written papers will be submitted to Turnitin to determine originality of content.

Part 1 is a formal analysis paper. You are to complete a series of "Real-World Focus" problems from your textbook.

You will select a company. The company you select must be the same company throughout the case for Part 1 in Unit 4 and Part 2 in Unit 5. The following alternatives are included to help you select your company:

1. If you work for a company that is willing to participate, you may use that company.
2. If you do not work, or if your company would not be an appropriate choice, you may choose a local company willing to participate.
3. If none of the above is an available option, you may choose to use data from any company you select as long as data is available (an internet search in accordance with the textbook Real-World Focus problem instructions would be acceptable) and would be appropriate for the assignment. The basic definition of "Appropriate" would be that it will meet all of the grading rubric requirements.
4. Under NO circumstances would a company that you own be appropriate, whether it is a sole-proprietorship, partnership or corporation.

This is the list of Real-World Focus (RWF) Problems you will complete:

Expand your Critical Thinking:

- CT 1-5 – pages 38 and 39 in the physical text.
- CT 2-5 – page 84 in the physical text.
- CT 4-5 – page 210 in the physical text.
- CT 6-5 – pages 311 and 312 in the physical text.
- CT 7-5 – pages 368 and 369 in the physical text.
- CT 8-5 – page 417 in the physical text.
- CT 9-5 – page 473 in the physical text.

Although presented in chronological order above, the order of presentation MUST follow the grading rubric order listed at the end of this document.

You should consider using the grading rubric as a basic "Outline" for your paper. You may use the rubric elements to build your headings and subheadings. The rubric is provided at the end of this document.

In addition to simply following the steps required in each RWFF Problem, the first thing to present in the case will be an introduction to the company. For example, what industry, products, services, market, customer base, competitors, etc. Be thorough! Short answers do not provide the necessary analysis or critical thinking.

Then, complete all required sections for all RWFF problems.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Remember, use the SAME company for all RWFF segments. Do NOT present answers to any repetitive question components. For example, you are told to answer "What is the name of the company" in a number of the problems. You are to omit such repetitive answers.

Include a "conclusion section" in your paper to summarize your case.

Your paper must be presented in a single Word document. The paper must be between 6 to 8 pages in length, not including the title and reference list pages. The paper must use proper APA Publication Manual, 6th Edition formatting, including title page, running head, abstract and reference list with properly formatted citations in the body of the paper. Headings and sub-headings are REQUIRED.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- (1) Use the APA Template here.
- (2) This is an Analysis; do NOT present an "Interview" format with "questions and answers". Do not simply provide "short-answers," be more formal in the communication style.
- (3) An abstract is required.
- (4) Do NOT include a table of contents.
- (5) Do NOT repeat or copy the assignment question narratives. You may use abbreviated versions of the questions as headings and sub-headings. Anything that artificially increases the length of the paper but does not add value to the analysis will result in a reduced score.
- (6) For more specific information and guidance, please read the "General Writing Help" file in Doc Sharing.

After you have completed the Unit 4 Case Paper, upload your Word document to the Unit 4 Assignment Dropbox before 11:59 PM (ET), on Tuesday of Unit 4.

Name your assignment filename using this format: LastName_FirstName_Unit#_AssignmentName
 For example, this assignment will be named: Smith_Joan_Unit04_CasePaper

Assignments submitted late will be subject to the Late Policy described in the Syllabus.

Unit 4 Assignment: Case Study Part 1 Grading Rubric:

Category/Description	Points Possible	Points Earned	Instructor Additional Comments (if necessary)
Part 1) Preliminary Analysis SEC - CT 4-5			NOTE:

			(b) How has its inventory changed from the previous year? (c) What is the amount of raw materials, work in process, and finished goods inventory? (d) What inventory method does the company use? (e) Calculate the inventory turnover and days in inventory for the current year. (f) If the company uses LIFO, what was the amount of its LIFO reserve?
		1	(a) Omit (b) What is the Internet address of the annual report? (c) At fiscal year-end, what is the net amount of its plant assets? (d) What is the accumulated depreciation? (e) Which method of depreciation does the company use?
		1	Part 8) CT 9-5
		0	Part 9) Conclusion Section -With Heading
		10	Content Subtotal
		50	Analysis and Critical Thinking: - Concise/precise language used? - Economy of Expression Used? - Elements of Critical Thinking Used: 1- Identify premises & conclusions, 2- Clarify arguments, 3- Establish facts, 4- Evaluate Logic, 5- Final evaluation.
		10	10
		10	10
		10	10
		8	12
			12
			100
			Final Score
			Deduct Late Penalty if Necessary

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

CT1-5 Purpose: Identify summary information about companies. This information includes basic descriptions of the company's location, activities, industry, financial health, and financial performance.

Address: <http://biz.yahoo.com/>

- Steps**
1. Type in a company name, or use the index to find company name.
 2. Under **Financials**, choose **Income Statement**. Perform instructions (a) and (b) below.
 3. Under **Company**, choose **Industry** to identify others in this industry. Perform instructions (c)–(e) below.

Instructions
Answer the following questions.

- What is the company's net income? Over what period was this measured?
- What is the company's total sales? Over what period was this measured?
- What is the company's industry?
- What are the names of four companies in this industry?
- Choose one of the competitors. What is this competitor's name? What is its total sales? What is its net income?

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

CT2-5 Purpose: Identify summary liquidity, solvency, and profitability information about companies, and compare this information across companies in the same industry.

Address: <http://biz.yahoo.com/>

- Steps**
1. Type in a company name, or use the index to find a company name. Choose **Profile**. Choose **Key Statistics**. Perform instruction (a) below.
 2. Go back to **Profile**. Click on the company's particular industry behind the heading "Industry." Perform instructions (b), (c), and (d).

Instructions
Answer the following questions.

- What is the company's name? What was the company's current ratio and debt to equity ratio (a variation of the debt to assets ratio)?
- What is the company's industry?
- What is the name of a competitor? What is the competitor's current ratio and its debt to equity ratio?
- Based on these measures, which company is more liquid? Which company is more solvent?

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

CT4-5 Purpose: To learn about the functions of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Address: www.sec.gov/about/whatwedo.shtml, or go to www.wiley.com/college/ktimmel

Instructions

Use the information in this site to answer the following questions.

- What event spurred the creation of the SEC? Why was the SEC created?
- What are the five divisions of the SEC? Briefly describe the purpose of each.
- What are the responsibilities of the chief accountant?

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

CT6-5 Purpose: Use SEC filings to learn about a company's inventory accounting practices. 5

Address: http://biz.yahoo.com/p/_capgds-bidmch.html

Steps

1. Go to this site and click on the name of an equipment manufacturer other than those discussed in the chapter.

2. Click on **SEC filings**.

3. Under "Recent filings" choose **Form 10K** (annual report) and click on **Full Filing at**

Edgar Online.

4. Choose option "3," **Online HTML Version**.

If the 10K is not listed among the recent filings, then click on **View All Filings on EDGAR**

Online.

Instructions

Review the 10K to answer the following questions.

- (a) What is the name of the company?
- (b) How has its inventory changed from the previous year?
- (c) What is the amount of raw materials, work in process, and finished goods inventory?
- (d) What inventory method does the company use?
- (e) Calculate the inventory turnover and days in inventory for the current year.
- (f) If the company uses LIFO, what was the amount of its LIFO reserve?

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

AP CT7-5 The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) is a private organization

established to improve accounting standards and financial reporting. The FASB conducts extensive research before issuing a "Statement of Financial Accounting Standards," which represents an authoritative expression of generally accepted accounting principles.

Address: www.fasb.org, or go to www.wiley.com/college/kimmel

Steps

Choose **About FASB**.

Instructions

Answer the following questions.

- (a) What is the mission of the FASB?
- (b) How are topics added to the FASB technical agenda? (*Hint:* See Project Plans in Our Rules of Procedure.)
- (c) What characteristics make the FASB's procedures an "open" decision-making process? (*Hint:* See Due Process in Our Rules of Procedure.)

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

CT8-5 Purpose: To learn more about factoring from websites that provide factoring services.

Address: www.cccapital.net, or go to www.wiley.com/college/kimmel

Instructions

Go to the website, click on **Invoice Factoring**, and answer the following questions.

- (a) What are some of the benefits of factoring?
- (b) What is the range of the percentages of the typical discount rate?
- (c) If a company factors its receivables, what percentage of the value of the receivables can it expect to receive from the factor in the form of cash, and how quickly will it receive the cash?

REAL-WORLD FOCUS

CT9-5 Purpose: Use an annual report to identify a company's plant assets and the depreciation method used.

Address: www.annualreports.com

Steps

1. Select a particular company.
2. Search by company name.
3. Follow instructions below.

Instructions

Answer the following questions.

- (a) What is the name of the company?
- (b) What is the Internet address of the annual report?
- (c) At fiscal year-end, what is the net amount of its plant assets?
- (d) What is the accumulated depreciation?
- (e) Which method of depreciation does the company use?

