

9 Ethics

Activities

Understanding the text:
main ideas and
supporting evidence

1 a Think about these questions.

- 1 If somebody works in a company where unethical behaviour is not punished, are they more likely to behave unethically?
- 2 Do you think many people consider it unethical to take office supplies from work for personal use?
- 3 How can companies help to reduce unethical behaviour?
- 4 How can the knowledge someone has be used in an unethical way?

b Now read the Unit 9 text and compare your ideas.

2 Read the Unit 9 text again.

- 1 Underline the main idea in each paragraph.
- 2 Underline the supporting details.
- 3 Decide if the support is further details, an explanation or an example.

3 a Look at this essay question. How does it relate to the Unit 9 text?

People are more likely to be unethical in a company or culture that does not punish such behaviour. Discuss.

b Could you potentially use the supporting evidence in the text when writing this essay?

4 Find support in the Unit 9 text for these opinions.

- 1 Rewarding unethical behaviour is likely to encourage more people to engage in it.
- 2 Not everyone has the same perception of what is or isn't unethical.
- 3 Companies need to take measures to limit the opportunity for unethical behaviour.
- 4 Even with strict policies in place, some people will still engage in unethical behaviour.
- 5 The company culture that exists will determine the acceptability of unethical behaviour.

5 Read this essay question and the paragraph from an essay answering it, then answer the questions below.

Unethical behaviour is inevitable without controls in place to limit it. Discuss.

To a certain extent, all individuals have the propensity to behave in an unethical manner. However, the way those surrounding that individual react to such behaviour will determine the extent and degree to which this behaviour will continue. When unethical behaviour is not punished, and in some cases even rewarded, it creates a great acceptance of such attitudes. Once such behaviour becomes normalized, individuals are likely to continue in such a manner, and anyone new to the group will see such behaviour as acceptable.

- 1 What are the writer's main arguments?
- 2 Are these strong arguments?
- 3 How could they be improved?

6 Use the Unit 9 text to complete the following tasks.

- 1 Find a reference that supports the main argument in the paragraph in Exercise 5.
- 2 Decide if you will paraphrase or summarize the quote you have selected.
- 3 Choose a phrase to introduce the reference.
- 4 Comment on the significance of the quote, e.g. What does it show? Why have you included it?
- 5 Choose another reference from the text. Complete steps 2–4 for this quote.
- 6 Select where in the paragraph in Exercise 5 you would insert these two references.

Using the text: indirect quotes **7 Look at this bibliographic reference for the Unit 9 text. What information from this do you need to be able to include an indirect quote in your writing?**

Fraedrich, J., Ferrell, O.C. and Ferrell, L. (2011), *Ethical decision-making for business*. (8th ed.) United Kingdom: Cengage Learning

8 Correct the mistakes in these references.

- 1 Fraedrich, Ferrell and Ferrell argue that rules and policies limit the opportunity for employees to engage in unethical behaviour.
- 2 Fraedrich, Ferrell and Ferrell (2011) state that 'the lack of policies and rules will result in an inability to stop unethical actions'.
- 3 According to Fraedrich, Ferrell and Ferrell (2011:237), when unethical behaviour is rewarded, it creates the opportunity for similar behaviour in the future.