

Examination

Food Technology
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Section	Part	Question Number
IV		29

Date

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Number of booklets used for this question

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Instructions

- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of this page.
- In the boxes provided write the name and date of this examination, and the number(s) of the question(s) attempted in this booklet.
- If you have not attempted the question, you must still hand in the Writing Booklet, with the words 'NOT ATTEMPTED' written clearly on the front cover.
- Write using black or blue pen. (Black pen is recommended.)
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- **You may NOT take any Writing Booklets, used or unused, from the examination room.**

Start here. Australia's food manufacturers and ~~product~~ product developers have responded to societal changes in a range of ways, these changes are both negative and positive effects on Australians.

Australia's population has undergone immense changes over the past fifty years, these again are both positive and negative. Australia's ageing population, lifestyle changes and household structures have all affected the response of food manufacturers and food product developers. Overall, people are more aware of health and diet related issues.

The social changes listed above (Ageing population, lifestyle changes & household structures) have dramatically affected Australia's health and in turn the response of food production and developers.

Australia's population is increasingly ageing by 2020, 17% of the population will be over 70. This poses a vital threat to many sectors of Australia's economy. Most importantly though, Australia's health will be affected. Increase in health expenditure, increase in the number of people living with a disability and workforce shortages.

Food manufacturers have begun to respond to Australia's growing and ageing population by providing and researching into foods that can be convenient and nutritious, elderly people require high levels of Calcium, fibre and iron and low levels of sugars and fats. There often self serve meals must be appropriately designed to meet the needs and wants of the ageing population.

Lifestyle is the most extensive factor impacting the Australian food industry. The response from food manufacturers and food product developers has been intensive.

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Australians are becoming increasingly sedentary, with increases in technology, car ownership and convenience. Australians are moving less and gaining weight. Other lifestyle factors include outdoor eating, entertainment, smoking, increases in a multicultural environment and an increased awareness of health and diet related issues. Food manufacturers and food product developers have responded to these societal changes both negatively and positively.

Negatively, there has been an increase in snack foods to deal with the increasing convenience demands. This increase in snack foods corresponds with the increase in fast foods. Both of these foods contain high levels of sugars, fats and salts. Increasing the burden of disease-diet related diseases.

However, there has been a vast positive response by food manufacturers and food product developers. Such responses include, the increase in "healthy"

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convenience foods, such as Jenny Craig, Weight Watchers and Lite n easy. Another response includes the increase in development and research of modified foods to fill diet "holes" or areas where individuals do not meet full dietary intake, for example, fibre enriched bread to deal with bowel problems and poly-unsaturated canola butter to lower cholesterol. Modified foods also include those that have had nutrients removed i.e., lower salt, fat & sugar. Supplementation has also increased to deal with nutrient deficiencies and special needs (i.e. elderly or disabilities).

Household structures relates to the number of occupants who live in a house, this is decreasing in Australia. And the structure, double income families, single income families, double or single parent families. It is hard to respond to such ~~problems~~ changes in society. However, an increase in convenience foods has an apparent link to these changing structures.

~~Overall food use~~

Other social changes can involve multiculturalism (demand for exotic foods), religion (Food Taboos/cultures), introduction and growth of outdoor eating. These all have an effect but not on the same scale as the previously mentioned changes.

Overall, Australians health is improving on all fronts, with a decrease in cardiovascular disease and cancer and diabetes. Australia is becoming more health aware as promotion strategies educate and influence society. Food manufacturers and food product developers must continue to respond to these societal changes in order to remain competitive and retain market share. Recent changes and changes to come will have a vast impact on the health of Australians and society.

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