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Digital society
Higher level
Paper 3 – source booklet

20 May 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet contains the sources required for digital society higher level paper 3.

Source A Border University’s challenge of improving the screening process for future students

Border University has an excellent reputation. For every place on a course, there are ten applicants.

There are 5000 places available at Border University each year. The university is looking for applicants that demonstrate excellence in both academic and personal pursuits. It also wants to achieve its goal of having a diverse student population.

Currently, each applicant completes an online application form. The information on the online form is then screened by the Admissions Team.

However, there are concerns about the inconsistency of the Admissions Team when determining whether an applicant is accepted or rejected.

Source B Details of the proposed screening tools at Border University

Rule-based decision-making tool

- The applicant responds to a series of questions using an online form.
- The applicant clicks the “Submit” button.
- A recommendation is sent to the Admissions Team to either reject the applicant OR screen the application in more detail.

Artificial intelligence (AI)-based decision-making tool

- The applicant records responses to questions asked on an online video platform.
- The video is processed by the AI system.
- A recommendation is sent to the Admissions Team to either reject the applicant OR screen the application in more detail.

Source C Marilyn’s opinion on the rule-based decision-making tool

Marilyn, the team leader of the Admissions Team, prefers the rule-based decision-making tool, as it would allow her to review an applicant’s information as they progress through the decision-making tool.

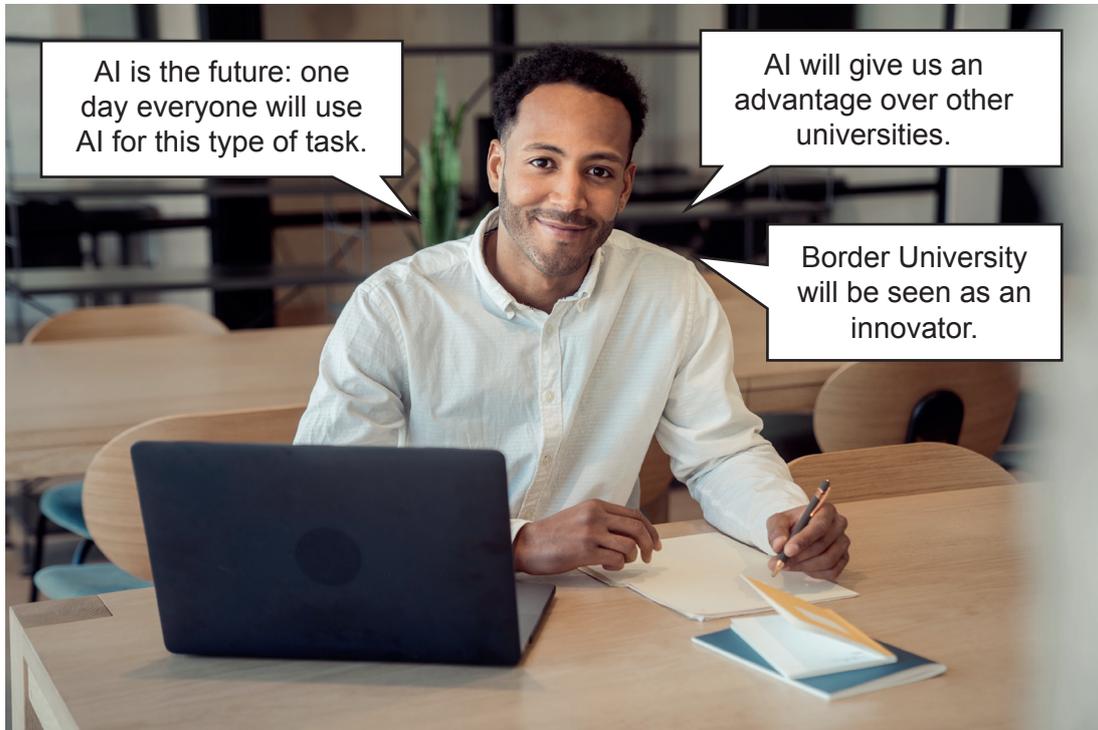
Figure 1: Marilyn’s thoughts on the applicants



Source D Jonathan’s opinion on the AI-based decision-making tool

Jonathan, the IT manager at Border University, has enthusiastically explained to the committee that the AI-based decision-making tool would be a better solution for the screening process for future students.

Figure 2: Jonathan’s arguments for the AI-based decision-making tool



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References:

Figure 1 Barraud, M., 2013. *Scientist holding tablet computer in lab – stock photo*. [online] Available at: www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/scientist-holding-tablet-computer-in-lab-royalty-free-image/169082326 [Accessed 22 April 2024]. Source adapted.

Figure 2 Alija, O., 2023. *Young man working in an office – stock photo*. [online] Available at: www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/young-man-working-in-an-office-royalty-free-image/1473525662 [Accessed 22 April 2024]. Source adapted.