Governments and the external operating environment

This sequence is intended as a framework to be modified and adapted by teachers to suit the needs of a class group.

Resources needed

- Governments and the external operating environment – Visualiser
- Governments and the external operating environment – Explainer
- The role of government – Topic cards (one card per group)

Suggested activity sequence

Part A: The external operating environment

1. Use the *Visualiser* to discuss the concept of a SWOT analysis and how government policies and actions form part of the external environment that present both opportunities and threats.

2. As a class, read the *Explainer*.

Alternatively, have students read the explainer individually and encourage them to take notes using the *Cornell note taking system*.

Part B: Investigating how government revenue and spending influences the external business environment

Groups organised by topic

1. Organise students into 6 groups.

2. Explain that students will participate in a jigsaw activity to investigate how the government influences the external business environment. Each student will be required to share their findings with members of other groups.

3. Give one of the 6 *Topic cards* to each group:

4. Groups investigate the topic they have been given. Explain that their role will be to 'teach' others about the topic, to explain how it presents an opportunity or threat to businesses and why it is an important consideration. Possibilities include:
   - a definition
   - examples if appropriate
   - explanation of how it affects businesses.

Groups of 6 students, each with a different topic

1. Organise students into groups of 6 so that each member of a group has a different topic.

2. Students share information about their topic with the group.

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