

# 1.4 Types of business organisation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Total: 20 marks**

**KEY WORDS** sole trader 独资 • private limited company 私人有限公司 • partnership 合伙企业  
• public limited company 公众有限公司 • franchise 特许经营

## Objective

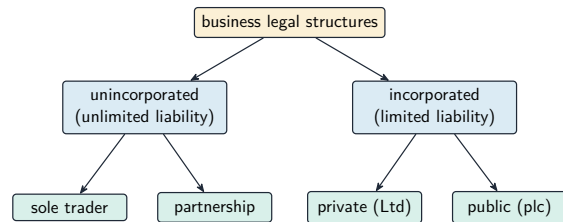
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **types of business organisation** 企业组织类型 — **liability** 责任, **sole traders**, **partnerships**, **private** and **public limited companies** 独资、合伙、私人/公众有限公司, and the **franchise** 特许经营.

**You must be able to:**

- explain limited and unlimited liability
- compare the four main types of business organisation
- analyse and recommend a type of organisation for a business

## 1 Worked examples

### ■ Business types and liability



*Companies have limited liability; sole traders and partnerships do not*

- **Unlimited liability** 无限责任: the owner is personally liable for all debts. **Limited liability** 有限责任: owners can lose only what they invested.
- **Sole trader** 独资: one owner — easy to set up, keeps all profit, but unlimited liability.
- **Private limited company (Ltd)** 私人有限公司: shareholders, limited liability, shares not sold to the public.
- **Public limited company (plc)** 公众有限公司: shares sold to the public; can raise large capital but risks takeover.

**Answer shapes:** K + App + An + Ev (a justified judgement, for “do you think” questions).

## 2 Practice

**2.1** Define the term *limited liability*. [2]

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**2.2** Identify two advantages of being a sole trader. [2]

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**2.3** State one difference between a private limited company (Ltd) and a public limited company (plc). [2]

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## 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** Identify two features of a partnership. [2]

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**3.2** Explain two benefits to the owners of forming a private limited company. [6]

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**3.3** A growing sole trader is deciding whether to become a private limited company. Do you think this is a good idea? Justify your answer. [6]

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