

5. Sir James Dyson is a British industrial designer. He is best known as the inventor of the bagless vacuum cleaner. Dyson's first product was the Sea Truck, a high-speed watercraft launched in 1970 whilst he was at the Royal College of Art. His next product, the Ballbarrow, was a modified version of a wheelbarrow using a ball to replace the wheel. He then designed the Wheelboat which could travel at speeds of 64 km/h on both land and water.

Dyson recently wrote a report on 'How Britain could be repositioned as Europe's leading hi-tech exporter'. He warned that scrapping Government financial support for research and development (R&D) would damage innovative manufacturers in particular, just as the main political parties are vowing to rebalance the economy away from financial services and towards hi-tech industry. He is concerned about the state of the secondary sector in the UK today.

*Adapted from The Guardian 08 March 2010*

- (a) Explain why entrepreneurs, like Dyson, are important to the success of business and the economy. [6]

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