Kit's Corner Shop Spreadsheet Challenge

1. =B2*C2 (1 mark)

Working: Quantity (B2) multiplied by Price (C2) equals Total (D2).

*Accept =B2*C2 or =C2*B2.*

2. Formula: =B3*C3. Final value: £3.00. (2 marks)

Working: 15 * 0.20 = 3.00

1 mark for the correct formula, 1 mark for the correct value.

3. Using a formula is more accurate and faster if the data changes. (2 marks)

Look for: Mention of accuracy, speed, or automatic updates.

Good: It is faster to use a formula than doing it in your head.

Better: It is better because the computer does the maths for you and it is less likely to have mistakes.

Best: Using a formula is more efficient because if the price or quantity changes, the spreadsheet updates the total automatically without needing a new calculation.

What moves an answer up: Moving from 'good' to 'best' requires explaining the benefit of dynamic data updates rather than just speed.

4. =SUM(D2:D10) (2 marks)

Working: The SUM function adds the range of cells from D2 to D10.

Must include the equals sign, SUM, and the correct range in brackets.

5. The total in D2 will update automatically. (2 marks)

Look for: Understanding that spreadsheets are dynamic/linked.

Good: The total will change.

Better: The total in D2 will change because the formula uses the value from B2.

Best: The total in D2 will update automatically because the formula is linked to the cell reference B2, so any change in the input reflects in the output.

What moves an answer up: Moving from 'good' to 'best' requires identifying the link between the cell reference and the formula result.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure learner understands that cell references act as variables and that formulas allow for automatic recalculation when data is modified.

If your child is stuck

Remind your child that a spreadsheet is like a calculator that remembers where the numbers are kept. Ask them: 'If I change the number in the box, does the formula know to look at the new number?'

Common mistakes to watch for

Forgetting the equals sign (=) at the start of a formula, or confusing the multiplication symbol (*) with the letter 'x'.