Traditionally wine bottles were almost always sealed with a natural cork. More recently, many alternative (non-cork and cork) closures have been developed in response to the various problems related to the use of cork. There has been a response from the cork industry through improved effectiveness within the various cork closure options. There has also been a focus on promoting the benefits of cork. 1) Outline the reasons for the development of alternative closures to cork. 2) Evaluate the non-cork closure options available for sealing a glass bottle. 3) Examine the cork industry’s response to the issues with its product and to the competition.