

Year 11 Economics A Level Preparation work

Hello all,

I am really pleased that you have opted for Economics, Mr. McGowan and I look forward to working with you in September. Mr. McGowan and I have been working really hard to develop a curriculum that is challenging and exciting. You will be introduced to many new ideas and concepts, this because we are trying to develop you to become a student with an enquiring mind. The Exam board that we follow is AQA and it is an academic subject that interweaves with the real world. Therefore, a good understanding of the world of business is important and regular contact with the news of business will be an advantage. This will be the first time you have studied economics however it could be useful to gain some knowledge or background information before we start in September.

Kind regards

Mr. Barrow

Task 1:

Microeconomics for Mr Barrow

To start your journey in to economics please can you research the following concepts and ideas:

What is Economics?	
Define Micro Economics	
Define Macro Economics	
Explain "The Economic problem"	
Why is Economics classed as a "Social Science"?	
What is the theory of supply and demand? Draw a diagram to show this, please explain the diagram?	

The above key terms, concepts are important for setting the scene for the exploration in to Economics. Next, we have to look at influential people who have changed the course of our subject:

Task 2:

Research the following influential economists and try to outline their theories:

<p>Adam Smith, “The Wealth of nations” In particular the division of labour. Questions to answer: What are the major thoughts and how will these ideas benefit individual companies? Also consider how, in the long term, they could cause a problem for individual firms.</p>	
<p>John Maynard Keynes: Questions to answer: What are the basic thoughts behind the policy? How would this differ from Classic Economic Theory?</p>	

Task 3:

The tasks from now on will focus on Microeconomics. I will give some key terms or questions for the first unit that we will look at as ask you to conduct some research in to the real world of Economics and business.

Term or statement. Task: Define them	Definition and example
<p>What is a positive statement?</p>	<p>Find a newspaper article from BBC news, Business section and highlight all the positive statements. Explain why you have highlighted those terms?</p>
<p>What is a normative statement?</p>	<p>Find a newspaper article from BBC news, Business section and highlight all the positive statements. Explain why you have highlighted those terms?</p>
<p>There are many types of economy, please research the following types of economy: Free market Planned market Mixed market</p>	<p>Which economies around the world use Free markets, Planned markets and Mixed markets? Please explain why you have used those examples under each type of economy?</p>
<p>What is scarcity? How does scarcity affect the supply and demand of products?</p>	<p>Once you have answered the questions please find at least 2 examples where scarcity has affected the pricing of products? Please explain how scarcity has led to a change in the pricing of product?</p>

Macroeconomics tasks for Mr. McGowan

Following the preparation work you have completed for the 'Microeconomics' side of the course, you now need to complete some introductory work for 'Macroeconomics', looking at how the economy works, as a whole.

This will enable you to fully understand the key themes that run throughout the Macroeconomics side of the course.

Task 4: Government Objectives

To start your journey in to economics please can you define the following terms, in around 10x words:

Key Term	Definition
Economic Growth	
Inflation	
Unemployment	
Balance of Payments on the Current Account	

The above are the objectives of Government policy;

- To achieve economic growth
- The maintain stable prices
- The minimise unemployment
- To achieve a stable balance on the current account

Task 5: Researching Data

For each objective of Government, you need to research the current figure for each of the following economies – you should use a reliable source for this, such as a Government source, such as the ONS..

Economy	Economic Growth (GDP increase)	Inflation (% change)	Unemployment (% of economically active)	Balance of payments (amount in £/\$ or as % of GDP)
UK				
USA				
China				
Germany				

Task 6: Government Objective Trade Offs

The Government also has other objectives, such as;

- Balancing the Budget
- Distribution of Income
- Environmental Impact

As low unemployment causes individuals to have more income, this means that price levels may rise as a result of this – therefore, there is a ‘trade off’. Both objectives cannot be fully met, meaning there must be an ‘economic compromise’.

Looking at each of the following ‘trade-offs’ complete some research to highlight how increased levels of **economic activity** may lead to a negative impact upon **the environment** (or vice versa) – i.e. as one benefits, the other suffers.

In order to do this, you must;

- Describe how the two may conflict with each other – therefore, ‘trading off’.
- Gather some data to highlight this (GDP figures, environmental impact...)
- Use your evidence to explain why how this has occurred.

Useful Links

- <https://www.tutor2u.net/economics>
- <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy>
- <https://data.worldbank.org/topic/economy-and-growth>