EC2

GENERAL MARKING GUIDANCE

Positive Marking

It should be remembered that candidates are writing under examination conditions and credit should be given for what the candidate writes, rather than adopting the approach of penalising him/her for any omissions. It should be possible for a very good candidate to achieve full marks and a very poor one to achieve zero marks. Marks should not be deducted for a less than perfect answer if it satisfies the criteria of the mark scheme, nor should marks be added as a consolation where they are not merited.

GCE Economics EC2

	Section A		
Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
11	Explain how the Brazilian government's policies contributed to increased consumption.	4	AO1 2 AO2 2
	Wage increases allow consumers to spend more (1) because more discretionary income/more available for non-necessities/mpc/greater confidence etc. (1) Point plus development.		
	Easy credit makes it easier (and possibly cheaper) for consumers to borrow (1) Therefore they are not constrained by their incomes/easier to buy big ticket items/easier to use credit cards/opportunity cost is lower etc. (1)		
	Allow wealth effects.		
	Savings might fall if easy credit leads to lower interest rates.		
	Point plus development.		

Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
12	Using a supply and demand diagram, explain why commodity prices are expected to fall further in the future (Lines 11-12)	6	AO1 3 AO2 3
	Diagram (2)		
	(i) S shifting right and demand shifting left (2) or (ii) D shifts right more slowly (growth is slowing not negative) and supply shifts right by more (2). One shift = (1)		
	RAICH SI CA PARTY OF PRODUCTION OF PRODUCTION (A)		
	Explanation (4) Of supply and demand (up to 2)		
	Candidate explains clearly why supply will increase, using the data (1)		
	Candidate explains clearly why demand will be affected, using the data (1)		
	Of the change in price (up to 2)		
	Candidate explains why prices will fall		
	 Excess supply (or falling production costs), explains in words why prices fall (1-2) 		
	 Clear reference back to the diagram (P1 to P2 etc) (1) 		
	Max 2 from this sub-section		

uestion			Answer	Mark	Assessmen objective
13	Explain ho deficit." (L		owth might "reduce the government's budget	6	AO1 2 AO2 2 AO3 2
	Level 1	1-2 Marks	Candidate understands what a budget deficit means and explains very briefly that T rises and/or G falls.		7.002
	Level 2	3-4 Marks	3: Candidate understands that because the economy is growing, T will rise and G should fall. One is explained and the other is asserted.		
			4: Candidate clearly explains one reason that either tax will rise or government spending will rise (with a specific example):		
			Tax: Rising growth will mean greater consumer spending (VAT), Jobs (Income tax) and profit (corporation tax) - only one of these needed		
			Government spending: rising growth will probably mean lower unemployment and fewer people needed to claim from benefits system.		
			Or		
			There is a reasonable explanation of both (EG: Rising AD means that more people are employed so the government gets more tax and pays out less).		
	Level 3	5-6 Marks	5: Answers in this level will have clearly applied their answer to the context of rising in growth		
			Candidate clearly explains with specifics one reason that either tax will rise or government spending will fall and asserts the other one briefly.		
			6:		
			Good explanation using specifics (direct or indirect tax, benefits payments etc.) why T rises and G falls.		
	Up to 5 for	r one of G o	r T done well. vell, one done to some extent.		

Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
14	Using an AS/AD diagram, explain how rising consumption might have led to "high inflation and a loss of competitiveness on world markets"	6	AO1 2 AO2 2 AO3 2
	Diagram (Up to 2)		
	Accurate diagram (no more than one labelling error) with some commentary about rising C and AD (2)		
	Accurate diagram only (1)		
	PL AS AD AD AD AD AD AD AD AD AD		
	Explanation (up to 4) comprising:		
	Inflation (up to 2)		
	Either: Use of diagram (AD rising from AD1 to AD2 causes PL to rise from PL1 to PL2) (1) Plus some reference to the factors mentioned below (reduced competition, factor shortages etc) (1)		
	Or:		
	A full explanation of why inflation rises without reference to the diagram (Rising consumption causes shortages of key raw materials as firms expand forcing firms to increase the prices of final products. Or rising consumption reduces competition between firms, making it easier to increase prices and increase profitability) (Up to 2 for either).		
	Competitiveness (also up to 2)		
	Understanding of competitiveness (1) (e.g. rising prices will damage the ability of Brazilain firms to compete on world markets. Therefore damaging export performance (or some similar development) (1)		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
15	To what extent will the Brazilian economy?	increase in interest rates be likely to help the	8	AO1 1 AO2 1 AO3 2
		AO1,2 and 3		AO4 4
	Level 1 1-2 Marks	Limited analysis		
	Level 2 3-4 Marks	Candidate explains briefly that an increase in interest rates will reduce AD and therefore also reduce inflation. They may draw a diagram to illustrate this but the understanding of the transmission mechanism is limited. Reasonable analysis of interest rate transmission mechanism (Diagram not		
		necessarily required) Candidate explains how an increase in interest rates actually has an effect – i.e. they understand the theoretical processes: C falls because of increased opportunity cost of saving and increased cost of borrowing (allow mortgage rate/asset price effects effects) I falls because of increased cost of borrowing and reduced growth prospects. Ex rate may rise (Increased capital inflows/reduced capital outflows)		
		Hence AD falls Good one sided answer relating to an economic objective.		
		A 4 mark answer in this band will cover at least 2 of these.		
		Bands are reversible		

Question			Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
			AO4		
	Level 1	1-2 Marks	Limited evaluation –		
			Candidate explains that there are some good and bad factors and that therefore the effect is mixed (allow a simple two sided answer here – if they just analyse the good and bad effects of the rise in interest rates, this could be level 1 evaluation. Their total mark could then be 6: 4 analysis + 2 evaluation)		
			EG: Inflation may be controlled, but there will be negative impacts on growth and jobs, explained.		
			Candidate makes 'it depends' points without really explaining them (max 1 if no context). EG, only a 0.5% increase, depends on the state of the global economy and so on. If the points are out of context, it doesn't matter how many there are, it's still at most 1 mark)		
	Level 2	3-4 Marks	Reasonable evaluation: This will already have done what is required in level 1 but will now add context. Therefore a theoretical discussion of interest rates can get up to 6, but for 7 or 8 it needs to make good use of the data.		
			This requires some sort of in context judgment about what the data has told them about Brazil:		
			Inflation is a major threat, so bringing it down is the key in the short run, regardless of what happens to growth.		
			Brazil already has low levels of investment, so pushing up interest rates will be a disaster.		
			If the <i>Real</i> appreciates (it didn't, but that's not the point) then this will further exacerbate Brazil's competitiveness issues.		
			Damaging investment/increasing exchange rate will make it harder to move away from commodities		
			Etc. – only one well explained point needed as long as it balances the candidate's answer.		

Question			Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
16		ent could use	data, evaluate policies that the Brazilian if it wishes to improve the supply side of the	10	AO1 2 AO2 2 AO3 2 AO4 4
	AO1,2 and 3				7.011
	Level 1	1-2 Marks	Limited analysis: Candidate shows an understanding of what SSPs are. Might mean: Definition Diagram Examples Or all of the above if undeveloped.		
	Level 2	3-4 Marks	Reasonable analysis (Diagram not necessarily required)		
			Candidate identifies and explains policies that might be used to improve the supply side of an economy:		
			Labour market policies: Deregulating labour market, reducing worker power, creating incentives to work, creating training opportunities (examples of how these would work needed) etc.		
			Capital market policies: Policies to boost investment such as cuts in corporation tax, tax breaks, government infrastructure spending etc.		
			Product market policies: Policies to increase competition between firms and hence improve efficiency: Deregulation of product markets, privatisation, tougher competition laws, reduced protectionism.		
	Level 3	5-6 marks	Good analysis (= analysis in context)		
			Candidate links to the actual weaknesses identified in the Brazilian economy:		
			Capacity constraints Labour shortages Complex tax rules/regulations Investment rate the lowest in Latin America		
			Level 3 is for policies that look to address some of these weaknesses (or other plausible weaknesses for an economy like Brazil that the candidate suggests). If the answer contains only 1 policy, 4 max		

Question			Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
			AO4		
	Level 1	1-2 Marks	Limited evaluation – candidate makes the usual general criticisms of the supply side policies that they raise (but to get 2 marks at least one needs to be developed – point plus development):		
			 Costly Take a long time Might not be effective Might be counter-productive Might increase inequality Etc. 		
	Level 2	3-4 Marks	Reasonable evaluation: This will be in context		
			Might be positive evaluation: Candidate attempts to identify which policies are likely to be best for Brazil given the problems – these may well be answers that are getting good analysis by linking to the identified weaknesses of the Brazilian economy:		
			"These policies will be particularly appropriate because of the low levels of investment/labour market issues etc."		
			Or		
			Candidate might explain the criticisms from level 1 and apply them to Brazil:		
			 Costly: Problematic given expenditure on world cup/Olympics/growth already slowing Long time: Inflation high now Increased inequality: Brazil is a relatively poor country Might be counter-productive – might cause job losses – bad in the context of higher interest rates Etc. 		

2 1				objective
21		Section B		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Price Elast	icity of Demand for primary school meals estimated to be -0.9	8	AO1 3
	•	e factors that might cause the price elasticity of demand for hool meals to be at this level.		AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1 1 - 3	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory. One or two basic points made.		
		Answer may contain a definition, a description of PED and perhaps a list of factors without development.		
		Relevant factors include:		
		 School dinners a necessity No close substitutes (packed lunch, but not hot food) Small percentage of income for many families Definition only = 1 		
	Level 2 4 - 6	Credit any other relevant points Good understanding of subject matter with some application. Relevant points made and developed using examples/diagrams and appropriate economic theory.		
		Points are well developed in the context of inelasticity. 4 marks for one well explained point relevant to the Q showing an understanding of elasticity.		
		6 marks for two good relevant points that explain why demand will tend to be inelastic		
		Once an answer is in level 2, additional unexplained factors do not add to the mark.		
	Level 3 7 - 8	The demands of the question are fully understood and relevant economic theory has been fully explained and applied using relevant examples/diagrams throughout the answer.		
		The answer makes a couple of good points about inelasticity, but refers to the idea that PED is -0.9 – hence not <i>very</i> inelastic and explains why this might be:		
		Some substitutes – packed dinner, going home for lunch		
		Costly for low income families – high percentage of their income		
		Or An exceptionally well applied answer to the context i.e. the candidate bases the whole nature of his/her answer around the product of school meals and that the factors are developed in such a way that that you get a sense that they really understand the issues around school meals		
		Credit any other relevant points		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
2 2	Discuss	whether the price of school meals should be increased.	12	AO1 3 AO2 3
	Level 1 1 - 4	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory with no real engagement with the issue being considered. May focus on just one side of the issue. Points will not be developed.		AO3 2 AO4 4
		Yes: Might raise revenue, No: Increases prices for poor people, might mean children go hungry.		
	5 - 8	Basic economic theory and principles are explained/applied/analysed. The candidate engages with the issue being considered using appropriate examples/diagrams, but may focus heavily on one side of the issue and evaluation may be limited.		
		Candidate explains and develops points, using economic theory in context.		
		Yes: Demand is inelastic, therefore increase in price causes revenue to rise, because demand falls less than proportionally Diagram illustrating this If school meals are contracted out, private operators will make more profits Schools/councils need to cover costs/reduce subsidies Schools/councils need funds for new equipment etc.		
		No: Could be inflationary Social impact Impact may be regressive May be damaging to health – external benefits of school meals?		
		Credit any other relevant points		
		Answers using throw-away evaluation (e.g. it depends on the size of the increase, without then developing that idea) only will be in this level, also answers which evaluate but have weak underlying analysis (i.e. Relevant economic theory and principles are not fully understood, applied and analysed). Answers with no evaluation cannot reach level 3.		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 9 - 12	Relevant economic theory and principles are fully understood, applied and analysed. The issue is fully evaluated using a range of appropriate examples/diagrams.		
		Strong two-sided answer with developed arguments on each side.		
		9-10 Answer contains developed evaluation but is not fully convincing. Evaluation is present but may take the form of a strong two sided answer, where both sides contain at least one well-developed argument.		
		11-12 In context answer Answers scoring 11-12 will have answered the question in a convincing fashion. Candidate probably evaluates both sides of the argument and probably makes a judgment about whether or not it would be sensible to increase the price of school meals.		
		Additional evaluation points (beyond using the ideas in section 2 to oppose one another) might include: (i) Large price increase might mean that D becomes elastic. (ii) Low income groups receive free school meals anyway, so regressive effects will be limited. (iii)Food prices rising rapidly therefore essential to increase. (iv) School meals not always particularly healthy anyway, so external benefits would be limited (v) School meals are contracted out in some areas, so the extra money will simply go to private firms.		
		But – if only throw-away points, the answer may still only be level 2. Level 3 answers will have <u>developed</u> evaluation.		
		Credit any other relevant points		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
3 1	level in 20 Using sup	nourly wage in the UK falls to £11.21 in 2013, lower than the 003. Opply and demand diagrams, explain why average wages may an in the UK in recent years	8	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1 1 - 3	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory. One or two basic points made. Answer may contain a list of relevant points or diagrams which are not explained and badly labelled. Relevant factors include: Demand (shifts to the left): Impact of recession Improved technology Global competition/outsourcing		
		Supply (shifts to the right) Immigration from EU and outside Increased retirement age University fees leading to more part-time workers		
	Level 2 4 - 6	Good understanding of subject matter with some application. Relevant points made and developed using examples/diagrams and appropriate economic theory.		
		Level 1 points are explained and related back to falling wages. Points may lack some depth of explanation. Some candidates might think about the idea that wages have risen by less than inflation.		
		Top of level 2 for two moderately developed points and an integrated diagram, covering both demand and supply. If only D or S covered, points will need to be well developed.		
		No diagrams: Max top L2 D or S only: Max top L2		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 7 - 8	The demands of the question are fully understood and relevant economic theory has been fully explained and applied using relevant examples/diagrams throughout the answer.		
		Good diagram with at least 2 well explained factors covering both S and D which are relevant to the context – wages falling in the UK in recent years. Candidate is clear about why wages have fallen – good relation back to the question.		

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uestion		Answer	Mark	Assessmen objective
3 2		whether a reduction in the national minimum wage would nemployment in the UK.	12	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory with no real engagement with the issue being considered. May focus on just one side of the issue. Points will not be developed.		AO4 4
		Will: Simple diagram, not explained. Costs fall – cheaper to employ		
		Won't: AD is still very low. Not if minimum wage is below		
	Level 2 5 - 8	Basic economic theory and principles are explained/applied/analysed. The candidate engages with the issue being considered using appropriate examples/diagrams, but may focus heavily on one side of the issue and evaluation may be limited.		
		Candidate explains and develops Level 1 points, using economic theory in context. Likely to introduce more sophisticated points:		
		Will:		
		Well used diagram, labelled with new and old unemployment marked.		
		Demand for labour may increase because costs of employment fall.		
		D for labour may increase because firms can cut the prices of final products, UK firms more competitive on world markets		
		D for labour may not fall because firms have less incentive to invest in labour replacing technology.		
		Won't: Labour costs only one factor affecting demand – state of economy – derived D.		
		 Some candidates might reference voluntary unemployment Most workers earn more than the minimum wage, therefore many firms will be unaffected. Might use diagram here. Wage stickiness 		
		Falling wages may cut AD Credit any other relevant points		
		Answers using throw-away evaluation (e.g. it depends on the size of the increase, without then developing that idea) only will be in this level, also answers which evaluate but have weak underlying analysis (i.e. Relevant economic theory and principles are not fully understood, applied and analysed). Answers with no evaluation cannot reach level 3.		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 9 - 12	Relevant economic theory and principles are fully understood, applied and analysed. The issue is fully evaluated using a range of appropriate examples/diagrams.		
		Strong two-sided approach with developed arguments on each side		
l		9-10 Answer contains developed evaluation but is not fully convincing		
		Evaluation is present but may take the form of a strong two sided answer, where both sides contain at least one well-developed argument.		
		11-12 In context answer		
		Answers scoring 11-12 will have answered the question in a convincing fashion. Candidate probably evaluates both sides of the argument and probably makes a judgment about whether or not unemployment will rise.		
		Additional evaluation points (beyond using the ideas in section 2 to oppose one another) might include: (i) Labour might not be a big part of firms' costs (ii) UK costs will still be above those of firms in other countries (iii) Voluntary u/e might not increase if benefits system reformed (iv) Depends on elasticity of D/S for labour.		
		But – if only throw-away points, the answer may still only be level 2. Level 3 answers will have <u>developed</u> evaluation.		
		Credit any other relevant points		

Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
4 1	UK drivers spend 29 hours per year stuck in traffic. UK has 5 th worst	8	AO1 3
	congestion in Europe.		AO2 3
	Explain why road congestion causes economic problems.		AO3 2
	and the second s		
	Level 1 Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory. One or two basic points made.		
	1 - 3		
	Answer may contain a list of relevant points or diagrams which are not explained and badly labelled. Level 1 answers for this answer will be characterised by a lack of economic concepts and terminology.		
	Relevant factors include:		
	Congestion wastes firms' time		
	Congestion wastes people's time		
	Congestion causes pollution		
	Credit any other relevant points		
	Level 2 Good understanding of subject matter with some application. Relevant points made and developed using		
	4 - 6 examples/diagrams and appropriate economic theory.		
	Points are developed and relate to the idea of economic problems. Points may lack some depth of explanation. Possible points: Congestion creates external costs in the sense that it slows down other road users. Therefore it causes market failure because resources will be misallocated and there will be a welfare loss. Up to 4 if done well Congestion similarly contributes to pollution – cars spend more time in standing traffic, therefore meaning that more fuel is burned. This leads to (i) localised pollution which damages health and reduces life expectancy and (ii) Increased CO ₂ emissions. Up to 4 if done well Congestion drives up firms' costs therefore making UK firms less competitive on world markets. Up to 4 if done well May make UK less attractive for FDI as a consequence. Up to 2 Congestion drives up firms' costs and therefore feeds into		
	higher prices for consumers. Up to 2 Credit any other relevant points		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 7 - 8	The demands of the question are fully understood and relevant economic theory has been fully explained and applied using relevant examples/diagrams throughout the answer.		
		Some reference to external costs/market failure/resource misallocation etc. is needed for level 3.		
		Candidate applies well to the context of congestion rather than just the idea of lots of cars driving about. Level 3 answers will be likely to have covered both market failure and business implications in reasonable detail.		
		A strong market failure answer covering both the first two level points is also likely to be a level 3 answer.		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
4 2		road pricing is a better policy for reducing congestion r public transport.	12	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	real en	d knowledge of relevant economic theory with no agagement with the issue being considered. May on just one side of the issue. Points will not be sped.		AO4 4
	expens	bricing: Simple diagram, not explained. More sive, D falls. dies: Simple diagram, not explained. Less expensive,		
	5 - 8 the iss examp	economic theory and principles are ned/applied/analysed. The candidate engages with sue being considered using appropriate eles/diagrams, but may focus heavily on one side of sue and evaluation may be limited.		
	econon	late explains and develops Level 1 points, using mic theory in context. Likely to introduce more ticated points (Up to 3 for a well-developed point):		
	•	Can be targeted at particular times of day, focusing directly on the problem Polluter pays – some candidates may discuss internalising the externality, correcting market failure May raise revenue for the government in some way, shape or form.		
	•	dies: Encourage car drivers to switch (XED) Don't increase costs for businesses Beneficial to low income groups If targeted in right way, might encourage green transport for one policy fully evaluated		
	Answe the size will be weak u	ers using throw-away evaluation (e.g. it depends on e of the increase, without then developing that idea) only in this level, as will answers which evaluate but have underlying analysis (i.e. Relevant economic theory nciples are not fully understood, applied and analysed). ers with no evaluation cannot reach level 3.		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 9 - 12	Relevant economic theory and principles are fully understood, applied and analysed. The issue is fully evaluated using a range of appropriate examples/diagrams.		
		Strong two-sided approach with developed arguments on each side.		
		9-10 Answer contains developed evaluation but is not fully convincing.		
		Evaluation is present but may take the form of a strong two sided answer, where both sides contain at least one well-developed argument, but at least one of the policies will need to be qualified – answers just explaining the advantages of each will be level 2 only.		
		11-12 In context answer.		
		Answers scoring 11-12 will have answered the question in a convincing fashion. Candidate probably evaluates both sides of the argument and probably makes a judgment which is best.		
		Additional evaluation points (beyond using the ideas in section 2 to oppose one another) might include Road pricing: : (i) Regressive (ii) Inflationary/costs/competitiveness (iii) Elasticity (iv) Hard to get tax right. Subsidies: (i) Expensive (ii) Depends on quality/reliability		
		But – if only throw-away points, the answer may still only be level 2. Level 3 answers will have <u>developed</u> evaluation.		
		Credit any other relevant points		

Section C

Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
to	Budget 2013: Fiscal policy to be responsible. Monetary policy stimulus o support demand Explain how monetary policy and fiscal policy can be used to increase aggregate Demand.	8	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1 1 - 3 Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory. One or two basic points made. Candidate shows some understanding of fiscal and monetary policy, but lacks depth. A level 1 response will tend to make points like: • Monetary policy is to do with the control of interest rates • Fiscal Policy is to do with taxes and government spending Credit any other relevant points Level 2 4 - 6 Good understanding of subject matter with some application. Relevant points made and developed using examples/diagrams and appropriate economic theory. Points are developed and show how monetary and fiscal policy work in terms of their impact on AD Monetary Policy (up to 4): Changes in interest rates affect (up to 3 through any channel): - C through mortgage payments, incentives to save and borrow, asset prices and impact on income of retired. - I through cost of borrowing and impact on confidence/expectations - X,M through impact on ex rate. QE expands the money supply (Allow any limited understanding here) Fiscal Policy (up to 4): Affects AD through: - Direct and Indirect tax (tax up to 2, don't have to do both DT and IT) - Current and Capital spending (G up to do, don't need to name specific categories such as capital/current). 4 Max if only FP or MP covered. Credit any other relevant points		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 7 - 8	The demands of the question are fully understood and relevant economic theory has been fully explained and applied using relevant examples/diagrams throughout the answer.		
		 All relevant aspects of monetary and fiscal policy are covered: Monetary: Interest rates cover at least two of the three channels of the transmission mechanism. Fiscal: both taxation and government spending are covered with examples. 		

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Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
5 2	Is it more important for a government to achieve low inflation or low unemployment?	12	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1 Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory with no real engagement with the issue being considered. May focus on just one side of the issue. Points will not be developed.		AO4 4
	Candidate may bullet point some of the reasons for or against achieving one or the other, but there is little or no development – essentially a bullet-point list.		
	Level 2 Basic economic theory and principles are explained/applied/analysed. The candidate engages with the issue being considered using appropriate examples/diagrams, but may focus heavily on one side of the issue and evaluation may be limited.		
	Candidate explains and develops some of the reasons for and against achieving some of the objectives. Points likely to be drawn from: • Unemployment: Pareto inefficient, impact on budget, risk of deskilling, social consequences, inequality, reduced living standards, reduced profits for firms cutting investment. Etc. • Inflation: Competitiveness issues, impact on fixed income groups, fiscal drag, menu costs, policy response, disguised inefficiency, damage to business confidence. Etc. Top level 2 answers will show a good understanding of why each might matter (two to three points on each, with a small amount of development – remember that this is an AS exam, not A2).		
	Answers using throw-away evaluation (e.g. it depends on the size of the increase, without then developing that idea) only will be in this level, as will answers which evaluate but have weak underlying analysis (i.e. Relevant economic theory and principles are not fully understood, applied and analysed). Answers with no evaluation cannot reach level 3. Max 8 for answers that purely explain why low u/e and inflation are desirable. Max 8 for one objective fully evaluated.		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 9 - 12	Relevant economic theory and principles are fully understood, applied and analysed. The issue is fully evaluated using a range of appropriate examples/diagrams.		
		Strong two-sided answer with developed arguments on each side		
		9-10 Answer contains developed evaluation but is not fully convincing Evaluation is present but may take the form of a strong two sided answer, where both sides contain at least one well-developed argument.		
		11-12 In context answer Answers scoring 11-12 will have answered the question in a convincing fashion. Candidate probably evaluates both sides of the argument and probably makes a judgment about whether or not it would be sensible to increase the price of school meals.		
		Additional evaluation points (beyond using the ideas in section 2 to oppose one another) might include: (i) Large price increase might mean that D becomes elastic. (ii) Low income groups receive free school meals anyway, so regressive effects will be limited. (iii)Food prices rising rapidly therefore essential to increase. (iv) School meals not always particularly healthy anyway, so external benefits would be limited (v) Scholl meals are contracted out in some areas, so the extra money will simply go to private firms.		
		But – if only throw-away points, the answer may still only be level 2. Level 3 answers will have <u>developed</u> evaluation.		
		Credit any other relevant points		

t	his ['] open ' Explain wl	on tax falls to 20%. May fall further as the Chancellor sticks to for business model' hy increasing investment by businesses is considered to be for the UK economy.	8	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1 1-3	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory. One or two basic points made. Candidate shows some understanding of Investment, perhaps using a definition. Points are not developed. I will increase AD because AD=C+I+G+X-M or J/W approach or Keynesian cross diagrams I will increase AS/PPFs Credit any other relevant points Good understanding of subject matter with some application. Relevant points made and developed using examples/diagrams and appropriate economic theory. Points are developed and show how Investment can benefit an economy (up to 4 for each) (1) I increases AD because it often involves construction of fixed capital/factories etc. Therefore there will be multiplier effects as jobs are created in construction and engineering. GDP will rise. (2) I can increase AS because it contributes to potential growth by increasing the quantity and quality of factors of production — better capital allows workers to be more effective and higher capital stock adds directly to capacity. Hence contributes directly to non-inflationary growth. (3) I can help to boost the competitiveness of UK firms by increasing productivity and consequently reducing unit costs. Top level 2 answers will probably cover 2 of these three areas in detail. Credit any other relevant points		

The demands of the question are fully understood and relevant economic theory has been fully explained and applied using relevant examples/diagrams throughout the answer.

Candidate:

either:

Covers all three areas with at least one done in a good level of detail (hence a theoretically strong answer)

or

Talks about the UK economy – jobs important right now because of slow recovery from Great Recession, UK relatively poor productivity performance, poor record on investment. UK's trend growth rate relatively slow etc. (Hence a well applied answer)

Credit any other relevant points

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Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
6 2		ne government increase VAT to 25% to allow for a significant in income tax and corporation tax?	12	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1 1 - 4	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory with no real engagement with the issue being considered. May focus on just one side of the issue. Points will not be developed.		AO4 4
		Candidate understands what the different taxes are. Makes an undeveloped list of possible consequences: Higher VAT might be inflationary Lower Corporation tax might increase investment Lower Income tax might increase AD		
	Level 2 5 - 8	Basic economic theory and principles are explained/applied/analysed. The candidate engages with the issue being considered using appropriate examples/diagrams, but may focus heavily on one side of the issue and evaluation may be limited.		
		Candidate explains and develops some of the reasons for and against the policy changes suggested (Up to 3 per well developed idea).		
		Higher VAT good: Hard to avoid, big tax, doesn't affect incentives. VAT increases can be targeted. But: Regressive, directly increases inflation (risk of wage-price spiral, worsening industrial disputes)		
		Lower Corp tax good: Encourages I and FDI, might reduce off- shoring, doesn't generate that much revenue anyway.		
		But: Many MNCs avoid it anyway, so no effect. Other factors more important in investment/location decisions.		
		Lower Y tax good: Creates incentives to work (reduced chance of poverty/unemployment traps), offsets the fall in AD from higher VAT.		
		But increases inequality (only those with jobs benefit), no guarantee of increase in AD (confidence). May or may not reduce tax revenue (Laffer curve)		
		Top level 2 answer will deal with all three taxes mentioned in the question.		
		Credit any other relevant points		

Question	Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
	Level 3 9 - 12 Answers using throw-away evaluation (e.g. it size of the increase, without then developing that be in this level, as will answers which do evaluated weak underlying analysis (i.e. Relevant econoprinciples are not fully understood, applied and a Answers with no evaluation cannot reach level Relevant economic theory and principles are understood, applied and analysed. The issue	t idea) only will uate but have omic theory and analysed). el 3. fully e is fully	
	evaluated using a range of appropriate examples Strong two-sided approach with developed argure		
	9-10 Answer contains developed evaluation but i convincing.	is not fully	
	Evaluation is present but may take the form of a sided answer, where both sides contain at least of developed argument. Or evaluation is present but explanation.	one well-	
	Evaluation is present but may simply outline the and disadvantages of going ahead or not going a treat the taxes separately, not coming to a conclupolicy as a whole.	ahead – likely to	
	11-12 In context answer, comes to a conclusion or not the policy taken as a whole is desirable. A will have produced a convincing response to the	Inswers here	
	Attempts to judge whether increases in VAT comdirect taxes will work. Or candidate is effective at arguments made on each side.		
	Points might include:		
	AD overall may well remain unchanged (cancelling Likely to create strong incentives to enter the work) price level, higher reward from work) Likely to sharply increase income inequality Or simply comes to a reasoned conclusion based earlier analysis	rkforce (higher	
	Credit any other relevant points		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
7 1	lead to ris	rns that continued slow growth and high unemployment may sing protectionism and currency wars now a government could use its exchange rate to increase and reduce unemployment.	8	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory. One or two		
	Level 2 4 - 6	Candidates understand that a decrease in the exchange rate should help to raise actual growth and create jobs. Points not developed and not really explained, probably limited to a fall in the £ causes Px to fall and Pm to rise meaning more jobs. Credit any other relevant points Good understanding of subject matter with some application. Relevant points made and developed using examples/diagrams and appropriate economic theory. Points are developed and show how a fall in the ex rate will bring about both desired outcomes. Weaker £ causes a fall in Px because UK goods appear cheaper in forex terms. Therefore the demand for exports should rise. Weaker £ causes imported products to cost more in sterling terms, reducing the demand for imports and raising the demand for domestic substitutes. Together these should raise AD which should create higher GDP and more jobs. May draw an AD/AS diagram that isn't really used.		
	Level 3	Credit any other relevant points The demands of the question are fully understood and		
	7 - 8	relevant economic theory has been fully explained and applied using relevant examples/diagrams throughout the answer. Candidate Develops the impact of AD using relevant descriptive theory such as the multiplier, and explains clearly why GDP rises and why jobs are created. Or		
		Use a well-integrated AD/AS diagram to illustrate explaining why GDP rises, and using the diagram to explain why jobs will be created (e.g. reduction in negative output gap, or higher GDP requires more workers to make it etc.) Or Has explained how the government can bring about a reduction in the exchange rate in the first place as part of their answer (max 4 for just explaining how) Credit any other relevant points		

Question		Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
7 2		whether a country faced with slow growth and high yment should introduce higher tariffs on imports.	12	AO1 3 AO2 3 AO3 2
	Level 1	Limited knowledge of relevant economic theory with no real engagement with the issue being considered. May focus on just one side of the issue. Points will not be developed.		AO4 4
		Candidate asserts that tariffs will reduce imports and therefore create jobs. Candidate draws the tariff diagram explaining it – new M, old M or 'ABCD' approach, but not linked to the Q.		
	Level 2	Basic economic theory and principles are		
	5 - 8	explained/applied/analysed. The candidate engages with the issue being considered using appropriate examples/diagrams, but may focus heavily on one side of the issue and evaluation may be limited.		
		Candidate explains and develops Level 1 points, using economic theory in context. Likely to introduce more sophisticated points:		
		 Diagram likely to be used more fully – candidate will show and explain the increase in domestic output, explaining that this may contribute to growth. Candidate may show and explain the fall in imports and explain that as a consequence jobs may be created. Up to 6 for a very well integrated diagram that addresses both jobs and growth. Candidates may make points about infant and strategic industries needing protection, both protecting jobs and perhaps contributing to growth. Tariffs may be needed to protect industries from dumping, which may destroy industries (slowing growth and costing jobs) Tariffs raise revenue for the government which can be invested in SSPs 		
		 Tariffs cause job losses in industries depending on imports (car industry, steel etc.) Tariffs invite retaliation, again causing job losses If all countries increase tariffs, growth will be slower (loss of comparative advantage, economic research) Tariffs encourage inefficiency (might show the inefficiency area on the diagram), which may damage potential growth. Other policies might be more effective – limited credit for this. 		
		Credit any other relevant points		

Answer	Mark	Assessment objective
Answers using throw-away evaluation (e.g. it depends on the size of the increase, without then developing that idea) only will be in this level, as will answers which evaluate but have weak underlying analysis (i.e. Relevant economic theory and principles are not fully understood, applied and analysed). Answers with no evaluation cannot reach level 3, nor can answers which do not refer to "slow growth and high unemployment". Relevant economic theory and principles are fully understood, applied and analysed. The issue is fully evaluated using a range of appropriate examples/diagrams. Strong two-sided approach with developed arguments on each side 9-10 Answer contains developed evaluation but is not fully convincing Evaluation is present but may take the form of a strong two	Mark	
sided answer, where both sides contain at least one well-developed argument. Or evaluation is present but lacks explanation. Evaluation is present but may be simply of the "tariffs good but" or "tariffs bad but". I.e. it lacks <i>qualifiers</i> . 11-12 In context answer, evaluates both policies.		
Candidate evaluates both sides of the argument (i.e. <i>qualifies</i> the reasons it will and won't create growth) and probably makes a judgment about whether or not tariffs will create growth and jobs. Answers here will have produced a convincing response to the question.		
Additional evaluation points (beyond using the ideas in section 2 to oppose one another) might include: (i) Might create growth and jobs in the SR, but unlikely to do so in the LR. (ii) Might depend on <i>which</i> imports are protected against – PEDm may be relevant here. (iii) Might be a good strategy for a few years, but will need to be reversed eventually. (iv) Retaliation might not be inevitable, depends on how powerful you are. But – if only throw-away points, the answer may still only be		
level 2. Level 3 answers will have <u>developed</u> evaluation. Credit any other relevant points		