

Examiners' Report June 2019

GCE Economics A 9EC0 01



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June 2019 Publications Code 9EC0_01_1906_ER

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Introduction

This was the third 9ECO 01 exam in the 2015 Specification series. It proved again to be an accessible paper, broad ranging and with a high degree of differentiation. The questions covered a broad range of micro issues from Theme 1 and 3. Many candidates had been prepared for Paper 9ECO 01 by making effective use of the SAM Paper and past papers, with many candidates meeting the demands of the command words in the questions and providing effective use of data given or their own contextual knowledge.

In Section A the majority of candidates answered the multiple choice questions correctly, although 1(b) PES proved to be a challenge for some. Section A continues to highlight the need for candidates to be confident in their use of quantitative skills. There were also computational errors in 1(a) and 4(b). When asked to draw a diagram nearly all candidates secured full marks in 2(a) for supply and demand but many struggled when asked to complete a long run monopsony diagram in 3(b). Candidates need to ensure they practice the full range of diagrams in the specification.

Section B responses seemed to be displaying more evidence of the need to go beyond a simple response, although candidates need to ensure more precision in their answers. In 6(a) many candidates mistakenly thought that normative just meant having an opinion and in 6(b) analysis was not always tightly focussed on 'benefits to the consumer'. Candidates though have heeded previous advice in ensuring that when, as in 6(b), a question includes the words 'with reference to...' they often did refer to what they have been asked to. 6(c) was well answered and in 6(d) candidates met the demand of using one diagram but need to ensure that they carefully explain their diagram using correct knowledge and relevant application to answer the question set. 6(e) also witnessed a high proportion of candidates responding with reference to the context of utilities.

For Section C, where the candidates have a choice of which question to answer, around three-quarters of candidates answered question 8 and the rest question 7. In both questions it was important for candidates to refer to an industry of their choice. There was impressive depth of knowledge and understanding about the chosen industry by many candidates. Unfortunately, other candidates took a rather scattergun approach with reference to many industries, resulting in an inability to provide analysis that was fully focused on answering the question set. Overall, the evaluation provided by candidates within this paper demonstrated that they were much better prepared; with developed chains of reasoning and context.

Question 1 (a)

In this question the focus is on having the ability to correctly calculate the percentage change in quantity supplied and to substitute the answer into the PES formula. A mark was not awarded for the formula itself but overall this was well answered by candidates and nearly all carefully made use of the formula and showed their working to achieve their final answer. The main issues that candidates faced here was failing to correctly calculate the percentage change or to apply the formula the correct way around.

1 Between 2016 and 2017 the average price of new build houses in the UK rose by an estimated 5.4%.

Year	Quantity of UK new house builds
2016	134 612
2017	162 880

(Source: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2017/05/25/number-new-homes-built-hits-highest-level-since-financial-crisis/)

(a) With reference to the data provided, calculate the price elasticity of supply for new house builds between 2016 and 2017. You are advised to show your workings.



The candidate correctly calculated the % change in quantity supplied as 20.99 thus earning one mark. They then substituted their answer correctly into the PES formula but the final calculation was wrong. As an incorrect answer they receive 0 marks for the final calculated answer despite having the correct working. Overall they achieve 1+0 = 1 mark.



Ensure you make use of a calculator and double check that your final answer makes sense – to overcome human error.

(a) With reference to the data provided, calculate the price elasticity of supply for new house builds between 2016 and 2017. You are advised to show your workings.

(2)

PES = 1 change in supply change in supply	162880 - 134612
y. change in price.	134612
	= 20.9 %.
: PES = 3.89	=21%



This candidate provides a correct answer, achieving 2 marks.

Question 1 (c)

There are two marks for this question, one for knowledge and one for identifying a factor determining PES. The second analysis mark is for explaining the impact on price elasticity of supply. It was mostly well answered – where it was not candidates had confused the factors that influence PED or cause shifts in supply. Confident answers directly linked the factor in new house builds to the relative degree of price elasticity of supply. Some candidates identified a factor as being new technology, with 'flat-pack' new houses being quick to assemble and thereby relatively price-elastic or releasing in phases new builds.

(c) Explain one factor that is likely to determine the price elasticity of supply of new house builds.

(2)

PES=%DOS/%DP

One feather could be the price of building materials. An increase in the price of took building moterials ingraeses the cost of building new houses.



This answer scores zero marks. The candidate confuses a determinant which could shift supply as being a determinant of price elasticity of supply. An abundant availability of building materials resulting in the PES being more elastic would have been a valid response.



Do not confuse factors determining elasticity with factors that cause a shift.

(c) Explain **one** factor that is likely to determine the price elasticity of supply of new house builds.

(2)ie in London the ivis hardly any pour cound to build on & the PES of new builds will be inelastic.



This answer achieves full marks – one knowledge mark for identification of a factor determining PES - availability of land. Then the analysis mark explains how the lack of 'unused land to build on in London' impacts on PES - being 'inelastic'.

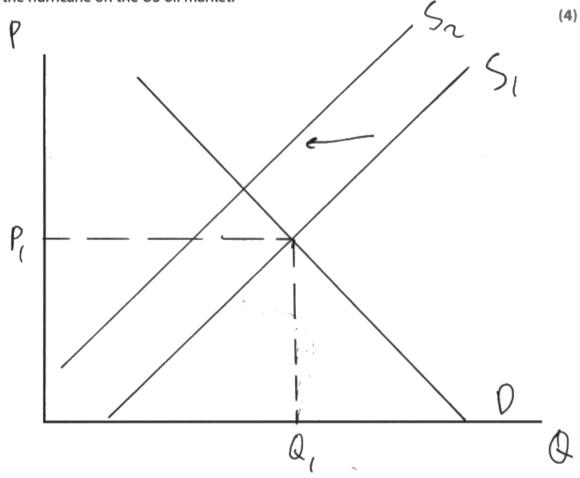


When you are asked to explain how a factor determines - make sure you not only identify the factor but that you then go on to explain how the factor has an impact in the context of the question.

Question 2 (a)

This question specifically asks candidates to draw a diagram. There is no need for candidates to write any explanation to go along with their diagram. When drawing diagrams candidates should always double-check that the lines and axes are correctly labelled. Nearly all candidates provided the answer as illustrated in the mark scheme.

- 2 In August 2017 Hurricane Harvey caused the closure of nearly a quarter of the oil production capacity in the United States.
 - (a) Draw a supply and demand diagram to show the likely microeconomic effects of the hurricane on the US oil market.



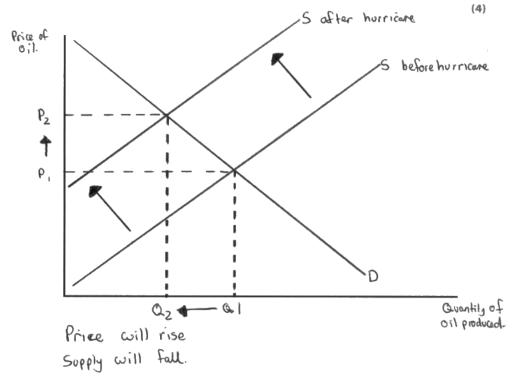


The candidate received two marks for drawing a supply and demand diagram annotated to show a left shift in the supply curve. An arrow was not required in this case since the candidate had indicated S1 shifting correctly to S2. A large number of candidates did make use of arrows and this did help overcome the rare occasion whereby they had mistakenly drawn two supply curves with both annotated as S, or likewise with equilibrium points labelled P and/or Q on two occasions. This candidate did not obtain the two application marks as they did not indicate the new equilibrium price or quantity. They obtained 2+0 = 2 marks overall.



Always ensure you fully annotate your diagrams and double check that you have done so.

(a) Draw a supply and demand diagram to show the likely microeconomic effects of the hurricane on the US oil market.





This diagram is correctly labelled. It also shows the shift in the correct direction and illustrates the new equilibrium points. In addition it annotates the answer given the context. Whilst this is not in the mark scheme, this is a good approach to take to ensure your answer is correct or in answering longer responses where a diagram may be useful or required. Therefore this answer achieves full marks.

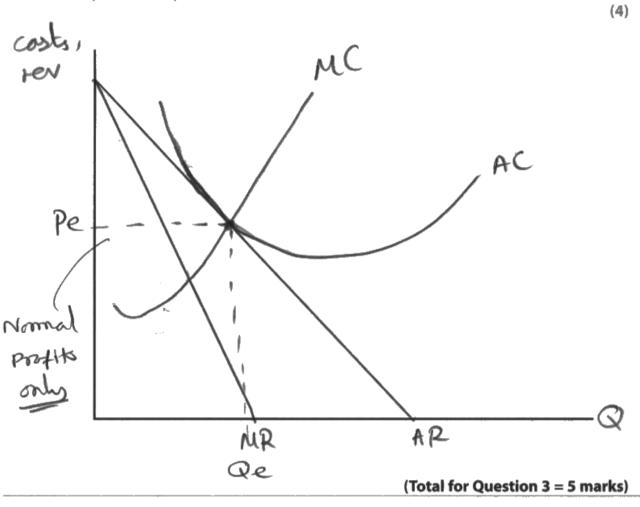


Draw diagrams clearly and large enough to be easy to interpret, like in this answer.

Question 3 (b)

A significant number of candidates achieved zero marks for this question. This was due to them drawing monopoly diagrams showing abnormal/normal profit or perfectly competitive diagrams showing a horizontal AR curve. To secure marks for this question candidates had to first draw an AC curve tangential to a downward sloping AR curve. Candidates found it difficult to show the tangential point as just touching so we allowed this diagram as long as the touching point was not too extended along the AR slope.

(b) Draw a cost and revenue diagram to show the **long-run** equilibrium of a firm in monopolistic competition.





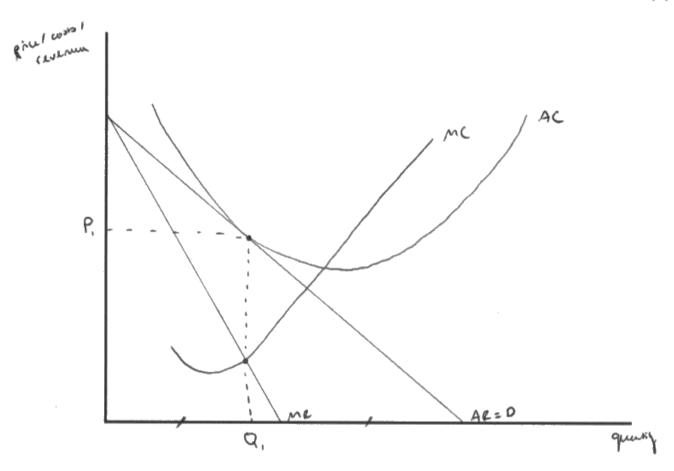
This answer scores two marks as it shows AC tangential to a downward sloping AR curve. Candidates found it difficult to show the tangential point as just touching so we allowed this diagram if the touching point was not too extended along the AR slope. This is not followed by an identification of the profit maximising equilibrium price and output where MC=MR. Also, AC is not equal to AR at the profit maximising equilibrium output price and output where MC=MR. This answer achieved 2+0 = 2 marks.



Practice drawing accurate long run monopolistic competition diagram, as per the mark scheme.

(b) Draw a cost and revenue diagram to show the long-run equilibrium of a firm in monopolistic competition.







This diagram is correctly drawn. Therefore this answer achieves full marks.

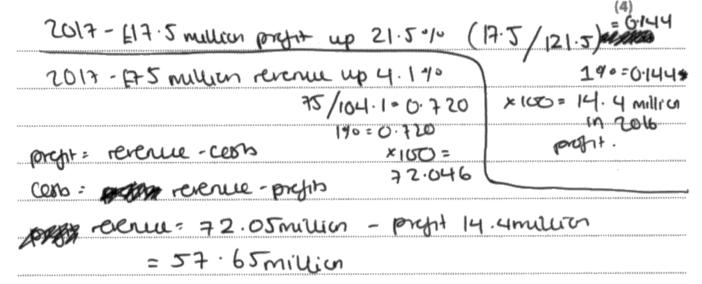
Question 4 (b)

Being a few years into the new specification candidates are well practiced in showing their working. A significant number of candidates were not able to calculate the total revenue and profit for 2016 so were unable to obtain the final answer. Some candidates wrongly subtracted the 2017 figures to obtain their final answer of 58.3 million. Nearly all responses seen ensured that they used the correct unit of measurement as £58.4 million rather than 58.4.

Following the demerger, GoCompare announced in 2017 a profit of £17.5 million, up 21.5% on 2016. Total revenue in 2017 was £75.8 million, up 4.1% on 2016.

> (Source: adapted from https://www.insuranceage.co.uk/insurer/3107496/ profits-up-at-go-compare)

(b) Calculate, using the information provided, the total costs of GoCompare in 2016.





This answer achieves one mark for correctly calculating profit in 2016 as being equal to 14.4 million. They miscalculate revenue for 2016 resulting in the wrong overall answer. An additional mark was awarded for the correct use of the formula. 2 marks overall.



By showing your working it is possible that you may pick up at least a mark even if computational errors occur.

(b) Calculate, using the information provided, the total costs of GoCompare in 2016.

(4)

Profit = TR -TC 17.5 = 17.5 = 14.4 75.8 = 1.041 = 72.8

1000: 2016: 14.4m = 72.8m - TC

TC = 72.8 m - 14.4 m

TC = \$58, 9 million (1dp)



This candidate has the correct answer of £58.4 million and hence achieves full marks.

Question 5 (a)

Many candidates displayed a secure knowledge of what is meant by a free market economy and were able to go onto secure full marks by explaining how resources are allocated – using rationing, signalling or a laissez-faire approach.

- 5 Free market economics is being challenged. The arguments for and against are being increasingly discussed within many countries.
 - (a) Explain how resources are allocated in a free market economy.

Resource are allocated barrer on the equilibrium

(2)



This answer receives one mark for focussing on the market forces of supply and demand. It lacks development as an explanation so secures 1+0 = 1 mark.



Ensure you read the question carefully. Here the question is specifically asking for an explanation of how resources are allocated in a free market economy.

Through the price mechanism whereby if demand for a product is high, supply of this good would start to run out, which means firms ration the good by raining the price which provides an inventive for firms to rupply more and allocate more resources to it as the demand is high This threset



There is a clear explanation of how the market forces of supply and demand ration and allocate resources.



Ensure you carefully and concisely explain your answer rather than adopting an almost bullet point approach to your answer.

Question 5 (c)

There are two marks for this question, one for knowledge and one for analysis. The second analysis mark is for linked development – explaining the benefit of division of labour.

(2)

Adam Smith described the benefits of specialisation and the division of labour.

(c) Explain **one** advantage to a firm of using division of labour when organising its production process.

Direson of labour can lead to increased ovo fut as each worker becomes more specialised in the production of the product.



No mark was awarded for just saying more specialised as it is in the stem of the question. Greater output was awarded one mark but the candidate does not explain how division of labour enables this when organising the production process. 1+0 = 1 mark.



Ensure you carefully read the question, including the stem of the question - in this case where it says 'Adam Smith described...'.

(c) Explain one advantage to a firm of using division of labour when organising its production process.

(2) The workers do earner tasks, therefore they can squiame in them and become more productive, as take are earner for worker and they become specialized in tem Therepas production would go up and cost of production would go down



The answer achieves full marks. One knowledge mark is secured for 'easier tasks' and there is a clear explanation as to why this is a benefit with linked development to lower costs of production. 1+1 = 2 marks.

Question 6 (a)

In this answer there is one mark for knowledge, and two marks for analysis for showing an understanding of a positive and a normative statement with some further analysis of the difference. Two marks were awarded for application by providing one example from Extract A for positive and one likewise for normative. Some candidates achieved 4/5 marks as they wrongly defined a normative statement as being an opinion.

(a) With reference to Extract A, explain the difference between a positive statement and a normative statement.

A positive Statement is a Statement that can be power as true or Julie. For example as Stated in between A "The government claim that the cap could some howseholds up to \$100 per year." this This Statement can be proven as true or Julie. Wherever a narrative statement is a statement that is opinion based and can not be proven or dispower. For example in extent A Michael Lewis Says "the price corp would reduce Competition and Impaction."



Positive statement defined with a valid example scores 2 marks. Normative statement repeats definition of positive statement and incorrectly identifies it as opinion based. There is an additional application mark for the example taken from Extract A, with some benefit of doubt given. Response achieves 1 knowledge mark and 2 application marks = 3 marks.



Ensure you know accurate definitions of key terms from the specification.

(a) With reference to Extract A, explain the difference between a positive statement and a normative statement.

A positive statement is a fact that can be proven or disproven through a scientific method for example this cap could some up to \$100 a year. This can be proven or disproven in the foture A normative statement is a valued judgement that cannot be proven or disproven using a scientific method. For example Objem should limit grand electricity and gas suppliers as



This answer achieves a total of 5/5 marks. In the first sentence the candidate gains one knowledge mark for understanding what a positive statement is and an additional two marks for further analysis and application using Extract A. An understanding of a normative statement as a 'value judgement' secures a mark. The scientific method point has already been awarded but the additional application mark is awarded towards the end.

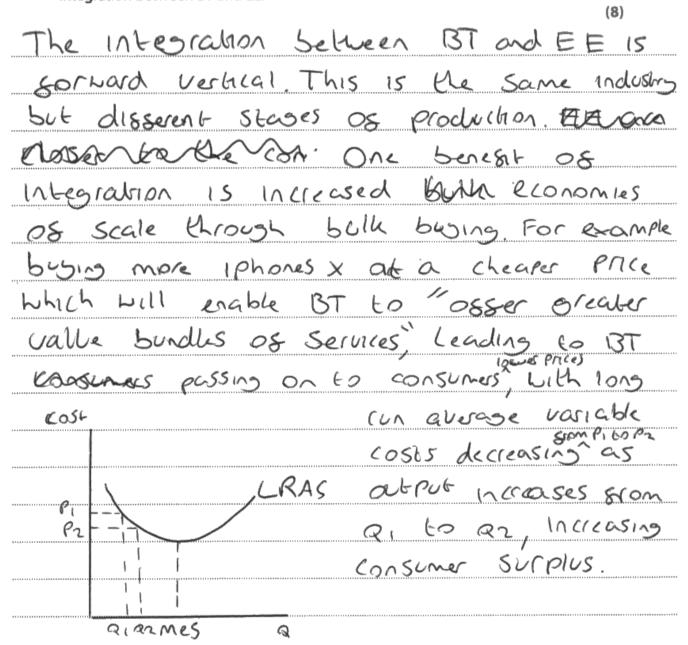


Ensure you carefully answer the demands of the question. This candidate carefully applied examples taken from Extract A as required.

Question 6 (b)

With the 'examine' question, the marks are allocated evenly across all four categories – so two marks for each of knowledge, application, analysis, and evaluation. The question specifically asks for 'benefits to consumers'. Therefore, candidates need to ensure they have examined two benefits in their answer. A diagram was not required and at times did not add anything to what was already written by the candidates. Some answers misread the question and only discussed benefits to the firm. The other thing that candidates need to remember is that there are two marks for evaluation here – many answers were well-written but without evaluation they are limited to 6/8 marks.

(b) With reference to Extract B, examine the likely benefits to consumers of the integration between BT and EE.



However in evaluation will the BT be able to osser lower prices? could become too big and exprinence disconomis os seales through POOT COMMUNICATION, Cherefore Consoner exterience higher polles. mar



There was no mark for identifying the type of merger, but this did on occasion allow candidates to go on to analyse possible benefits. This answer only identifies one benefit to consumers being lower prices (consumer surplus) from the economies of scale analysis given. There is also application awarded with reference to 'greater value bundles'. The closing paragraph is awarded two evaluative marks. The candidate scores 1K. 1An, 1APP and 2Ev = 5/8 marks.



Remember the allocation of marks for these 8 mark 'examine' questions will be consistent -2 marks for each of knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation. A careful reading of this question would have identified 'benefits' to consumers - thus requiring at least two benefits. (b) With reference to Extract B, examine the likely benefits to consumers of the integration between BT and EE.

(8)

Firstly, the horizontal unregration of BT and EE is letter to allow for economies of scale to be utilised which will lead to lower costs and therefore, potentially lower prices for consumers. They dam. the merger will allow for 'great value bundles A services theoretically not only allowing for lower prices but also a better quality of product as they can share reasonath and ideas, areal maximising consumer welfor. However, it should be considered that with a 35%. market Share, they although costs the deacrease in costs may be persed onto consumes it may also be kept and as a margoly, their compelition hadiscourage this is small Secondly, the Mitegration might lead to a greater variety of products, indicating that instead of loosing out from a merger in terms of product chains, they are in fact gaining. As they will be apporting a multi-brand strategy, consumes will be able to choose a nix of BT, EEO Plusnet serios inhich will nover consumor choice and therefore consumer welfer However although this may be astorting strategy, due houch



This is an excellent well-structured answer to this question scoring full marks. Two distinct benefits are examined – lower prices and greater variety of products. Both policies are also evaluated effectively, worthy of two evaluative marks in both



Remember there are two marks available for evaluation on this question. If you are able to evaluate both benefits great, but 2 marks can be awarded for identification and development of one evaluative comment.

Question 6 (c)

Answers to this question were generally strong, with stronger candidates using economic theory to explain patterns. Most provided two paragraphs of KAA and two separate evaluative paragraphs. Better answers explored low PED and brand loyalty, asymmetric information, computation issues, deliberately confusing tariffs and habits. Fewer candidates questioned their thinking or evaluated beyond saying that in the long run information will improve as the regulator intervenes. Stronger candidates questioned the idea that staying with BT was irrational behaviour at all given the hassle for small savings and the brand trust value of paying more.

(c) With reference to Extract C, assess possible reasons why many 'landline-only' customers do not switch to a cheaper telephone provider.

(10)

one possible reason why many land line
only costemers do not switch to a
charger telephone printer is as nearly
two-twids of Br landuine only cushmors
are 65 and over. Being elderly and with
Br for decades, the consumer is Brend byou
and even with an increase in price, they
will still use BY for landling. Aswell as the
consciuor being Elderly, they may not have access
or knowledge of using the internet restricting
them from heing while to view other phone
par landline providers such as recepture
Skyand vodaphore.



This answer scores 6/10 marks. The candidate has addressed brand loyalty (Level 2) and lacking market information, 'knowledge' (L2). The final paragraph is awarded one Level 2 evaluation. Overall the candidate achieves L2 (4 KAA) and L1+ evaluation (2e) as the evaluation fails to recognise different viewpoints.



Try to ensure evaluation is not on the brief side. A safe approach to this would be to evaluate each reason separately.

One reason they navent switched to a cheaper provider is due to habitual behaviour of the consumer, meaning they have not attempted to find a new telephone provider, especially given the fact many have been with BT for decades" which has allowed prices of consumer to steadly increase without them being aware of their prices having "Soared" between "23% and 47% in recent year", Especially given that these consumer are elderly and therefore, we could presume, are not using technology greatly. Are these high prices wery to remain high for these consumers? A In evaluation, although consumershave been exploited with high prices, it is walt unlikely prices will remain so high due to the requiater Ofcom stepping is and prices "will fall from £18.99 to £11.99 per month "meaning consumers will still not switch provider. Another reason landine only customers do not switch round be and to information of afternative provides being difficult to get hold of. Consumer have a warner at composation meaning they are often unable to see whether products will be cost effective to them, and with such a comprex system which many people have a great deal of asymmetric information with their landline provider, such as BT, they have herer changed

their provider

Could in rormation be made easier to gather for consumers to reduce the asymmetric information? Of In evaluation, Of com have said it will be helping people "shop around for better deals with more confidence" in order to reduce the issue of the paying these unnecessarily high prices for their telephone bills meaning this issue for consumers will decrease.



In the first paragraph the candidate addresses the issue of habitual behaviour and links their knowledge and understanding in context to a Level 3 standard. It was felt that there was a little lack of clarity so was awarded L3-. The next paragraph went on to evaluate this reason to a Level 2 ev+ standard. The candidate provided another reason, that of missing information to a L3+ and L2ev+ standard. Overall the candidate achieved L3 (5KAA) and L2ev+ (4ev) = 9/10 marks.

Question 6 (d)

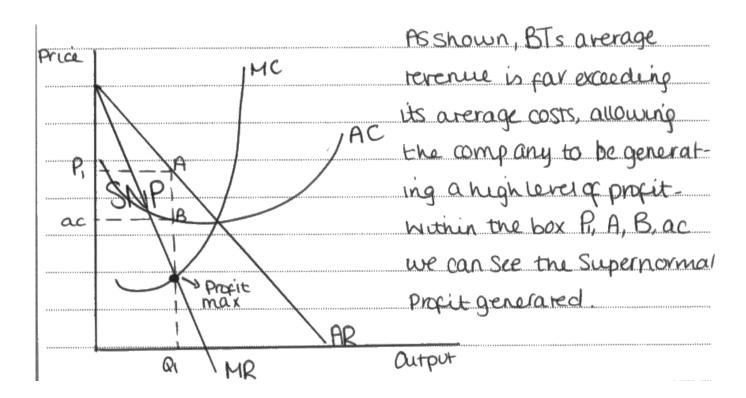
Stronger answers identified how integration increased revenue with a Level 3 diagram showing an outward shift in AR and MR and a larger SNP area accurately identified. This was accompanied by economic ideas carefully explained in context and then evaluated twice with a logical chain of reasoning in both cases. Alternatively, stronger answers made appropriate use of the extract to identify falling costs as illustrated by the AC and MC falling. When only the AC was shown to fall, stronger candidates identified that this was due to a fall in fixed costs whilst weaker responses failed to identify why only AC was falling.

(d) Discuss **one** likely reason for the rise in BT's profit (Figure 2, Extracts B and C). Use a cost and revenue diagram to support your answer.

(12)

One welly reason for the rise in BTs profits is to as shown in figure two, their monthly prices have rise in between 2006 and 2016 by around £5.10 per month, overall costing consumes around £61.00 more each year. One prominent reason is given the control it has on nearly 66%, of the 1.5 m Landine-only consumer of given this highly dominating market. They can afford to increase prices to profit maximus ation, hence the increase in the prices consumer nave to pay. This has allowed them to increase their profits to be risen to "£566 million" in the "second quarter of 2017".

The profit maximus ation of BT is shown on the diagram below.



will these increases in profit well remain this high in the long run? It could be that the increased profits that BT are experiencing and have been since 2006, be due to stop given the interperence from Ofcom, who are forcing them to decrease the prices of the good from £18.99 to £11.99 per month, meaning BT may now decrease profits; this will mean that they will be less domenant in the market as their competition will possibly be pricing below this.



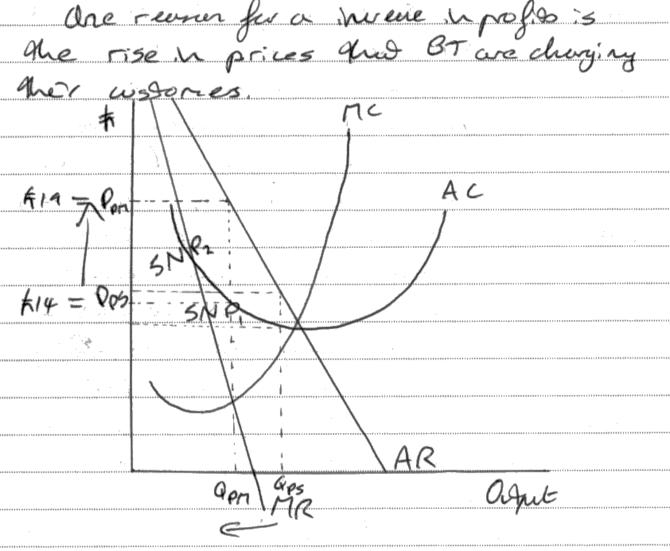
The static cost and revenue diagram alone secured Level 1KAA as it did not provide one reason for the rise in BT's profit. The written answer on the same page lifted the overall response to Level 2 as it suggested in context that the ability to set a profit maximising price had now been secured. To achieve a Level 3 response the diagram would have been made dynamic by additional annotations showing the change in price for example from allocative efficiency pricing to profit maximising price. The evaluation on the next page secured Level 2ev- and required extending and/or an additional evaluative point to secure L2e+. As such this answer scores 4KAA and 3ev = 7/12 marks.



Ensure you provide a clear diagram, when asked, with additional annotations that help you answer the question set.

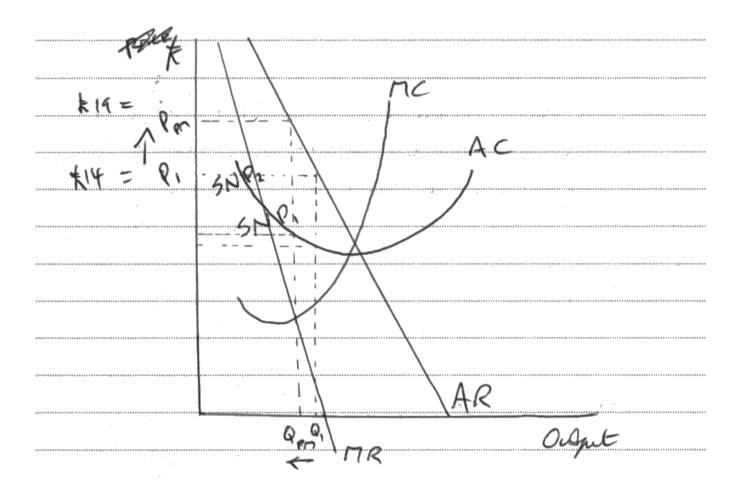
(d) Discuss **one** likely reason for the rise in BT's profit (Figure 2, Extracts B and C). Use a cost and revenue diagram to support your answer.

(12)



BT may have changed the's 66, edive for PS (Pafit swisficing) to PM (Pafit Maximising MC=MR). have managed to make use of their very muidajninga ligh gaining the board tos , base, this in crewe

of cler and so that they could dift to PM and by raising pices for landines from £14 + £19 a revi9h. This coursed a lage SNP invene from SNP, to SNP2. As Hey over paids wso rose their prices to a less complification they were not indered so profit rose. To enduda this point, it is wiledy thut BT were opening so for for a profit maxirising ordnot level ariginally that substation model share as they have been in the more Economies of Scale therefor they may wready have hard a light price, Voser la profit muxe in archer la soliste the shoreholder. This would new fre further home in price would not result in mesign, fically letter profisors shown an the react page.





In contrast with the first exemplar this candidate provides a dynamic diagram in context and with analysis concerning the PED being relatively price inelastic. The answer secures 7 KAA and 4ev = 11/12 marks.

Question 6 (e)

Price caps was by far the most common method used and most candidates provided a correct supply and demand diagram, with a few attempting to illustrate the change in consumer surplus and many evaluating well. Around a third of the candidates discussed price caps using a cost and revenue diagram, with many in this case identifying consumer surplus gain. Many candidates also had the price cap intersecting the allocative efficiency point, which set up the opportunity for some excellent evaluation. Candidates who were able to bring in a wider range of economic issues were therefore able to access the higher-level marks. Additional popular methods included providing information, profit regulation and nationalisation.

(e) Discuss methods of government intervention to protect consumers within the utilities markets, such as energy and telecommunications.

(15)

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The government can introduce a price cap per kilo-wabb on the chergy market in the UKo What this means is that films are not allowed to charge more brok the max po cap price per kilo-wabb. This probeots consinus a lot if there are only a few large chergy films in an area which otherwise would have set a higher price than the cap price. Firms as a result likely going to get lower profit margins from the and as a result not as many films are likely going to enter the market. However, in the long run firms are likely to be beaute the

area since bey see their profits moussis lower.

Another method of Government intertuention is buying the private company itself. It the government ends up buying the private company it is less likely to exploit for consumers in berns of price per kilo-wats. However, or the government is less likely to tun the titm as efficiently as the private firm as efficiently as the private firm as it does not have the inequality to maximize profits.



This answer discusses briefly the introduction of a price cap achieving Level 2-. The evaluation is very thin, L1ev-. Another method implied is nationalisation but there is a lack of application. The evaluation this time achieves L2e-. Overall the response achieves Level 2- (4 KAA) and L2Ev- (3EV) = 7/15 marks.

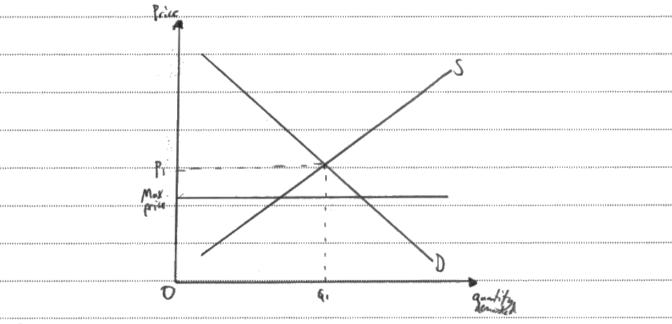


Try to ensure your chains of reasoning are developed with application and economic ideas, diagrams can help with this even when not requested.

(e) Discuss methods of government intervention to protect consumers within the utilities markets, such as energy and telecommunications.

(15)Government intervation is when the government intervances in market in order to ensure a more expirient allocation improve expiciency or to

One method of government intervention to protect consumers in willy market could be information compagns. telecommunications market Occom is said to help consiner shop orand More Considence. When Consumers have the margin polices have the apportants to change a higher price for a good newsery. This leads to a gall in the marginal consiner pains and consumes are said This louls to a call in consumer velgare. The government hondon's and magazines to consumes in order the tolecomunications market or they all available deals including compensars. This will give consumes letter Knowledge and after them to choose the test passible deal so the willing rise in comprime nelsare, towar, consumes The exact to learn more tolls since tepayoural oconomics for the easy way out that so sutspices their shart term needs. This will men that it is a waste of government revenue Another method of government intervention is to implement a maximum price ion be implemented by the government in order to protect consumers for long charged too high of a price.



The diagram shows a maximum price. The price must be set below the feet market equilibrium in order to have any impact. In the energy market this can be implemented to cap the prices of gos and electricity which will some II million howehold up to \$100 a year. This is consumer veloce, consumer also have additional disposable mame. However, whilst a price cap is a more reliable method of potential consumers it may lead to unintended consumers. It can reduce competition since energy suppliers don't have the same mativation as their projets are limited to an extent, the full in revenue will also lead to less innovation and a fall in

dynamic essilières, all os which may make consumos



This is a well-written answer to this question, particularly in terms of logical and coherent chains of reasoning in both KAA and Evaluation. The first one focuses on information campaigns (L3+) and the second on a maximum price (L3). Maximum prices could have been developed a little further for example identifying in the diagram the gain in consumer surplus. Therefore, overall this answer achieves Level 3 KAA and Level 3+ evaluation = 8 and 6ev = 14/15 marks.



Focus on quality rather than quantity. This answer is two pages in total yet still achieves very highly. Avoid a scattergun approach of discussing many methods.

Question 7

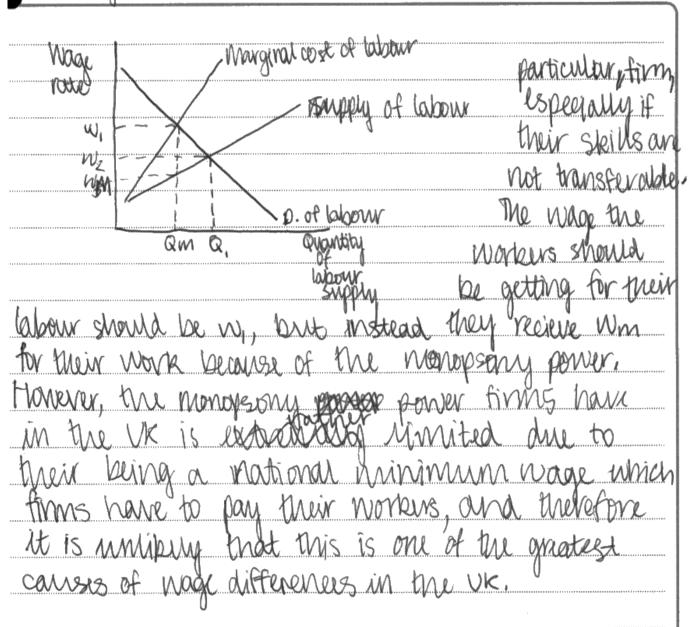
This question drew on candidate's knowledge from 5.5 Labour Markets and/or 3.4.6 Monopsony. An accurate drawing of the monopsony labour market diagram was not required and candidates who answered this well did so using solid chains of reasoning; for example, in the health industry with bilateral monopsony power disputes. Candidates who did well mainly focussed on one industry – with the health industry and from the stem – the entertainment industry – being common responses. Weaker candidates tended not to move beyond basic supply and demand analysis or spoke about discrimination but struggled to develop a line of reasoning beyond saying that women have babies and take breaks from work or choose part-time work. Question 7 was less popular than Question 8 and on the whole responses were not as strong.

7 In July 2017 it was announced that only a third of the BBC's 96 top earning presenters were women and that its seven highest-paid presenters were all men.

According to the High Pay Centre, in 2018, UK chief executives can earn 120 times more than the average full-time worker earning £28 758.

With reference to an industry of your choice, evaluate why wage differences exist within the UK labour market.

chosen question number: Question 7 (A) Question 8 (A)
Wage differences might exist within a UK labour market
because a firm within a labour mannet might
Mare monopsony power meaning most men are
able to squeeze wages down more man other
firms within the same industry. This means is
because they are one of the sou bulyers of that kind
of labour and therefore workers don't really have
anywhere we else to work apair from that



One reason mogets differences exist is because of the education and training it requires you to receive approve and that requires more qualifications, such as the Medic industry, is likely to pay a lot more as the extrainconces needs to ast as an inentire to remark feeple for their hard work, However, it is possible to more against this ley saying that becoming a medic is considered

a vocational job and truvetime the money does not really need to be present in order for people to consider the job.

The might work that there are may differences in the leonomy because of the growing big evonomy in which workers are not required to be paid the minimum wage as it is based on how many things you do, for example, with when then you would be paid based on how many things you have given. This means that here are quite large wage differences daily as your informed would defend on the amount of when this demanded on that any, However, to while damed this explains small wage differences it doesn't explain the larger ones.

To conclude, the most conjuling factor 4 not alsombes. Why have one was differences is the fact that different levels of education are required for different jobs and membre vigner wages alt as an incentive for people to work hard and get these jobs. From a doctor might choice not to take up a job if it pays too witte.



This answer has many relevant reasons for wage differences. Initially the monopsony reason is theoretically well-structured, but it lacks an industry focus – achieving L3 and L2ev. Education and training are not sufficiently developed to achieve higher than L2 and L2e. Uber raises a relevant point from the specification on current labour market issues surrounding the gig economy and achieves L3 and L1e-. There is some attempt to provide a judgement at the end. Overall the response is awarded L3 (11KAA) and L2ev (5EV) = 16/25 marks.



Question 7

Less is more. Spend a little time planning to focus on one industry with reasons that are fully developed with as many chains of reasoning as possible. This will allow you to achieve much higher marks than simply writing down as many different points as you can think of. Evaluation can draw on examples from other industries.

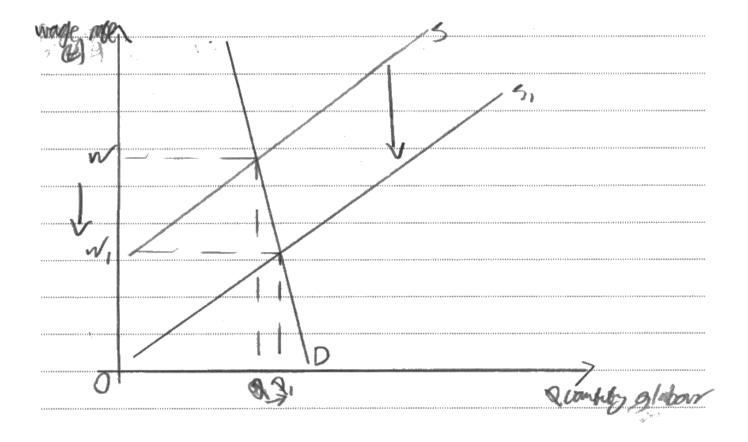
Question 8

Chosen question number: One reason you the disperences in wo UT labour market is swe to a Averal to nanchesper united. is and 6360,000 a week which is gow above

He nedian ways jugust on the EDL. Mis is because his MITP is substantially higher than most other EDL poolballers. Mits falent and personge means that he will bring in more revenue than cost sould be tworth shirt sales for example or through sconny goals that will help Manchesser Umbed to win the EPL and the Substantial prize money that comes with it. Players who play you clubs wither sown the Fol table as burn as som Burnley are likely to carn lest as they are generally been stilled and bring m les revenue blande Burnley is a less popular beam than nancheiser United hence booksmy a smaller purbase. Mis nearls that a zomley signing will not generate as much revene in your sales for example as the jambase (it potential buyers) is smaller, However, thus may be beneficial to both the the player in part, when the player is part, the more likely it is that he will be manentied to work harder to wasy is vage, Mis may result in improved stills amongso players in the top is closes which will make the supply of labour more wage melayou. Mis con be benegual to the consumer of poolball (ie slason buket hoders) as they will see an improvement in the performance of their beam. Furthermore, lower ranked side players will be attroubed by these high wages hence also beloming

a club who will oper a higher wage.

Another reason for the wage dyperence in the Un labour market is the wage classicity of supply and demand. Demand you labour is a derived demand and in the pot jobballing industry, there is more consumer demand got ment poolball in comparison to womens soobball. Since demand for news soobball is ingh, bemand for labour in this market will also be ligh. Firthermore, pos demand for mens poolall (je season tuketi ek) is price melassic which means that the more elected demand you labour is likely to be worse melassic. AS the domainst for Whis means that demand for labour is not very responsive to a change in the wage rate. Merejose, on EPI clubs demand more lakow, the enough of lakow will miseage.



As the coppy of labour miscases, the vage ate salls from w to W. And may seem significant but the supply of labour for men's poolfallers is littlely to be wage melasoic given the bough stills required to will at the projection. Women's poolfall, on the other hand is considered less skilled hence these players will earn lover wages. Furthermore, demand for wanners poolfall is comfaratively for to mens.

Werepore there is a wage difference the finder in the markey theorem, whis curse are being prompted regulated for spending over large amont on provision sees and wages. Manuscoer city many not play in the Champions league not sees and water has sees and wages.

Export of not adherent to junancial jaw play when here he moved that these is marked july and it could be moverabled that these is marked july and in the source of the last 5 years as governing bodies que known's poolball more attention. Women's poolball now has a world up and champion's poolball now has a world up and the large on, the wage suprepries between genders in this mursey may before a steady in the markey may before a steady the correspond to the men's game.

Fased on the evidence, wase superences exist in the labour market for top just goodball players due to consumer demand. We refuse of demand wants that there is heavy reliance on jordball jampases and mont layally too example, y supported use to suddenly smith from supporting the men's to the want of some way and distributed for the want of the superior of the men's to the want.



The football industry as a context is dealt with richly in terms of precise economic knowledge and understanding using appropriate examples. The first reason achieves L4KAA and L2 evaluation. The second reason regarding wage elasticity is awarded L3+ KAA mainly for the content on the third page, whereas the fourth page becomes a little unclear. The evaluation of this reason is solid and is awarded L3+. There is some judgement towards the end. Overall the candidate achieves L4- (13KAA) and L3- ev(7EV) = 20/25 marks.

Question 8

This question was more popular than question 7 with better responses overall. After the truck industry, taken from the stem, supermarkets were the next most common industry, along with the airline and finance industry. The better responses made excellent use of game theory, with an accurate in context pay off matrix, commonly used to illustrate the temptation to collude and to break away. Price rigidity, limit pricing and controlling supply (cartels) were discussed too. Many good candidates linked this to low PED and raising revenue. Some candidates stayed in context, explaining that the high costs of conforming to emission regulation made it necessary. Evaluation was commonly about being caught and fined by the CMA. Stronger candidates illustrated the need for trust and fewer firms for this to work well.

In October 2017 Scania, the Volkswagen-owned truck maker, was fined €880 million (£771 million) by the European Commission for colluding with five other truck manufacturers over a 14-year period. The firms had agreed to coordinate prices after experiencing additional costs of meeting emission regulations.

With reference to an industry of your choice, evaluate why some firms engage in collusive behaviour.

(Total for Question 8 = 25 marks)

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box . If you change your mind, put a line through the box \boxtimes and then indicate your new question with a cross \boxtimes .

Question 8 Chosen question number: Question 7 to digophy is a married uneraby there are a few large firms that dominate of have large market chare (the 5-firm concentration ratio is usually > 60.1.) In the UK, the supermarket industry is an eigner abourde of an algophy with the top & firms being texcook's, Samsbury - is of orda. In an aigopolitric market, commion is likely to happen as from who to got more stake long run posite, to decrease competition or to gain more name

Share (Musion can either be Tack (proseedomient informall commission) or it can be one (a prostell commission from such as two Oil browning & expanding Commission OPEC). Oligoponies also have trie rigidity & can fall proy to frode wan which in both give pursue reason for any for the contral.

Firsty, tast collesion usually occurs through price leadening when I firm within the oligopy choses a price and other follow. This tokes shown as the point Re Qe, the kink of the demand outer curre. Tack convenion Price through price leaderthip wakes an digopy Lave vigid prices as the profit warrians log MC2 level of out put remains at le Qe, Inchestive of a change P2 marghal with YOU MC, to MC. 00 02 0,

Additionally revenue is also maximized as raising for price to P, will moon mean a drop in the unnonces as individual from has from Oe to O, at in an digopoly, the arthough there is a degree of product origination, goods are unally close and up substitutes. Dual they a have a positive value of XED of the amand nope before the king is

meaning a rice in price will course agall in vewerter. alastic. Additionally, if a firm decreases their prices to P2, they will suffer a decline in revenue as quantity increases proportionally less to Qz as firm will engage in a price war as every firm drops their pries, which in the long run looses profits for all fine there two makes weally remains pable as le de fu example q this is the music streaming services that are becoming successful across the wastern would such as storing & Apple Misic & Tidal All Areaning services, toled bythe market's first fine stary epolity, charge 210 per month for their Jennicas, although no over adhuston has occurred In this market firms have tacitly collided as most penneng pelsuel tramus vent good or truck of propos because any changes in price would aguar a net was a customer causing a reduction in pion or # prost (so if Appele pay charged £ 11.50, and of their customer would switch to Spatify.)

However, task collision may no always & be benefitial
to all atta economic agants. Spority, the prop leader,
charging £10 a martin my started to make abnormal
profite in 2017, due to the light vegulatory can att
the meric liscensing industry. Thus, always the
hautes has trayed price rigid, the profitability of this
price may the only be gleat in the longer on at firms legin

to expand and explif economies of scale-this may in rum

coult in 890: put increased market power and ability to

macroust firm of yet an their posts. Addit anally, pice

leadership may true through prior from out of the market

kincrease bencesto entry as that night prior of the new

the create energy posts motive for a firm to enter, thus

decreasing the market solution and have competim

which may regatively except the common.

Ovat converion between 2 fine (for example Scania and 1 ofuer vehicle transpacturer) can be demonstrated a prisoner's dilemna Game Theory natrix.

***************************************		Scaria	In this gituation,	
		(00 m	50m	it scansa and
	100	figur reson	£500, £160	From 8 decide to
Firm _	I W	£0.5%, £0.5%		notice production
В				unilaterally to
:	SOM	floor, £5 br	Ebbn, Ebbn	500 trucks, they
,				born will gar
		a.al	,	4

popts of floor of arive as a North Equilibrium. In this struction, the form will adopt the VEK are so shoot.

Attraction, the the formand the vary product for to 50 m can, as may avoid the work orteine of my £0.5 bn in profits. The wash equilibrium discursed will probably anse in the lagran when over counting occur very quickly which is difficult due to government.

population on anti-competitive Market Cohamor, such

Dospite turs, firms may choose not to engage & are A colluion due to difficulties communicatings some as without getting cought, as the CMA in the Uk may be watching their actions very closely. Additionally, if firms output is hard to measure in (ie in the services industry) of may be & harder to avery could then in the car manufacturing industry traverer, firm may decide that the penalty or gotting caught is analyn to disincentives collusion, for example The Ane on Scania in 2017 by the European Commision Moreover, This may be antwerqued by the except a norman operating cots & regulatory burden already per in the industry driving from to collede anyway, like the "additional costs of meeting emmissions regulations" in the case study.

Overall, fine we ally choose to collecte to pertical
complisher and make achieving projet maximisation
levels easier which entering a bitter trade var.
The garenment due in the UK do a good jab of
determing such behaviour, however the high requision
costs of tax beinden many fine face in the UK

dive them to take part in over believer, whether is be



The candidate starts with identifying the supermarket industry as prone to collusion given its oligopolistic structure. The kinked demand curve, whilst outside the mark scheme as it is not on the specification, is explained well and moves on to discuss the music streaming industry to a Level 4 standard. The evaluation of this is sophisticated and in context, achieving L3ev. Game theory is then applied to the truck industry – the pay-off matrix is wrong and the reason for collusion is not fully explained – achieving L3- KAA. However, the evaluation is well written – achieving L3ev. The conclusion adds a little judgement. Overall the response achieves L3 KAA (11) and L3ev (8EV) = 19/25 marks.



For a Level 4 response, candidates must refer to a specific industry in their answer. You must ensure that most of your response is focussed on one industry.

Remember a judgement is expected to get the very top marks for evaluation on the 25 mark question.

8 In October 2017 Scania, the Volkswagen-owned truck maker, was fined €880 million (£771 million) by the European Commission for colluding with five other truck manufacturers over a 14-year period. The firms had agreed to coordinate prices after experiencing additional costs of meeting emission regulations.

With reference to an industry of your choice, evaluate why some firms engage in collusive behaviour.

(Total for Question 8 = 25 marks)

Indicate which question you'are answering by marking a cross in the box ⋈. If you change your mind, put a line through the box \boxtimes and then indicate your new question with a cross \boxtimes .

Chosen question number:				
There are	two form	15 of a	all vsigs.	Overt,
which happe	ns whe	n. there	15 a for	mal agreened
to price fix,				
behind-the-	scenes'	ogreene	it to pr	ice fix. Both
methods are il	legal as	the limi	Framp	elition and
methods are ill are Mor in the	Dest 11	terest o	f the co	nsomer

Firms may collude because there is a rig in price in an eligopoly.

prices to attact consumers. Furthermore, firms may colle agree upon controlling costper MC MA alput and Aldie could decide of between the supermarket firms to gain

50M



The first reason concerns interdependence and price rigidity but lacks context and the depth of the previous candidate's response thus achieving a borderline L2+/L3. The evaluation does link to the supermarket industry but is limited - E1+/L2-. Supermarkets collude to obtain spatial monopolies again could do with more theoretical explanation to achieve a secure Level 3 and the evaluation is judged as Level 2ev-. Finally, the sugar industry is used with a correctly drawn pay-off matrix but the candidate does not use the matrix well in their written explanation – again securing a borderline L3/L2. Overall the candidate achieves L3- (9 KAA) and L2ev- (4EV) = 13/25 marks.



Less is more. Focus on providing answers that are fully developed in context with as many chains of reasoning as possible.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Ensure you carefully study and understand the entire specification understanding of price elasticity of supply and monopsony was weaker than it should have been. Be aware of all definitions in the Specification.
- Be aware of all formulae and quantitative skills as explained in the Specification. Ensure you can interpret statistical data and understand what it means, for example in calculating percentage changes.
- When drawing diagrams remember to ensure they are clear and have all appropriate annotations.
- Bad handwriting was evident at times and needs to be addressed to ensure it does not happen under timed exam conditions to ensure candidates answers are clear and easy to follow.
- Remember to keep your answers within the space provided. If you run out of space, which was common in Section B, you can use the additional sheets provided at the end of the essay or should ask for additional paper and clearly indicate which question you are writing about.
- Read the question instructions very carefully to make sure your answer remains relevant. Pause and think through your response – evidence of planning is not required but a lack of a coherent structure tends to result in a failure to provide a fully integrated response to achieve top level KAA. Quality over quantity.
- Clearly identify which essay you have chosen by placing a cross in the correct box.
- Ensure you answer the precise question you have been set, for example in the essays if you have been asked to refer to an industry of your choice make sure you do that.
- Spend time studying current developments in economics that are relevant to your specification. This not only enriches your understanding of key concepts but will enable you to refer to an industry or a firm of your choice if asked in an essay.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx