

Paper Reference 9EC0/01
Pearson Edexcel
Level 3 GCE

Total Marks

Economics A
Advanced
Paper 1: Markets and Business Behaviour

Monday 18 May 2020 – Morning

Time: 2 hours plus your additional time allowance.

In the boxes below, write your name, centre number and candidate number.

Surname					
Other names					
Centre Number					
Candidate Number					

X62360A

You do not need any other materials.

YOU WILL BE GIVEN

Data Book

INSTRUCTIONS

There are three sections in this Question Paper. Answer ALL questions from Section A and Section B. Answer ONE question from Section C

Answer the questions in the spaces provided in this Question Paper or in the Data Book – there may be more space than you need.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 100

The marks for EACH question are shown in brackets – use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.

Calculators may be used.

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.

Check your answers if you have time at the end.

SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions are multiple choice. Write the letter(s) of your chosen answer(s) in the box(es) provided.

You are advised to spend 30 minutes plus some of your additional time allowance on this section.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

1. **Fuel duty is an excise tax imposed on the sale of petrol, included in the price paid by consumers, set at 58 pence per litre.**

(Source: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-on-shopping/fuel-duty>)

- (a) **Refer to the diagram for Question 1(a) in the Data Book.**

Draw a supply and demand diagram to show the incidence of a specific petrol tax on consumers and producers.

(4 marks)

(continued on the next page)

1. continued.

(b) The indirect tax on fuel is increased in a market in which the price elasticity of demand is -0.1 . Which ONE of the following is the most likely effect on consumer and producer surplus?

- A** Consumer surplus and producer surplus both decrease
- B** Consumer surplus and producer surplus both increase
- C** Consumer surplus decreases and producer surplus increases
- D** Consumer surplus increases and producer surplus decreases

Answer

(1 mark)

(Total for Question 1 = 5 marks)

Turn over

2. The external benefits of higher education include increased tax revenue, faster economic growth, greater innovation and labour market flexibility.

(Source adapted from:

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/higher-education-its-good-for-you-and-society/2008681.article#survey-answer>)

- (a) Refer to the diagram for Question 2(a) in the Data Book.

Draw an externalities diagram to show the likely impact of the consumption of higher education.

(4 marks)

(continued on the next page)

2. continued.

(b) On average, in the UK, a working-age graduate earns approximately **£10 000** more per year than a non-graduate.

(Source adapted from: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/701720/GLMS_2017.pdf)

This suggests a university degree provides a substantial

A external benefit

B external cost

C private benefit

D social cost

Answer (1 mark)

(Total for Question 2 = 5 marks)

Turn over

3. The EU tradable pollution permits scheme is expected to become more effective by 2020, due to recent reductions in the number of tradable pollution permits.

(Source adapted from: https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/ets_en)

- (a) Explain ONE likely effect of reducing the number of tradable pollution permits.

(4 marks)

Answer lines continue on the next page.

3. (a) continued.

(continued on the next page)

3. continued.

(b) Regulation of firms that pollute is likely to be a problem because it

- A** allows firms to use price signals
- B** creates unintended consequences
- C** fills information gaps for businesses
- D** means lower administrative costs

Answer

(1 mark)

(Total for Question 3 = 5 marks)

4. continued.

(b) At output levels greater than Z , which ONE of the following correctly identifies what will happen to the cost?

	Average fixed cost	Average variable cost	Marginal cost
A	Falls	Falls	Rises
B	Falls	Rises	Rises
C	Rises	Rises	Falls
D	Rises	Rises	Rises

Answer

(1 mark)

(continued on the next page)

Turn over

5. Refer to the information for Question 5 in the Diagram Book.

(a) Explain ONE likely reason why this business has remained small.

(2 marks)

(continued on the next page)

5. continued.

(b) Explain why the previous expansion of this business could be described as 'organic growth'.

(2 marks)

(continued on the next page)

5. continued.

(c) Assume 'Bettys' merges with a major tea leaf supplier. Which ONE of the following is most likely to be an advantage as a result of this merger?

- A External economies of scale will increase efficiency
- B Greater control to lower prices of tea
- C Industrial diversification increases risks
- D Lower monopoly power in the café market

Answer

(1 mark)

(Total for Question 5 = 5 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS

Turn over

SECTION B

Read Figures 1, 2 and 3 and extracts A and B in the Data Book before answering Question 6.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

You are advised to spend 1 hour plus some of your additional time allowance on this section.

6. The UK Rail Industry

- (a) Refer to Figure 1. Explain the likely effect of the change in subsidy levels between **2017** and **2018** on rail fares.

Include a supply and demand diagram in your answer.

There are blank axes on pages 15 and 16 in the Data Book if you wish to use them.

(5 marks)

- (b) With reference to Figure 2, examine **TWO** possible factors which may have influenced demand for rail travel since **2008**
- (8 marks)

(continued on the next page)

6. continued.

(c) Assess whether complete nationalisation of the rail industry might protect employees.

(10 marks)

(d) With reference to Extract A, paragraph 3, discuss whether the rail network can be considered to be a natural monopoly.

(12 marks)

(e) Discuss the likely benefits of price discrimination to rail passengers. Use a diagram to support your answer.

(15 marks)

(continued on the next page)

6. (a) continued.

(continued on the next page)

6. (b) continued.

(continued on the next page)

SECTION C

Answer ONE question from this section.

Write your answer in the space provided.

You are advised to spend 30 minutes plus some of your additional time allowance on this section.

EITHER

7. The International Energy Agency has predicted that oil use by cars will peak in **2025** because of the increasing number of drivers switching to electric vehicles.

(Source adapted from: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk>)

Evaluate the likely microeconomic consequences of consumers shifting from vehicles powered by fuel obtained from oil to electric-powered vehicles.

(Total for Question 7 = 25 marks)

OR

8. 'Amazon.com, the giant online retailer, has too much power.' It uses its market power to put a squeeze on publishers, in effect driving down the prices it pays for books. If a publisher refuses, Amazon may take action by 'delaying their delivery, raising their prices, and steering customers to other publishers'.

(Source adapted from: <https://www.nytimes.com>)

Evaluate the likely costs of a monopsony operating in a market such as book retailing.

(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 and then indicate your new question with a cross.

Chosen question number:

Question 7

Question 8

Answer lines continue on the next fourteen pages.

Section C continued.

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 25 MARKS

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 100 MARKS

END OF PAPER
