

Economics Higher Level 2013

Paper structure

Total marks 400

Section A: 100 marks

Within this section students must answer 6 questions out of 9 potential questions. Questions carry either 16/17 marks each.

Section B: 300 marks

In this section students must answer 4 questions out of 8. All questions carry 75 marks.

Timing

Total exam time is two and a half hours; please use the following as a guide to answering the paper on the day.

9.30-9.40: Read through exam paper, highlighting/underlining the questions that suit you best. Once you have decided upon your questions, you will feel more confident to begin the exam.

9.40-10.10: Complete six of the nine questions within Section A. Ensure you are assured that these

six questions are well answered and developed.

10.10-10.40: Within this time frame, answer your 1st question from Section B, ensure this question is the one that you feel you are confident in, as this will lead to a more optimistic view when answering the other three questions.

10.40-11.05: Complete your 2nd question of your choice in Section B, as you complete questions your writing speed should increase.

11.05-11.30: Complete your 3rd question of your choice in Section B, ensuring you have answered all parts.

11.30- 11.55: Complete your 4th question of your choice in Section B.

11.55-12.00: Use the final few minutes to read back over your work and correct any areas that need it.

General Guidelines/ Tips

Revision

Each area of Economics should be revised daily for short periods of time. Setting a revision timetable is of paramount importance, use each week to focus on a certain section. This will allow for increased learning to take place as students will not get tired from monotonous revision periods. Study your areas of weakness in the earlier stages of your revision, as this will be more effective study. It is important to test yourself at regular intervals instead of reading and re-reading notes. Tests can include practising past exam questions.

Section A

Section A is 25% of the total paper. In order to prepare for this section, students should ensure they know all their definitions and formulae. Some questions within this section of the paper are multiple choice and students are thus capable of obtaining maximum marks from these questions. Many short questions are repeat-

ed from one year to the next so it is worth the student's time practising Section A past questions in order to achieve the best grades. Your best six questions will be graded so answer as many questions as you can. If answering a short question which includes a workings section, you must always show your workings and be able to explain your answer appropriately.

Section B

This section needs to be read carefully, highlight the content that stands out to ensure you are completing the question correctly. Generally this Section is based on 3 questions from the Micro section, 3 questions from the Macro Section and two topical questions. It is not advised that students revise the Macro or Micro section only, as an exam question worth 75 marks may include parts from both sections. The Micro section may include Demand/Supply, Market Structure, Elasticity and/or Costs. When it comes to Market Structures, ensure you have knowledge of all the structures as comparing two or more structures seems to appear in the most of the recent papers. Bullet point answer is preferred, as this prevents you from duplicating points.

Practising Questions

Practise answering ques-

tions within the time allowed is essential. For the Marco and topical questions, you need to use to ensure critical thinking is involved and ensure you analyse the questions to ensure you thoughts are expressed clearly. For the Micro section questions, students must ensure they have a very good knowledge of diagrams, and that they are labelled clearly so it is visible for the examiner. An adequate

explanation after a diagram is essential to obtain maximum points. Most answers should contain four to six well established points in order to ensure you have covered all key areas.

Final Note

If an examiner receives a paper that is easy to read (Red biro state and blue/black explain), clearly labelled and well presented this may improve your chances of enhancing your grade.



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Parental Advice Sheet, Leaving Certificate Economics:

At this time of year the Mocks are fast approaching or complete and the deadline for the June exam is impending. It is at this time that parents can really aid their stressed out children. Not only can parents help out in terms of supervision, they can also prepare students in the following ways:

- When it comes to Economics, throughout the year parents can assist their children's learning by ensuring they are **listening to topical radio programmes** on their route to school and home again. This will allow them to unknowingly take in the world of they live in and assist them to comprehend certain economic situations.
- Also as a parent, you can ensure the **Business section of the broadsheet's** that you buy, especially on a Sunday, are left in your child's room so that they can take interest in the world of Economics in their own time. Another route a parent may wish to consider is bringing up **general/topical news stories** relating to Economics so that they can start a conversation regarding these points.
- It is so important that students can see their parents taking an interest in their line of study. Remember Economics is **not just** for the Leaving Certificate, many students pursue this field of study within **further education**.
- It is also important to ensure your child has a **PLAN** in order to give the Economics their best shot. Ensure you promote their learning by tackling their definitions and formulae's as these need to be flawless to obtain full marks within this subject.