



**Cambridge International Examinations**  
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

**ECONOMICS**

**0455/11**

Paper 1 Multiple Choice

**October/November 2018**

**45 minutes**

Additional Materials: Multiple Choice Answer Sheet  
Soft clean eraser  
Soft pencil (type B or HB is recommended)

\* 6 7 3 9 5 4 2 2 7 4 \*

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write in soft pencil.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number on the Answer Sheet in the spaces provided unless this has been done for you.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

There are **thirty** questions on this paper. Answer **all** questions. For each question there are four possible answers **A, B, C** and **D**.

Choose the **one** you consider correct and record your choice in **soft pencil** on the separate Answer Sheet.

**Read the instructions on the Answer Sheet very carefully.**

Each correct answer will score one mark. A mark will not be deducted for a wrong answer.

Any rough working should be done in this booklet.

This document consists of **10** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

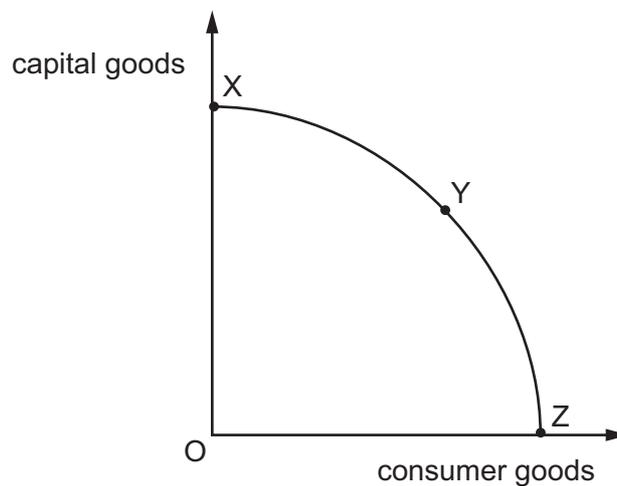
1 Which factor of production involves risk-taking?

- A capital
- B enterprise
- C labour
- D land

2 What is the basic problem facing all economies?

- A how to achieve a stable balance of payments
- B how to maximise tax revenues
- C how to reach full employment
- D how to use scarce resources

3 The diagram shows the production possibility curve (PPC) for an economy.



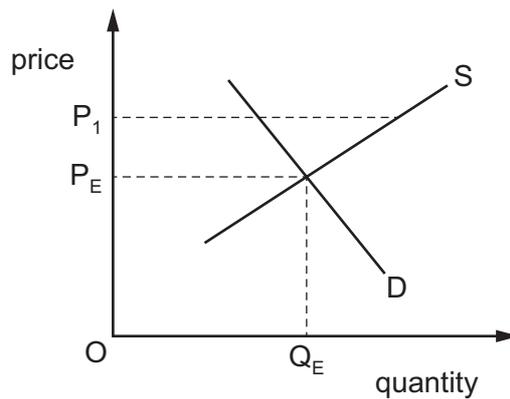
What will happen to the opportunity cost of producing more units of consumer goods in terms of capital goods as the economy moves down its PPC from point X to point Z?

- A It will decrease continuously from point X to point Z.
- B It will decrease up to point Y and then increase towards point Z.
- C It will increase continuously from point X to point Z.
- D It will increase up to point Y and then decrease towards point Z.

- 4 An economy operates entirely as a market system.

Which type of service would **not** be provided in such an economy?

- A commercial banking services
  - B free government health services
  - C private educational services
  - D profitable retail services
- 5 The diagram shows the equilibrium market price  $P_E$  and quantity  $Q_E$  for rice in a country.



Which government action could cause the market price for rice to become  $P_1$ ?

- A encouraging the export of rice from the country
  - B imposing a maximum price below the market price for rice
  - C providing a subsidy to farmers to produce more rice
  - D reducing import tariffs on rice
- 6 A major highway has been built at a cost of US\$175 million between Nairobi, Kenya and its suburbs. This reduces travel time and increases safety, but there are environmental problems for small enterprises along its route.

Who bears the external costs of this project?

- A the authorities who paid for the highway
- B the commuters who travel to work in Nairobi
- C the construction companies that built the highway
- D the small enterprises along the route

- 7 The table shows the demand and supply for spices in a market in Africa.

| price per kg (US\$) | quantity demanded (kg) | quantity supplied (kg) |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 10                  | 50                     | 10                     |
| 20                  | 40                     | 20                     |
| 30                  | 30                     | 30                     |
| 40                  | 20                     | 40                     |

When the price rises from US\$20 to US\$30 per kg, what is the price elasticity of demand (PED) for spices?

- A 0.25                      B 0.5                      C 1.0                      D 2.0
- 8 What is a function of a central bank?
- A collecting taxes  
 B issuing currency  
 C providing bank accounts for individuals  
 D setting foreign trade tariffs
- 9 What is **most** likely to increase the total output of a firm in the short run?
- A a rise in the length of the working day  
 B a rise in the number of days holiday  
 C a rise in the school leaving age  
 D a rise in unemployment payments
- 10 What will make it harder for a trade union to increase the wage rate for its members, without reducing employment?
- A a switch from short-term to long-term fixed contracts of employment  
 B an increase in the number of substitutes for the product  
 C growth in an economy and increased demand for labour  
 D lower price elasticity of demand for the product

- 11 What is likely to assist a government's policy of reducing inflation?
- A allowing businesses to borrow money for longer periods
  - B encouraging the public to spend more money
  - C increasing lending to members of the public
  - D raising the interest rate on credit card borrowing
- 12 Which international market is closest to the model of perfect competition?
- A diamonds
  - B foreign currency
  - C petrol (fuel)
  - D washing machines
- 13 Which form of production would be **least** likely to have the advantages of economies of scale?
- A car manufacturing
  - B commercial cereal farming
  - C handmade jewellery
  - D refining of oil products
- 14 The table shows a firm's average revenue and average cost at different levels of output.

When all output is sold, which level of output gives maximum profit?

|          | output (units) | average revenue (US\$) | average cost (US\$) |
|----------|----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>A</b> | 5              | 10                     | 30                  |
| <b>B</b> | 10             | 20                     | 20                  |
| <b>C</b> | 15             | 25                     | 15                  |
| <b>D</b> | 20             | 30                     | 18                  |

- 15 Which statement about total fixed cost is correct?
- A It falls as output increases.
  - B It is calculated by adding total cost and total variable cost.
  - C It is calculated by dividing total cost by output.
  - D It must be paid even if output is zero.

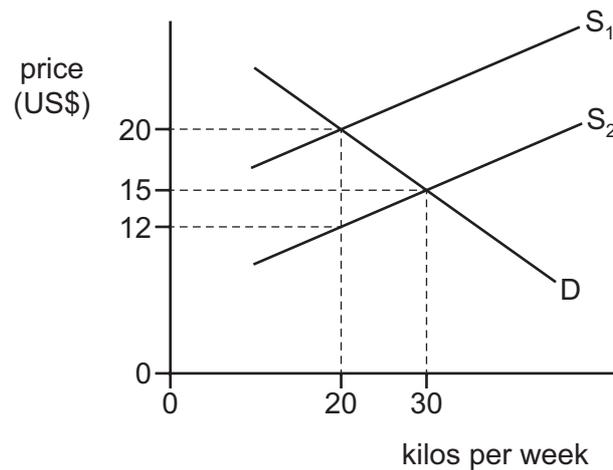
16 What is a disadvantage of direct taxes?

- A They can be a disincentive to work.
- B They can be based on people's ability to pay.
- C They can be a major source of tax revenue.
- D They can be progressive.

17 When is a government said to balance its budget?

- A when all goods and services are taxed equally
- B when economic growth is the same in all regions of the economy
- C when its total income equals its total expenditure
- D when total exports equal total imports

18 In the diagram, which level of subsidy per kilo would a government have to give to producers to encourage them to increase production from 20 kilos per week to 30 kilos per week?



- A US\$3 per kilo
- B US\$5 per kilo
- C US\$8 per kilo
- D US\$15 per kilo

- 19 In which case is success for the government in achieving the first aim likely to cause problems in achieving the second?

|          | first aim                  | second aim                       |
|----------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> | full employment            | price stability                  |
| <b>B</b> | high economic growth       | full employment                  |
| <b>C</b> | price stability            | stable balance of payments       |
| <b>D</b> | stable balance of payments | more even distribution of income |

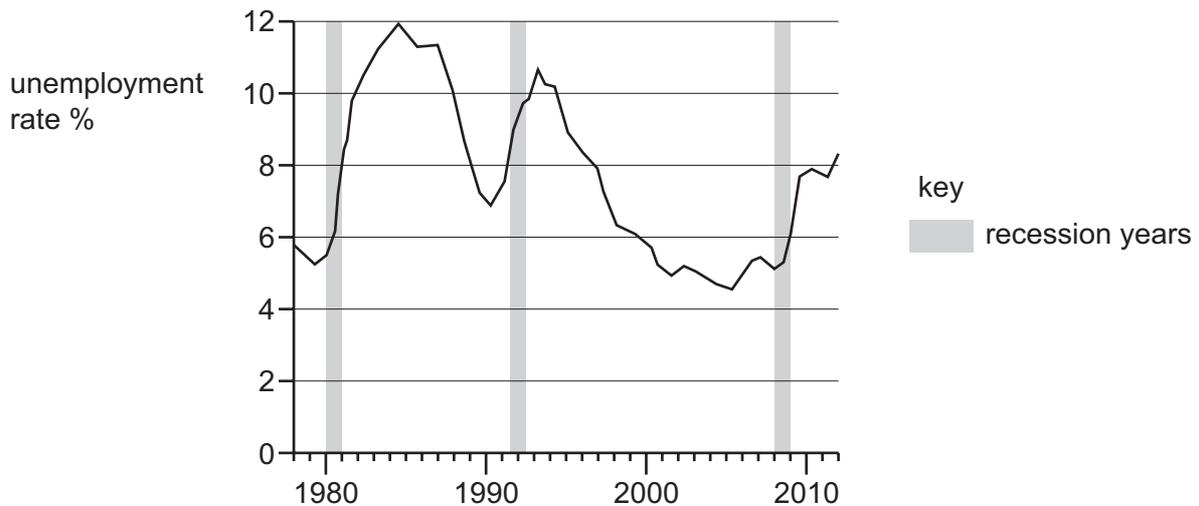
- 20 An increase in which economic indicator is usually taken as the measure of a country's economic growth?

- A** the balance of payments surplus
- B** the foreign exchange rate
- C** the government budget surplus
- D** the gross domestic product

- 21 What is used to measure inflation?

- A** the consumer prices index (CPI)
- B** the exchange rate
- C** the gross domestic product (GDP)
- D** the index of workers' wages

- 22 The diagram shows the rate of unemployment and the periods of recession in a country between 1978 and 2012.



What can be concluded from the diagram?

- A Each recession lasted for more than two years.  
 B Recessions occurred at regular intervals.  
 C The unemployment rate peaked in a recession period.  
 D The unemployment rate rose during recession periods.
- 23 A country experienced its usual August increase in the rate of unemployment. Unfortunately this was followed by the loss of jobs resulting from the regular downturn in global economic activity.

Which types of unemployment occurred?

|   | first type of unemployment (August) | second type of unemployment (global downturn) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| A | cyclical                            | structural                                    |
| B | frictional                          | seasonal                                      |
| C | seasonal                            | cyclical                                      |
| D | structural                          | frictional                                    |

- 24 Iran has recently experienced a natural increase in population.

What is the **most** likely cause of this increase?

- A Emigration exceeded immigration.  
 B Immigration exceeded emigration.  
 C The birth rate exceeded the death rate.  
 D The death rate exceeded the birth rate.

25 The table shows some economic indicators.

Which combination of indicators is most likely to represent a developed country?

|          | size of primary sector<br>(% of GDP) | birth rate<br>(births per 1000) | literacy rate<br>(% of population) |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> | 3                                    | 10                              | 98                                 |
| <b>B</b> | 3                                    | 22                              | 65                                 |
| <b>C</b> | 27                                   | 32                              | 56                                 |
| <b>D</b> | 33                                   | 35                              | 70                                 |

26 Developing countries are sometimes given aid by charities and foreign governments.

Which aid programme would be **least** likely to lead to long-term economic growth?

- A** the building of an irrigation system
- B** the construction of a new airport
- C** the distribution of gifts of food
- D** the training of technical staff

27 What is a valid economic argument in favour of trade protection?

- A** It allows greater consumer choice.
- B** It encourages trade liberalisation.
- C** It helps support infant industries.
- D** It keeps prices lower.

28 What is **most** likely to happen if South Korea builds a factory in Switzerland that becomes profitable?

- A** South Korea's imports of goods will decrease.
- B** South Korea's investment income will increase.
- C** Switzerland's trade balance in goods will worsen.
- D** Switzerland's trade balance in services will improve.

- 29 Which government policy is **most** likely to improve a country's balance of trade?
- A a decrease in direct taxation
  - B a decrease in the exchange rate
  - C a decrease in the level of tariffs
  - D an increase in government expenditure
- 30 The table shows the tariffs imposed on imported tropical fruit in the European Union (EU) according to the degree of processing.

|                               | EU tariffs<br>(% rate) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| fresh tropical fruit          | 8.0                    |
| canned tropical fruit         | 11.3                   |
| bottled tropical fruit drinks | 23.6                   |

What might be the reason for this pattern of tariffs?

- A to encourage imports of processed products into the EU
- B to encourage tropical countries' exports
- C to help manufacturing industries in the EU
- D to help tropical countries develop manufacturing industries

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