

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2016

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Subsidiary in Economics (WEC03) Paper 01 Business Behaviour



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General Marking Guidance

• All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.

• Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.

• Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.

• There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.

• All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.

• Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.

• When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.

• Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Section A: Essay questions

NB: Use levels based mark scheme (20 marks) to mark this section.

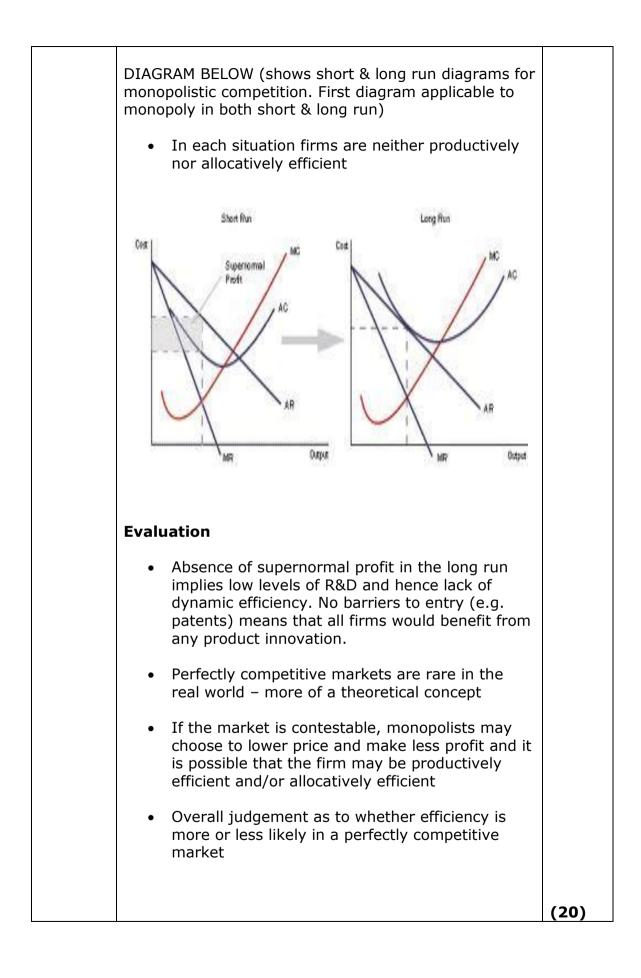
Question Number	Answer	Mark
N umber 1	 Indicative content Meanings of: Small businesses - may be based on market share, value of capital, annual revenue, number of employees etc. Finance - money used for further investment in the business Access to finance is limited because of: relatively small amount of retained profits banking sector may be less willing to lend - small firms perceived as higher risk due to lower value of assets small firms will have little or no opportunity to raise share capital on the open market (stock exchange) as not a PLC finance markets may be fragmented particularly in developing countries Other factors which constrain business growth The objectives of the owners/managers Owner(s) may pefer to remain within a market niche, offering personal customer service Lack of managerial skills The size and composition of the market Many other firms competing in the market Localised market, niche etc. 	

• • Evalu •	 The macroeconomic climate Slow growth or recession in the economy Low effective demand, low consumer purchasing power Future uncertainty in the economy – economic, political etc. High interest rates High inflation rates High unemployment rates High legal and administration costs, government bureaucracy, cuts on government spending etc. Lack of availability of skilled labour Iation: Difficult to assess whether access to finance is the most important constraint. 	
•	Business objectives likely to be a prime factor – depends on whether small business owner <i>wants</i> the business to grow or not In the short run, macroeconomic factors may be a key factor – economic growth forecasts, predictions for other economic indicators Government policy towards small businesses may play a vital role in promoting small	
	businesses – financial benefits, tax concessions, help & advice, pressure on banking sector to encourage small business growth	(20)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2	 Indicative content Definition of TNC - A company that has its facilities and other assets in at least one country other than its home country Possible advantages include: Access to more markets overseas Stronger brand recognition leading to increased 	
	 Insufficient demand in the domestic economy – reached saturation point – scope for greater sales and profits 	
	 More scope for economies of scale e.g. cost savings on R&D, transport economies, risk- bearing economies 	
	 Greater market power Average cost Average cost Indexect Take advantage of low-cost locations – labour costs, rent, land etc. leading to increased profit margins Gain a better understanding of markets, technology standards and policies in other countries 	
	 To avoid trade barriers Financial support may be available from overseas governments and other agencies to attract FDI Opportunity to obtain foreign currencies - gain interest, use in future transactions Major strategic decision - potentially positive impact on sales and profits and long term success Company may already be exporting, hence risks are lessened. 	

 Evaluation High capital costs Unfamiliarity with overseas markets/economies – laws, customs, tastes etc. May be risky Potential diseconomies of scale – co-ordination and communication issues Distinction between short and long run (benefits usually gained in the long run in relation to FDI) May meet with opposition from consumers, pressure groups and governments abroad 	
	(20)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
3	 Indicative content Definitions of efficiency – productive (lowest point of AC), allocative (p=MC) and dynamic (technical) Definition of perfect competition – conditions of model – large number of buyers & sellers, perfect information, identical product, no barriers to entry & exit As a consequence, firms are price takers – hence perfectly elastic demand Use of diagrams to show price and output levels for a firm in a perfectly competitive market. Allocative and productive efficiency in the short 	
	Price The INDUSTRY is the Costs & Revenue The SINGLE FIRM is MC april to analy in the LUMG KUM A ATC AR - MR	
	 Diagram of firm shows that, in the short run, the supra normal firm achieves allocative but not productive efficiency. In the long run all firms achieve both productive and allocative efficiency and make normal profit Comparison with monopoly/monopolistic competition (or possibly oligopoly) Definition of the selected market structure 	



Question Number	Answer	Mark
4	Indicative content	
	 Forms of government intervention to protect the interests of employees may include: Minimum wage legislation Equal opportunity laws – equal pay, anti-discrimination Employment rights – part-time employees' rights, maternity & paternity leave, holiday entitlements, redundancy etc. Health & safety laws and regulations 	
	 Pressure groups may include: Trade unions -bargaining over pay and working conditions Fairtrade Foundation – exposure of low wages & conditions for producers Charity-based organisations such as Oxfam & Christian Aid – campaigning for equal rights and fair pay. Exposure of child labour 	
	 Impact on business behaviour: Business objectives may alter - more emphasis on social responsibility In relation to legislation, businesses will need to conform with the law - may involve having to make adjustments/changes to current employment practices - e.g. rights for disabled workers, recruitment processes, changes to safety procedures, increase in wage rates Any of the above, plus pressure group activity, may lead to increased costs for businesses Impact of rising costs may be: businesses raise prices substitute capital for labour reduce profit margins relocate to lower cost economies May be a rise in business corruption, unofficial business activity to avoid tougher laws 	

Evaluation	
 Reputation of the business may be enhanced for those businesses which conform with the legislation and demand does not fall despite higher prices 	
 Legislation applies to competitors as well, so may be no loss of market share 	
 Depends on the extent of the change required – for some businesses the impact may be slight 	
 Rising costs may be offset by a rise in labour productivity due to improved pay/conditions/employment opportunities. Hence little or no rise in unit labour costs 	
 Depends on the power of trades unions in relation to employer organisations 	
 Depends on the influence of pressure group activities 	
 Depends on the extent to which laws and regulations are being enforced by the government 	
 Short term/long term impact on business behaviour 	(20)

Section A Questions: Performance Criteria for Mark base 20		
Level 0	0	No rewardable material
Level 1	1-4	 Displays knowledge presented as facts without awareness of other viewpoints Demonstrates limited understanding with little or no
		 Attempts at selecting and applying different economic
		 Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks
		organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present and the writing is generally unclear.
Level 2	5-8	 Displays elementary knowledge of well learnt economic facts showing a generalised understanding together with limited analysis i.e. identification of points or a very limited discussion Displays a limited ability to select and apply different economic ideas
		 Material presented has a basic relevance but lacks organisation, but is generally comprehensible. Frequent punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present which affects the clarity and coherence of the writing overall.
Level 3	9-12	 Displays knowledge and understanding of economic principles, concepts and theories as well as some analysis of issues i.e. answer might lack sufficient breadth and depth to be worthy of a higher mark Shows some ability to apply economic ideas and relate them to economic problems
		 Employs different approaches to reach conclusions Material is presented with some relevance but there are likely to be passages which lack proper organisation. Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present which affect the clarity and coherence.
Level 4	13-16	 Displays a good knowledge of economic principles, concepts and theories together with an analysis of the issues involved Demonstrates an ability to select and apply economic ideas and to relate them to economic problems Evidence of some evaluation of alternative approaches leading to conclusions Material is presented in a generally relevant and logical way, but this may not be sustained throughout. Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may be found which cause some passages to lack clarity or coherence.

Level 5	•	 Displays a wide range of knowledge of economic principles, concepts and theories together with a rigorous analysis of issues Demonstrates an outstanding ability to select and apply economic ideas to economic problems Evaluation is well balanced and critical leading to valid conclusions Material is presented in a relevant and logical way. Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may be found, but the writing has overall clarity and coherence.
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Section B: Data response

Question Number	Answer	Mark
5 (a)	Knowledge and Application (up to 4 marks)	
	Knowledge – up to 2 marks Define loss – TC greater than TR (2) Where sales revenue is insufficient to cover both fixed and variable costs (2) Any other valid definition (2) Application – up to 2 marks. Reason (1) + development (1) Lack of demand (1) due to competition (1) Rising variable costs (1) – if no compensating rise in revenue, loss has occurred (1) Rising wages based on years of service (1) Sony may have experienced rising fixed costs (1) – due to over-expansion for example (1) Sales target for smartphones cut by 14% (1) If similar sales cut across the company, then loss is likely (1) Any other valid response – up to 2 marks	(4)

Number Image: Number 5 (b) Image: Solution and analysis – indicative content Knowledge, application and analysis – indicative content • Expected reduction in smartphone sales of approx. 14%	12)
Knowledge, application and analysis – indicative content • Expected reduction in smartphone sales of approx. 14%	(12)
Expected reduction in smartphone sales of approx. 14%	
approx. 14%	
 Overall loss expected of approx. US\$486 million Drop in smartphone sales will cover variable, but not fixed cost - makes a contribution towards fixed costs An accurate diagram will include shift in revenue curves and show potential change in profit (loss) for Sony Content of the second structure of the se	

Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the impact of a fall in sales on profits. Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present and the writing is generally unclear.
2	4-6	Understanding of the impact of a fall in sales on profits with some application to context. Material is presented with some relevance but there are likely to be passages which lack proper organisation. Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present which affect the clarity and coherence.
3	7-8	Clear understanding of the impact of a fall in sales on profits or with effective application to context. Material is presented in a relevant and logical way. Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may be found, but the writing has overall clarity and coherence.

Evaluation	n – indica	ative content	
	۲ • ء ع	The impact may be serious if smartphones are a significant part of Sony's overall sales and/or the downward trend is replicated in other parts of the business	
	۱ r t	Can be withstood in the short run (covering /C), but not in the long run – unless Sony responds positively or there are changes in the market (higher demand, loss of competitors)	
		Changes in variable costs such as reducing wage costs may restore profitability	
	C	The 14% sales fall is in one division of the company – may not be replicated across other divisions	
	t	As a large TNC, Sony may be in a position to withstand losses for some considerable time	
	r	Sony's product innovation and its R & D may cause demand for its products to rise and restore profitability	
	a I	Workers/Trade unions may resist proposals and may lead to disruption, demotivation, oss of productivity and lead to further decline in profit	
Level	Marks	Descriptor	
0	0	No evaluative comments.	
1	1-2	For identifying evaluative comments without explanation.	
2	3-4	For evaluative comments supported by relever reasoning.	/ant

Question			Mark		
Number					
F (c)			(12)		
5 (c)	Knowledge, application and analysis – indicative content				
	 C p b C c q d C e d C e n C o C o C n n	ton and analysis – indicative content ompanies and co-operatives are all part of the rivate sector - non-government owned usinesses organisation. ompanies are owned by shareholders whereas o-operatives are owned by producers workers), consumers or members. hareholders more likely to desire high rofit/maximisation of profit. Shareholders end to want good returns in the form of ividend payments and a rising share price. to-operatives are likely to place a greater mphasis on meeting the needs of its nembers, e.g. improving living conditions for occa growers to-operatives may give a higher priority to ocial responsibility, e.g. environmental oncerns, community needs, providing mployment opportunities arge companies, like Sony, may have a tronger drive for growth compared with co- peratives which tend to be smaller to-operatives may be more collaborative with thers within its market (group together; xtract 2) tivorce of ownership from control in large rivate sector companies. This may not apply to cooperatives.			
Level	Marks	Descriptor			
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.			
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of business objectives Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or gra errors are likely to be present and the writing generally unclear.	s mmar is		
2	4-6	Understanding of different business objectives companies and co-operatives with some applic Material is presented with some relevance but likely to be passages which lack proper organi Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely present which affect the clarity and coherence	cation. there are sation. to be		
3	7-8	Clear understanding of different business obje large companies and co-operatives with effect application to context. Material is presented in a relevant and logical Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may found, but the writing has overall clarity and c	ive way. y be		

Evaluation	- indicat	ive content
	• M s o - B li i • U s p • L s • D p Candid	laking a profit is a key objective for <u>all</u> private ector organisations, (except not for profit rganisations). This may be: profit maximisation profit satisficing ut essentially it is no different for companies ke Sony & co-operatives nless co-operatives receive government upport, they can only survive if they make rofits arge companies, such as Sony, also have ocial responsibilities ifferences in objectives may be in relation to riority of importance ates may take either perspective for KAA e reverse perspective for evaluation.
Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	No evaluative comments.
1	1-2	For identifying evaluative comments without explanation.
2	3-4	For evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning.

Question		Mark
Number 5(d)		(12)
	e, application and analysis – indicative content	(12)
	Methods of intervention:	
	 Financial support – e.g. grants, subsidies, tax breaks, low-cost loans 	
	 Less regulation of co-operatives 	
	Local sourcing of raw materials	
	Legislation to support growth of co-operatives	
	Promotion/support of Fair Trade campaign	
	Barriers to entry of foreign firms	
	 Enables co-operatives to be in a better position to compete in the market. e.g. the impact of a subsidy will be to lower price and raise quantity bought and sold 	
	 Price falls from OP to Op1, Quantity rises from OQ to OQ1 	
	 Provides a source of employment – already over 5 million people employed in co-operatives in EU 	
	 Increased incomes – multiplier effect, growth in GNP, possible route out of poverty for developing economies 	
	 Rise in export income and a more internationally competitive economy 	

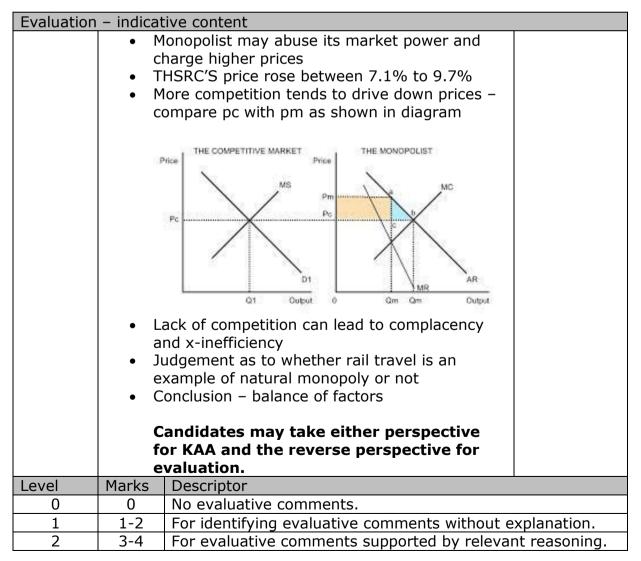
Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the impact of government
		support for co-operatives. Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present and the writing is generally unclear.
2	4-6	Understanding of the impact of government support for co-operatives, with some application to context. Material is presented with some relevance but there are likely to be passages which lack proper organisation. Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present which affect the clarity and coherence.
3	7-8	Clear understanding of the impact of government support for co-operatives, with effective application to context. Material is presented in a relevant and logical way. Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may be found, but the writing has overall clarity and coherence.

Evaluation	- indicat	tive content
	• C	Costs of government support
		hort term/long term impact – is support ustainable?
		opportunity costs – what may need to be pregone?
	• C	co-operative businesses tend to be small
	• S	 how effectively can they compete against TNC's? how efficient might they be? support may need to be across national oundaries (e.g. European scale – extract 2)
		he focus on social objectives may make o-operatives less internationally competitive
		epends on the nature and level of overnment support
		epends on the macroeconomic climate and rowth opportunities for co-operatives
Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	No evaluative comments.
1	1-2	For identifying evaluative comments without explanation.
2	3-4	For evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning.

Question Number	Answer	Mark
6 (a)	Knowledge and Application (up to 4 marks)	
	<pre>Knowledge - up to 2 marks: Define price elasticity of demand - the response of QD to a change in price (1) Formula for PED % change in QD/% change in P (1) Define inelastic demand - where the % change in QD is less than the % change in P (2) OR Define elastic demand - where the % change in QD</pre>	
	is more than the % change in P (2)	
	Incomplete definition (1)	
	Application up to 2 marks: Demand likely to be price inelastic (1) - following a rise in price, revenue was expected to increase for THSRC (1)	
	Reward diagram - inelastic demand - rise in revenue	
	1 I Demand 0 I I 0 3 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Quantity	(4)

Question		Mark
Number		(12)
6 (b)	application and analysis - indicative content	(12)
Knowledge	 application and analysis - indicative content Define monopoly - sole supplier or a firm with a very high market share THSRC - possibly a monopolist in relation to rail transport A monopolist may gain from economies of scale and pass those benefits on to consumers in the form of lower prices For example -technical economies of scale - high speed trains (increased dimensions); financial economies of scale - lower interest rates Minimum efficient size may be large with falling LRAC - productive efficiency (see diagram) Costs & for example -technical economies of scale - high speed trains (increased dimensions); financial economies of scale - lower interest rates Minimum efficient size may be large with falling LRAC - productive efficiency (see diagram) Costs & for example -technical economies of scale - lower interest rates THSRC may have a competitive advantage over smaller rail companies THSRC may be adopting a form of limit pricing or keeping its prices down to reduce the likelihood of new entrants, hit & run etc. Taiwan Government's competition policies and regulators may exert pressure on monopolies to provide value for money and keep prices down. The Government may even be subsidising the firm. 	

Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the potential financial
		benefits of monopoly to consumers. Material presented
		is often irrelevant and lacks organisation. Frequent
		punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be
		present and the writing is generally unclear.
2	4-6	Understanding of the potential financial benefits of monopoly to consumers with some application to context.
		Material is presented with some relevance but there are likely to be passages which lack proper organisation. Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present which affect the clarity and coherence.
3	7-8	Clear understanding of the potential financial benefits of monopoly to consumers with effective application to context. Material is presented in a relevant and logical way. Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may be found, but the writing has overall clarity and coherence.



Question			Mark
Number			(1.2)
6(c)			(12)
Knowledge		tion and analysis – indicative content	
	Identific a buyer supplier Benefits • S te re th • R • P • E • S p d G • S a • S p	ation and explanation of monopsony – where has significant market power over its	
Level	Marks	Descriptor	
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.	
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the benefits of mor suppliers. Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or gra errors are likely to be present and the writing generally unclear.	s mmar
2	4-6	Understanding of the benefits of monopsony to suppliers with some application to context. Material is presented with some relevance but likely to be passages which lack proper organi Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely present which affect the clarity and coherence	there are sation. to be
3	7-8	Clear understanding of the benefits of monops suppliers with effective application to context. Material is presented in a relevant and logical Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may found, but the writing has overall clarity and c	way. y be

Evaluation	aluation – indicative content				
	1				
	 D d V F Id (1) M - - S ta S ta S ta ta S ta <lita< li=""> ta ta ta</lita<>	 b suppliers may include: benied access to markets due to exclusive eals – reference to impact on suppliers in the dietnamese electricity market borced to sell at very low prices – leading to ower profits margins/lower incomes/losses Extract 3) Barket power applied by monopsonist e.g. charging without permission names on website payments for eye-level shelf positioning (Extract 3) strict terms and conditions on deliveries and fines if deadlines not met etc. some suppliers may leave the market - unable bends on the terms and conditions of the uyer and seller relationship bends on how governments respond – references to competition laws/authorities in oth extracts) be the costs outweigh the benefits for uppliers? Which specific benefits and costs are likely to xert more influence? Prioritisation 			
Level	Marks	Descriptor			
0	0	No evaluative comments.			
1	1-2	For identifying evaluative comments without explanation.			
2	3-4	For evaluative comments supported by relevar	nt reasoning.		

Question		Mark
Number 6(d)		(12)
	, application and analysis – indicative content	()
	Types of government intervention may include:fines and prosecution of directors through the	
	 courts increasing the powers of the competition authorities e.g. tightening up competition laws setting minimum prices for suppliers e.g. to the suppliers of large supermarkets such as Morrisons lowering barriers to entry to encourage an increase in competition in the market e.g. through deregulation. 	
	The impact of government intervention on behaviour of monopsonists:	
	 May raise costs for monopsonists. This can lead to various situations including: 	
	- lower profit margins	
	 higher prices to consumers 	
	 cut costs in other areas – e.g. employment, advertising 	
	 Monopsonists choose alternative suppliers – possibly from other economies where government protection does not apply 	
	If the buyers' market becomes more contestable firms like Morrisons, for example, may need to become more efficient – quality of products/service, range of products etc.	

Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the impact of government policies on the behaviour of monopsony firms. Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present and the writing is generally unclear.
2	4-6	Understanding of the impact of government policies on the behaviour of monopsony firms with some application to context. Material is presented with some relevance but there are likely to be passages which lack proper organisation. Punctuation and/or grammar errors are likely to be present which affect the clarity and coherence.
3	7-8	Clear understanding of the impact of government policies on the behaviour of monopsony firms with effective application to context. Material is presented in a relevant and logical way. Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may be found, but the writing has overall clarity and coherence.

Evaluation – indicative content				
	if n	imits to the powers of national governments – monopsonists are very powerful in the narket. In this case there may be little impact n business behaviour		
	rr ti	hort run/long run distinction – removing narket power from monopsonists may take me to have any significant impact – e.g. time ng before new firms are established		
	 Possibility of regulatory capture & government failure, so monopsonists are not adversely affected 			
Level	Marks	Descriptor		
0	0	No evaluative comments.		
1	1-2	For identifying evaluative comments without explanation.		
2	3-4	For evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning.		

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