

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2018

Pearson Edexcel IAL 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.

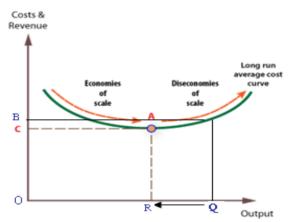
Section A: Essay questions

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

Question	Answer	Mark
Number		
1	Indicative content	
	Explanation of the term 'demerger' – separation of one business into two or more independent businesses. This would apply to the dissolution of a previous merger	
	Possible reasons for a demerger :	
	 To achieve lower LRAC as the business was previously experiencing diseconomies of scale 	
	 Following a demerger the business becomes more efficient – less x-inefficiency 	
	Expected synergies from the merger did not occur - hence the firm may reduce its LRAC by demerging	
	 The business was experiencing cultural clashes - different leadership approaches, working practices - especially if sections of the business are operating in different economies e.g. Australia and New Zealand 	
	 Business expects to increase profit (or reduce loss) as a result of lower LRAC 	
	 The business has sold off parts which were higher risk - e.g. scaling down in countries which are economically or politically unstable 	
	The business experiences an increase in funds through the sale of assets	
	The business may avoid intervention from competition authorities as it was becoming too dominant in certain markets	

 Diagram to show impact of the decision The business is currently experiencing diseconomies of scale - output OQ on LRAC curve

Following demerger output falls to OR – movement along LRAC and to the left Therefore a fall in LRAC – with a move towards MES LRAC falls from OB to OC



· Credit examples of demergers

Evaluation

- Raising of funds through the sale the impact depends on how the funds are used e.g. pay outstanding costs or debts (more short term) compared with used for further investment (more long term)
- The business may regret decision (in long run) – if the demerged firm performs well under new ownership and/or was undervalued at the time of sale
- The business may experience a rise in LRAC and a reduction in economies of scale - size of business now below point of MES (point A on diagram):
 e.g. due to the breaking up of a vertical integration (cheaper source of supply)
- The impact on economies/diseconomies of scale – may be the most important factor as it affects the business in the long run
- The cost of the demerger may outweigh the potential benefits e.g. legal fees, dispute in breaking up, possible redundancy costs, new It systems required etc.

Question Number	Answer	Mark
Number 2	Indicative content • Definition of collusion – where firms co-operate in their pricing and output strategies. Applies particularly where the market is an oligopoly. Firms act as if they are a monopoly to consumers e.g. car parts suppliers dividing up the Chinese market between them and sharing information • Collusion provides firms with the ability to fix prices and limit output Collusion may be rational because: • Interdependence of firms in an oligopoly means that firms want to avoid price competition (price wars) • Each firm can protect its ability to gain supernormal profit Monopoly diagram to show SNP	
	 Barriers enable firms to restrict competition It reduces unpredictability and uncertainty in the market for collusive firms e.g. prices are more stable and/or set by the firms themselves Increased profits to firms and greater certainty may encourage firms to increase R and D leading to improved higher long run profits Firms can avoid a potentially highly damaging price war e.g.in the car parts industry Tacit collusion may be impossible to prove by competition authorities 	

Evaluation

- Benefits to firms may be short-lived if one or more colluding firms break away from the agreement
- Falling demand will create tension between firms e.g. during an economic downturn
- The entry of new firms into the industry may break existing collusive agreements
- It may have been more beneficial for firms to have competed by using nonprice strategies
- Exposure of anti-competitive behaviour by the government or other regulatory agencies is likely to cause agreement to end e.g. the Chinese regulators
- There may be lengthy and costly legal procedures as a result of intervention by regulators
- Exposure may mean firms face fines and/or other legal sanctions
- May result in negative publicity which may lead to fall in consumer demand
- Overall judgements e.g. it depends on whether the benefits from collusion to firms outweigh the costs of exposure of collusion

Candidates may take either perspective for KAA and the reverse perspective for evaluation.

(20)

- Monopsonist may be able to pass on higher cost of production to consumers in the form of higher prices (especially if demand is price inelastic)
- Monopsonist may prefer to use non-price strategies to retain or attract consumers

Evaluation:

- Depends on the effectiveness of pressure groups - size, power and influence over both government and monopsonist
- Limits to the powers of pressure groups –
 if monopsonist is very powerful in the
 market. In this case there may be little
 impact on business behaviour
- Monopsonist may choose alternative suppliers from other economies where pressure groups have less influence
- Pressure group activity may harm the relationship built up between suppliers and monopsonist
- Possibility of regulatory capture & government failure, so monopsonist is not adversely affected
- Information failure a government may not have access to relevant information/reluctance of firms to provide the government with relevant information
- Short run/long run distinction removing market power from monopsonist may take time to have any significant impact

(20)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4	Indicative content	
	Definition of a TNC - an international firm which has facilities and other assets in at least one country other than its home country	
	Forms of government intervention and possible impact on TNC behaviour	
	 Action against TNC which break laws or conventions to avoid (evade) profits taxes -transfer pricing e.g. Netflix, Google and Amazon. Tightening up tax laws, enforcing fines and other forms of legal action 	
	Impact : TNC complies and this reduces profits for TNC. May encourage TNC to be more efficient/innovative to restore profits	
	 Stronger legislation and regulation of other TNC activities - employment laws, job protection for employees, health & safety, minimum wages, price and profit regulation 	
	Impact: TNC may want to enhance its reputation both within the country and in a global sense. Improved living standards for employees and benefits for consumers results in enhanced business reputation for TNC	
	 Competition policy- stronger controls over mergers and takeovers – to limit purchase of large businesses by foreign investors 	
	Impact : likely to dissuade TNC from attempting a foreign merger/takeover	
	 For any of the above measures a TNC may decide to shift its assets to another economy where government laws and regulations are less stringent 	

Evaluation

- A government may be concerned about the threat of TNCs pulling out of the economy – negative consequences on jobs, incomes etc. so measures to control TNCs are weak or not fully enforced
- Difficulties of imposing national laws and regulations on transnational organisations

 so have little major impact e.g. French Government may need to get other EU governments to apply the same legal standards
- Depends upon the degree of competition in the market(s) in which the TNC operates
- Distinction between short run and long run impact - e.g. in the short run TNC may comply but look to shift its resources to another economy in the long run

Sec	tion A Q	uestions: 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 analysis Attempts at selecting and applying different economic
		ideas are unsuccessful • 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	17-20	Displays a wide range of knowledge of economic
Level 5	17-20	principles, concepts and theories together with a rigorous analysis of issues • Demonstrates an outstanding ability to select and apply economic ideas to economic problems
		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.

Section B: Data response

Question Number	Answer	Mark
5 (a)	Knowledge and Application (up to 4 marks)	
	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 and/or elastic demand (1 mark for each) 	
	Application up to 2 marks:	
	Demand is price inelastic (1)	
	 The price rise is 43% (30/70 x 100%)/ demand is expected to fall by 20% (1) 	
	• Value of PED is (-) 0.46 or 0.47 or 0.5 (2)	
	 Reward accurate, annotated diagram showing inelastic demand curve (2) 	(4)
		(-)

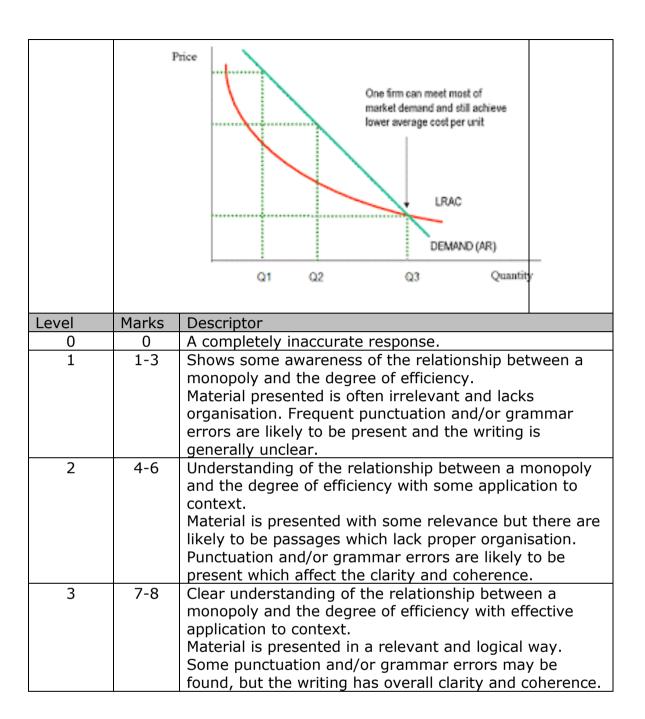
Question		Mark
Number		(42)
5 (b) Knowledge	application and analysis – indicative content	(12)
Knowledge,	 Australia Post is government owned - in the public sector A business, such as postal services, may have social objectives as a priority - providing a service to the public where profit is unlikely or is a secondary consideration. Australia Post may be providing external benefits especially to more remote rural areas Public sector organisations can be financed through tax revenues and therefore may not have profit as a main objective A private sector firm e.g. DHL is likely to have profit as its major objective Diagram: e.g. Compare a private sector firm with an objective of profit maximisation with a public sector organisation where marginal cost pricing may be an objective (or sales maximisation or revenue maximisation) Private sector 	

	a n V c fo	ublic sector organisations e.g. Australia Post re likely to place a greater emphasis on neeting community needs Whereas shareholders in large private sector ompanies tend to want good returns in the orm of dividend payments and a rising share rice
Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the differences in business objectives between firms in the public and private sector. 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 the differences in business objectives between firms in the public and private sector 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 the differences in business objectives between firms in the public and private sector 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 Social responsibility can apply to the not for profit part of the private sector and possibly to other parts of private sector e.g. where environmental factors are important Commercially-based public sector organisations, such as Australia Post, often have a profit objective much the same as in the private sector. It is cross-subsidising in order to make parts of its business more profitable. • Australia Post is competing against private sector businesses in most parts of its organisation • Change in emphasis within the public sector over time e.g. the impact of privatisation and the diminishing importance of nationalisation - profit becoming more important Differences in objectives may be in relation to priority of importance Candidates may take either perspective for KAA and the reverse perspective for evaluation. Level Marks Descriptor 0 No evaluative comments. 0 For identifying evaluative comments without 1 1-2 explanation. 2 3-4 For evaluative comments supported by relevant

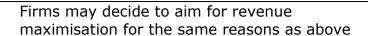
reasoning.

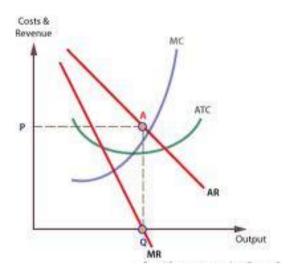
Nowledge, application and analysis – indicative content	Question Number		Mark
Knowledge, application and analysis – indicative content Definitions of efficiency – productive (lowest point of AC), allocative (p=MC) and dynamic (technical) Australia Post has a legal monopoly for letter delivery up to a certain postage size A monopoly may achieve significant economies of scale and hence lower long run average costs MES may occur at a high level of output and legal monopoly achieves productive efficiency Monopoly has greater potential for dynamic efficiency – financial resources for investment in R & D and product innovation for consumer benefit According to Australia Post, the business exceeded its set target for letter deliveries in 2014 (94.8%) and it has consistently met its targets over 15 years A monopoly, such as Australia Post, may need to operate efficiently to deter potential entrants, especially if the market is becoming more contestable (e.g. in the Australian postal market)			(12)
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A monopoly may be created if long run average costs are falling -e.g. railways, water, postal services	Knowledge	 Definitions of efficiency – productive (lowest point of AC), allocative (p=MC) and dynamic (technical) Australia Post has a legal monopoly for letter delivery up to a certain postage size A monopoly may achieve significant economies of scale and hence lower long run average costs MES may occur at a high level of output and legal monopoly achieves productive efficiency Monopoly has greater potential for dynamic efficiency – financial resources for investment in R & D and product innovation for consumer benefit According to Australia Post, the business exceeded its set target for letter deliveries in 2014 (94.8%) and it has consistently met its targets over 15 years A monopoly, such as Australia Post, may need to operate efficiently to deter potential entrants, especially if the market is becoming more contestable (e.g. in the Australian postal market) A monopoly may be created if long run average costs are falling -e.g. railways, water, postal 	



Evaluation	- indicat	tive content
Evaluation	• A • A	monopoly can protect inefficiencies as the firm is not subject to competition sustralia Post has had a range of complaints from angry customers - lost letters, parcel delivery failures etc. ven though Australia Post has a monopoly for part of its business, the rest of its business is open to competition sustralia Post made a loss of AUD\$381million on the monopoly part of its business - this may be a sign of inefficiencies
		andidates may take either perspective for KAA nd the 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 Number		Mark
5 (d)		(12)
5 (d)	Entry of new firms potentially makes the market more competitive/contestable EFFECTS ON EXISTING FIRMS' BEHAVIOUR a more competitive market may cause existing firms to, for example: • Lower prices e.g. limit pricing, predatory pricing • Improve quality of products/services e.g. improved delivery times • Innovate (be more dynamically efficient) e.g. electronic bookings for deliveries • Diversify into other markets • Increase advertising and promotion to retain or attract consumers • Firms may aim for sales maximisation. Firms may decide to earn normal profits (AC = AR) rather than profit maximisation as a means of competing and deterring new entrants	(12)





Revenue maximisation where MR = 0

- Some existing firms may not be able to compete e.g. Australia Post may find it difficult if government support is removed or reduced
- Possible loss of scale economies for existing firms due to new entrants to the market

Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the impact of a more competitive market on the behaviour of existing 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 a more competitive market on the behaviour of existing 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 a more competitive market on the behaviour of existing 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	Evaluation – indicative content		
	 Existing firms in the Australian post and parcels industry are large private sector companies (DHL etc.) so entry of new firms may have little impact Depends on the relative size of new firms (e.g. Japan Post) and how much market share they can gain in the short run Impact may vary according to new entrants' reputation (e.g. new entrants may already be established firms which may have diversified into a new market - so could pose more of a threat) New entrants may apply hit and run tactics and leave the industry once high short run profits have been gained 		
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)	
	 Knowledge - up to 2 marks A higher price is charged because <u>demand is higher</u> (1) 	
	 Reward accurate diagram showing initial equilibrium (1) 	
	Taxi firms can <u>price discriminate according to time of day</u> (1)	
	- They can charge different prices to different users for the same service/may be shown on diagram (1)	
	The higher price may <u>reduce/remove any</u> <u>excess demand</u> (1)	
	Price acts as a rationing device (1)	
	Any other valid point (up to 2 marks)	
	Application - up to 2 marks	
	A rightward shift in the demand curve/may be shown on diagram (1)	
	 Various peak times when demand for taxis is likely to be higher - time of day/night (1) 	
	 Demand for taxis will be more inelastic at peak times (1) 	
	 Price rise at peak times increases revenue (1) and may result in higher profits (1) 	
	 Higher price will cut back on queues and waiting times for taxis (1) 	
	Any other valid point (up to 2 marks)	
		(4)

Question		Mark
Number 6 (b)		(12)
	e, application and analysis – indicative content	(12)
Kilowicago	Product differentiation is typical of monopolistic competition and oligopoly It may be by: • product features – size of taxi (some may cater for larger groups); age of taxi (an option where consumers pay lower rates for using older taxis) • method of booking a taxi - telephone or hailing a cab in the street or using an app (with firms such as Uber and Safaricom) • Quality of service e.g. reliability (arriving on time, tracking progress of taxis by consumers using apps); safety and security; friendly service by taxi drivers	
	IMPACT ON PROFIT If successful, profit should increase because of:	
	 Increased demand by consumers (Diagram showing rightward shift in MR & AR curves and increased gap between AR and AC at profit maximisation) 	
	Demand rises because of:	
	- innovations in the market making it easier to book taxis through apps	
	- the impact of instant customer reviews leading to improved customer service	
	-higher price charged for better quality taxi/larger size etc.	

Level	Marks	Descriptor
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the impacts on profit of a product differentiation strategy. 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 impacts on profit of a product differentiation strategy 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 impacts on profit of a product differentiation strategy 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
	P C m tl c S b ta If c a p If n o ir C f f	rofit is the difference between revenue and ost. Some firms may gain revenue but costs hay rise to a greater extent. This is because of he cost of innovations, providing modern and omfortable taxis etc. Some taxi firms may lose market share ecause of the increased product differentiation aking place in the market. Hence profit falls for the market structure is monopolistic ompetition any supernormal profits will only pply in the short run. In the long run normal profit is earned for the market structure is oligopolistic all firms hay be differentiating their products because for interdependence. Hence little or no change in profit some taxi firms may focus on price competition rather than product differentiation and and the reverse perspective for the same taxis.
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			Mark
6(c)			(12)
Knowledge	Knowledge, application and analysis – indicative content		
		contestable market - a market with few, if	
		rriers to entry and exit.	
		e of contestability: set up/sunk costs - relatively low costs	
		lved in buying taxis	
		e number of firms in the market - including	
		ensed operators	
		ent entrants into the market including Uber,	
		ricom, Mondo Ride & Taxify vations have opened up the market - the use	
		ops to order taxis	
		icted that more firms will enter the market	
Level	Marks	Descriptor	
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.	
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of contestable market	_
		Material presented is often irrelevant and lacks	
		organisation. Frequent punctuation and/or gra errors are likely to be present and the writing	
		generally unclear.	15
2	4-6	Understanding of contestable markets with so	me
		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	
3	7-8	present which affect the clarity and coherence	
3	/-8	Clear understanding of contestable markets w effective application to context.	IUI
		Material is presented in a relevant and logical	way
		Some punctuation and/or grammar errors may	
		found, but the writing has overall clarity and c	

Evaluation – indicative content

- Several competitive strategies currently being used by existing taxi firms. e.g: product differentiation, pricing strategies. These can act as barriers to new entrants
- A contestable market depends on the absence of entry and exit barriers and not on the number of firms
- The Kenyan Government may choose to restrict the number of taxi firms
- Short run/long run distinction. The market currently appears to be highly contestable
- In the long run the market may become dominated by the larger firms such as Uber, Mondo Ride & Safaricom
- This may lead to increased monopoly power and result in entry barriers being applied
 - the use of advertising and promotion to create brand awareness and consumer loyalty
 - aggressive pricing policies to remove competitors e.g. predatory and limit pricing

Candidates may take either perspective for KAA and the 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 Number			Mark
6(d)			(12)
Knowledge	, application and analysis – indicative content		
	Regu	ulation may be used to:	
	Set limits on price and/or profit levels		
	• Set s	safety and quality standards	
		uce the external costs of production or umption	
	• More	e effectively license taxi operators	
	Rea	sons for <i>mor</i> e regulation	
		stays mainly unregulated Nairobi's taxi stry could result in:	
	• Unsa	afe vehicles on the road	
		ncrease in air pollution and congestion; both hich are already severe	
	A greater number of older taxis being used to keep prices down. These are likely to be less environmentally friendly		
	• A ris	e in traffic accidents	
	Hence a rise in external costs and an example of market failure arising from externalities - credit diagram showing a divergence between market equilibrium and social optimum		
Level	Marks	Descriptor	
0	0	A completely inaccurate response.	
1	1-3	Shows some awareness of the case for govern regulation. Material presented is often irreleval lacks organisation. Frequent punctuation and/grammar errors are likely to be present and this generally unclear.	nt and or ne writing
2	4-6	Understanding of the case for government reg with some application to context. Material is presented with some relevance but likely to be passages which lack proper organic 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 case for government regulation 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 contents.	way. y be

Evaluation – indicative content				
	Mor	More regulation is unnecessary as:		
	_	Demand for taxis reduces car use so acts as a substitute good		
	• Usir	ng taxis may even lower car ownership		
		e competition may result in 'greener cars' e.g. tric taxis and hybrids		
	Customer reviews can act as a form of self- regulation- an incentive for taxi firms to improve efficiency			
	Risks of government failure			
		An unregulated market may be more innovative and dynamic		
	Candidates may take either perspective for KAA and the reverse perspective for evaluation.			
Level	Marks	Descriptor		
0	0	Nom evaluative comments.		
1	1-2	For identifying evaluative comments without explanation.		
2	3-4	For evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning.		