

Practice Papers

for GCSE AQA Economics

Paper 2: How the Economy Works

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Contents

Product Support from ZigZag Education	i
Terms and Conditions of Use	ii
Teacher's Introduction	
Exam Paper Structure	
Write-on Practice Papers	
Practice Paper A	
Practice Paper B	
Practice Paper C	
Practice Paper D	35
Non-write-on Practice Papers	45
Practice Paper A	45
Practice Paper B	49
Practice Paper C	
Practice Paper D	
Mark Schemes	61
Practice Paper A	
Practice Paper B	68
Practice Paper C	
Practice Paper D	82

Teacher's Introduction

This resource consists of four Paper 2 practice exams and mark schemes that can be used by teachers to prepare learners to be examined at the end of their AQA GCSE in Economics (8136) course. The well-known saying suggests 'practice makes perfect' and hopefully the papers will help learners to perfect their exam skills, which will be particularly critical given the linear assessment requirements. The qualification is assessed via two exams which are sat at the end of the course, so consequently ensuring students are familiar with the style and content of the papers is essential to provide them with the best chance of securing pleasing results.

Rememberl

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The papers are written to cover all topics within the AQA specification. They have been produced after a thorough assessment of the specimen and past papers produced by the exam board to ensure that the questions are written in a similar format, tone and style to those students will face in the real exam.

Using this resource

This resource can be used in a number of ways to help students to prepare for their GCSE exam. It can be used independently by students or as a teacher-led exercise. Here are a few suggestions:

Homework: The papers could be completed by students as homework tasks. Students could be given one or two sections to complete in the run-up to the exam, or alternatively the questions could be divided up and given to students as they progress through the various topics to review their learning.

In-class exam: The practice papers make ideal mock exams to complete under timed exam conditions as they are based on the format of the final exam. There is a mark scheme and suggested answers to accompany every question. The mock exam will then enable teachers to pinpoint the topics that students find challenging, review their exam technique / time management and tailor any intervention activities appropriately. The benefit of using these practice papers as mock exams is that the mark schemes are not in the public domain (unlike past and specimen papers produced by the exam boards which are posted on their website) so they give teachers a true picture of how students perform when tackling an unseen paper.

In class: The papers could be 'walked-through' in their entirety or divided up into sections to give the students guidance related to the requirements of an exam. Using the mark schemes, teachers can inform learners how marks are awarded and the difference between the levels on the extended-mark questions.

Exam technique: The papers can be used to help students of all levels to enhance their exam technique. They can become familiar with what is required from an 'explain', 'calculate' and 'analyse' question so they are aware of the detail expected for each level of response. Students could complete a range of question styles and peer mark their responses to the practice questions to give them the opportunity to 'think like an examiner'.

Revision: When the students are approaching their final exams, a whole practice paper could be given to them to complete. This technique may be particularly appropriate for over a holiday period, e.g. Easter or half term. When the students return from their holiday the teacher can mark the entire paper and also share the mark scheme with the students so they can see how their responses compare.

March 2021

Exam Paper Structure

The AQA GCSE Economics (8136) exams run from 2019 onwards. The qualification sit both exams in the summer of their final year of study (Year 11).

The qualification is assessed via two papers which are equally weighted to deter

	48	Written exam – 1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 1: How markets work	•	80 marks
	8	50% of final GCSE grade
	80	Written exam – 1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 2: How the economy works		80 marks
	•	50% of fi ല SE grade

There are no optional papers in this condition was oall candidates must sit both award. There are also no high and fundation tiers so all candidates entered winclude differentiated at a no aimed at top and lower grades.

Students had a bur and 45 minutes to complete both papers, with a maximum

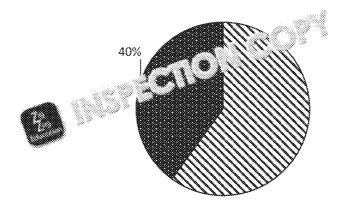
Each paper is divided into two sections: A and B. Section A starts with ten multiple followed by a range of short and extended response questions. Calculation question A. Section B consists of five questions, which are again a range of short a Section B includes one calculation question as well as an essay-style response question.

Some questions in Section A will be based on stimulus material. Section B is base from a real-world case study. Students should be reminded to read the case study before planning any answer. Students who score the highest marks for the case apply their answers to the case study situation rather than offer generic responsivithin a case study for a purpose and the examiner wants to see that candidates to demonstrate their in-depth economics knowledge.

Students should always look at the number of marks awarded for each question the amount of depth a student should include within a response.

Time management is a critical skill for GCSE Economics students to master. It is a candidates to divide their 105 minutes across the 80 marks offered throughout this worth 48 marks and, therefore, approximately 63 minutes should be spent real within this section. The remaining time, approximately 42 minutes, should be spent.

Time allocation



Being disciplined with the time available is critical. Spending extra time answering disadvantage the time available for another. There is a risk that the marks gained particular question are less than what could have been achieved by starting a subsequence.



Command words

The following table outlines some of the commonly used command words for the face when completing these papers.

Command Word	Overview
Analyse	Divide information into separate parts and identify their fe
Assess	Make a judgement based on the available evidence.
Calculate	Complete a numerical calculation to work out an answer to avoid simply giving the answer to 'calculation' questions be marks if the final answer is wrong. The examiner is able to used even if the final answer is wrong.
Define	Explain the meaning of a term or phrass.
Draw	Create a diagram.
Explain	Present reasons or seasons
Justify	Propose ലായം ട്രൂ pported by evidence.
State	Engle ಾ ್ಯವರ್ಷ and concise terms.

Assessmen ives

Assessment objectives (AOs) are set by Ofqual and are the same for all exam boa qualifications. Here are the AOs and their weightings.

AO1	*	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of economic concep
MOT	*	35% of marks available.
AO2	*	Apply knowledge and understanding of economic concepts and is
MUZ	*	35% of marks available.
	*	Analyse and evaluate economic information and issues to demor
AO3		economic activity, make judgements and draw conclusions.
		30% of marks available

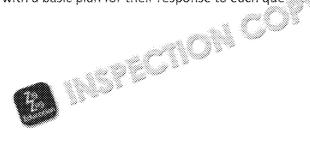
Exam technique

Many students rush straight into writing their answer. This is unadvisable as rush do not address the question asked and at best may lead to poorly structured resoften helps to improve the quality of answers composed; however, it is important as it may leave candidates insufficient time to actually write their answer.

Candidates should spend a few minutes planning their answer. They could use a point list to outline the basic structure and key points.

Activity - Planning

Ask your students to consider some of the practice questions within this resource come up with a basic plan for their response to each question.





ZigZag Practice Exa Supporting GCSE AC

PAPER 2A

GCSE AQA Economics

Paper 2: How the economy wasks

Name



Time allowed

1 hour 45 minutes

Instructions

Answer all of the questions and use the space provided.

Information

The total number of marks available for this paper is **80**. The number of marks available for each question is displayed to the right of the question.

Use of an electronic calculator is permitted.





Section A

For multiple-choice questions, provide only **one** answer For calculation questions, you are advised to show you

01	Whi	ch of	the following is a cause of cost-push inflation?
		A	Lower taxes
		8	Demand exceeding supply
		C	Increases in wages
		D	Rapid economic growth
02	Whi	ch of	the following is not a principal economic objective of governmen
		Α	Economic growth
		В	Price stability
		C	Reducing costs for hand me
		D	Balance of a sent
03	Whi		e 1 %owing is an example of indirect taxation?
-		38888888	come tax
		B	National Insurance
		C	VAT
		D	Business rates
04	Whi	ch of	the following describes unemployment caused by temporary wo
		Α	Structural unemployment
		В	Seasonal unemployment
		C	Cyclical unemployment
		D	Frictional unemployment
05	Who	stan	ds to benefit most from a rise in interest rates?
		Α	Savers
		8	Borrowers
		C	Investors
		D	Consumers
06	Wha	at is m	neant by GDP per capita?
		Α	Gross domestic product
		В	Gross domestic product adjusted for standard of living
		С	Gross domestic product adjusted for employment
		D	Gross domestic product adjusted for population
07	Wha	at det	ermines the value of a currency?
		Α	Supply and demand
		В	A country's GDP
		C	A country's los of the elopment
		D	The think of payments
08	Whi	ci 📞	following would increase the value of exports?
		Ä	Low inflation
		В	High unemployment
		C	High inflation
		D	Low unemployment



09		ne following is the responsibility of the I Fiscal policy	Bank of England?	
		Monetary policy		
		Supply-side policy		
		Budget surplus		
10	Which of th	on following would be likely to recult from	om an ingregge in MATA	
10		ne following would be likely to result fro Lower prices	on an increase in var:	
		Higher inequality		
		Higher unemployment		
		Lower inflation		
11	State two e	examples of fiscal policy.		
	1			***
	L		••••••	
	2			
12	Expla	consequence of a budget surplus.		
	0 • 0 • 0 • 0 • 9 • 9 • 9 • 9 • 0		***************************************	
	0.00.00.000.000.000		•••••	
	0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 0 *		•••••••	
	0 * 0 * 0 * 0 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2		••••••	
13	Explain one	cause of income inequality.		

				, ,
			••••••	
	0 • 0 • 0 • 0 • 0 • 0 • 0 • 0 • 0		•••••	
14	Figure 1 sho	ows the number of people employed ar	nd unemployed in the U	
		Figu	ıre 1	
			Number of people (
		Employed	33.4	
		Unemployed	1.6	~~pvbi~ut
				COPYRIGHT
	(i) Using I	F igure 1 , calculate the fire appyment r	ate. Give your answer t	PROTECTED

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	********		***************************************	7.445
	********		***************************************	//00
				Education

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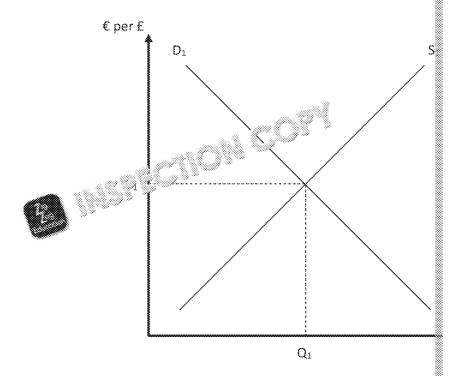
	OCCUPANT OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	Figure	***************************************	
The table below	shows the growth	figures for a national e	economy over a	*
	Year	SD: (Lillion)	Annual grow	
	Year 1	3.42.6	4.7%	W
	-	357.8	4.4%	****
	Year 3	361.2	0.9%	
	Year 4	363.4	0.6%	
	Year 5	356.7	-1.8%	
entered a recess Ising Figure 2 , and	ion. alyse the policy op	tions available to the g		
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entered a recess Using Figure 2 , and	ion. alyse the policy op			

17	Exp	lain one benefit of high inflatio	n.		
18	 Exp	lain one disadvantage of supply	y-side polices.		
19	Fig	are nows the Consumer Price			
		300000000000	Figure	***************************************	
		0000000000	Date	CPI	
		- Ennanananananananananananananananananan	nuary 2019 nuary 2020	98.40 103.80	
	(i)	Using Figure 3 , calculate the idecimal place.	nflation rate from	2019 to 2020. Give y	
	(ii)	Explain one way the governm	ent can lower infla	ition.	
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20

Draw and label the diagram to show the effects of increased UK exports to

Figure 4



See overleaf for the next question





The table below shows data from a national economy over two years.

	Year 1	
Unemployment Rate	6.1%	
Population	15.5 million	
Economic Growth	4.2%	
CPI	97.95	

Although the economy is performing strongly in terms of economic grown not so positive. In particular, unemployment remains very high. This is a suggests that the gains from economic growthan no being distributed

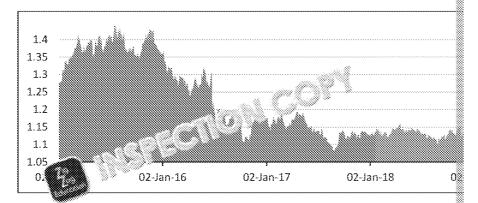
Using Figure 5 , assess whet ്രൂട്ട് െച്ചില്ലെ policies to reduce unemploym
be effective.



Section B

Figure 6

The exchange rate between the UK's currency, the pound sterling, and the Euroz highly prone to fluctuations. However, demand for the pound in recent years has compared to the end of 2015. This suggests that the currency has depreciated in graph below shows the price of £1 in euros over a five-year period.



The crucial event in this depreciation was the UK's decision, made via a referend European Union. Between January 2015 and the date of the referendum, the valuever dips below €1.20 – that is, the value of £1 being equal to €1.20. Following UK pound does not rise above that same sum. This is a reversal of the previous fixed declining demand and had been consistently depreciating in value relative

Figure 7

The UK runs a trade deficit with the European Union. This means that it imports While the UK is a net exporter of services to EU countries, it is a net importer of much wider margin. The table below shows the value of the UK's exports to the the EU, over a three-year period.

	Exports (£m)		l r
	Goods	Services	Goods
2016	142,357	105,629	237,929
2017	163,850	117,048	258,840
2018	170,705	120,283	265,000

In order to reduce its trade deficit with the European Union the UK will need inceport markets. In addition, it will also need to produce the offits goods domest principle of free movement of goods, meaning the common beauty restrictions of the EU conducts trade negotiations and trading blocs of meaning EU countries are all the same trading arrangements with all respectively.





22 Give a definition of free trade. 23 Using Figure 7, calculate the percentage change in the UK's trade deficit b Give your answer to one decimal place. 24 Explain two advantages of trade to the UK economy. 2. See overleaf for the next question



25 Using Figure 6 and Figure 7, analyse the likely effect of a depreciating curr balance with the EU. Do you think leaving the European Union will be beneficial for UK trade? 26 and your own knowledge to justify your view. COPYRIGHT **PROTECTED**

Page 13 of 88

Practice Papers for GCSE AQA Economics - Paper 2



 Preview of Questions Ends Here	
nspection copy. Sample of questions ends here to avoid studer ore they are set. See contents page for details of the rest of the	

Practice Paper D

Note: Although some questions have one correct answer, most of the answers below are exhaustive.

Section A

All A	101,	1	mark	each
-------	------	---	------	------

1	С
2	В
3	С
4	Α
1 2 3 4 5	С

200000000000000000000	0000000000000000000
6	D
7	A
8	В
9	A
10	С

Q.	in a ung
11	A01
	Health
	Education
	• Welfar
	·nc
	• structure
	Award 1 mark for each correct answer, up to a maximum of 2 marks.
12	A01
	 High inflation may make borrowing more attractive as the value of m
	is reducing.
	 High inflation might make exports less competitive as the value of mo
	relative to other currencies.
	 High inflation could encourage investment as the value of savings is r
	 Interest rates might be increased to counteract the effect of high infla
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Award 1 mark for identifying a consequence.
	Award 1 mark for explaining why.
13	A01
	To redistribute wealth and incomes and reduce inequality
	To fund government spending on social programmes and governmen
	the economy
	 To create financial reserves in boom periods which can be used to rec
	of recessions
	Award 1 mark for identifying a purpose.
	Award 1 mark for explaining why.
14(i)	A02
	150 000 + 120 000 = 270 000
	125 000 + 90 000 = 215 000
	270 000 - 215 000 = 55 000
	Answer: £55,000 surplus
	Award 2 marks for a canacta how.
	Award 1 mark fals an americal calculations but an incorrect answer.
	Avm zorrect answer but not presented with a £ sign.
14(ii)	A
	• Creases the value of the currency relative to foreign currencies as it
	 Higher levels of employment as more goods are services are being pr
	than imported from abroad.
	Award 1 mark for identifying a benefit.
	Award 1 mark for explaining why.



Marking AO2, AO3 The government could use fiscal policy to increase its revenue by rais the government could use fiscal policy to reduce its outgoings by cutt some areas. The government could use monetary policy to increase the supply of reduce the value of the currency, which would make paying back its d reduce reliance on borrowing in the long term. The government could sell off some of its assets, such as state-owned generate revenue in the short term, and reduce its spending on maint long term it may increase economic activity by creating new avenues boost economic growth and further expand government revenues. The government could use fiscal policy to stimulate demand by invest the economy to generate growth. Cutting and also stimulate d monetary side reducing interest rate manager work investment and gen Supply-side policies such a ruc 😸 lation and labour market reform 😋 economic activity, and g. and and increase the government's revenue cost to the and the mean's finances. gra 🛴 💹 of policy options is available to the government; howev caution and in complement with one another. Rushing through a Atradictory reforms in order to balance a budget could be counterp increase the government's reliance on borrowing. Marks Level Description 3 5-6 A complete analysis of economic concepts which based knowledge successfully and presents a co structured argument. A partial analysis of economic concepts which de relevant knowledge and follows a logical struct 1-2 Some analysis of economic concepts which fails 1 coherent argument. 0 Student produced no material worthy of a mark 16 A01 Cost-push inflation Demand-pull inflation Award 1 mark for each answer. 17 A01 It does not have a damaging effect on the government's finances. It is 🕷 demand or making exports more competitive without spending and i Decisions in the UK on monetary policy are taken independently of the short-term political incentives have less of an impact on monetary po The effects of monetary policy are often felt more quickly than with fi supply-side policies. Award 1 mark for identifying a back Award 1 mark for explaining % 18 g g a la la through economic growth are not necessarily distrib air riscal policies in place to redistribute wealth, economic growt reater inequalities. Economic growth usually involves an increasing use of physical resou the environment. Award 1 mark for identifying a disadvantage. Award 1 mark for explaining why.



20000000000000000000	
Q.	Marking
19(i)	A02
9	1.30 - 1.25 = 0.05
	$0.05 / 1.25 = 0.04$ $0.04 \times 100 = 4$
	0.04 ^ 100 - 4
9	Answer: 4% increase in unemployment
	1 - J
9	Award 2 marks for a correct answer.
	Award 1 mark for a correct answer but missing a % sign, or not indicating a
	Award 1 mark for some correct calculations but an incorrect answer.
19(ii)	A01
9	Unemployment caused by a downturn in overall conomic performant.
	caused by a recession; such unemployme short-term but also amount of labour.
9	amount of labour.
9	Award 1 mark for defining us a factory and the same and the same and the same and the same are same as the same are same are same are same as the same are same ar
	Award 1 mark for that this form of unemployment may be tempo
20	AC2
	£per€
	*
	D_1 S_1

	D ₂
9	
9	P ₁
	P ₂
	0 0
	$Q_2 = Q_1$
9	Award 1 mark for drawing and labelling the new D curve to the left of the or
	Award 1 mark for labelling the new equilibrium currency value. Award 1 mark for labelling the new equilibrium are seen to be a seen to
	



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21 A02. A03

More positive externalities

Sugar consumption is associated with widespread public health prob and diabetes. By reducing sugar consumption, action is being taken to This may also improve government finances as health is one of the pr public spending.

Marking

- Allocating revenue generated by the sugar tax towards sports in scho public health by providing younger generations - those often most lik drinks - with greater ability and resources to exercise.
- The sugar tax is a good example of market prices being altered to mo social costs, and externalities being taken into account on price terms
- The sugar tax, rather than undermining the sales of soft drinks, has a performance. This means that firms which was sugary drinks and not lose jobs or suffer from reduced accompanies a result of the tax, what have benefited them.

- s a highly regressive tax which disproportionately affe mes. This is compounded by the fact that people on lower income ater quantity of unhealthier products, such as sugary drinks. In th can be regarded as increasing inequality and placing the cost on the c on the manufacturers themselves.
- The sugar tax has generated significantly less revenue than first expe benefits from this revenue being dedicated to sports in schools may b what had been predicted by the government.
- The sugar tax has clearly not reduced demand for unhealthy products has increased. Its limited scope, covering soft drinks, does not preven from investing their extra revenue in other unhealthy products. Certa products, for instance, contribute just as much to obesity as soft drink
- The health risks of artificial sweeteners are not as thoroughly research that they may be more addictive, and so it is possible they could also health risks.

Conclusion

Overall, it could be argued that the sugar tax has had the desired effect sugar consumption considerably; however, whether this outweighs the the tax is largely a matter of personal opinion.

-	Level	Marks	Description
	3	7-9	 Knowledge of relevant economic concepts is consisted using a logical structure and an expanded vocabulary. A complete analysis of ideas and concepts white evidence-based knowledge in a manner well state context. A thorough concept which uses relevant suggested.
	2.	4-6	appr _{er} ly, assplaying a high level of evalua
	2	4-0	 i strates reasonable knowledge of relevation concepts, which are presented in a logical man A coherent but partial analysis of ideas and coaddress some of the issues raised by the quest Conclusion is mostly supported by appropriate may display incomplete evaluative skills.
	1	1-3	 An understanding of relevant economic concepts but these concepts are presented in a disconnect of the second secon
		0	Student produced no material worthy of a mark.

000000000000000000000000000000000000000	
Q.	Marking
22	AO1 Investment in a country by a foreign-owned company, meaning profit economic activity in the country will go overseas.
	Award 1 mark for defining as investment from foreign-owned company. Award 2 marks for identifying that any profits will go overseas.
23	A02 245 × 1.07 = 262.15 GDP in 2019 = \$262 billion 262 000 000 000 / 95 000 000 = 2757.89 Answer: \$2,758
	Award 3 marks for a correct answer. Award 2 marks if the answer is some set not rounded to nearest dollar or in the \$ sign. Award 1 mark for second
24	 The removal of trade barriers and promotion of free trade across the wood frade and promoted the idea of specialisation, which boosts internation. Multinational companies have moved their production processes to downere labour is plentiful and cheaper than in developed countries, structures across the world. This has made it cheaper to import than produce domany countries. Migration as people from developing countries have migrated to developed are much higher.
	Award 3 marks for explaining with a full explanation, or a partial explanation. Award 2 marks for explaining with a partial explanation. Award 1 mark for identifying a factor that has contributed to globalisation.







Marking 25 A02, A03 Foreign direct investment can be beneficial for developing countries a companies often have the resources required to scale up production technological innovation, making the production process more efficies economic output. This significantly improves economic growth and in GDP per capita. Multinational companies also often tend to be big employers which h production to developing countries due to the low cost and abundant sense, FDI is an excellent way of reducing unemployment in developi improve standards of living, reduce inequalities within the country and government's finances. FDI can also have negative effects. In particular demestically owned to compete with large multinationals as t', no ot take advantage of scale or technological resources. As a result and tends to concentrate production among foreign- w ompanies, whose profits do not re are transferred backet in which the company is based. This can be a second of locking a developing country into a relation nt on FDI for its economy to function. 🔊 reliance can make the country far more vulnerable to global sho 🎆 decisions made by multinational companies, which could choose to see operations in a developing country at any time. In addition, developing countries are often reliant on exporting raw n multinationals, which are goods of considerably less value than manu means developing countries are relatively uncompetitive on global m of raw materials can cause severe economic damage. Overall, foreign direct investment can improve efficiency and product countries, and generate huge amounts of economic growth; however, imbalance in their resources, it is very easy for developing countries 🕷 on FDI, leaving their economies more vulnerable. Level Marks Description 3 5-6 A complete analysis of economic concepts which based knowledge successfully and presents a co structured argument. 2 A partial analysis of economic concepts which d 3 - 4relevant knowledge and follows a logical structu 1 1 - 2Some analysis of economic concepts which fails coherent argument. 0 Student produced no material worthy of a mark 26 A02, A03 Globalisation is beneficial for UK Globalisation has a number of positive effects on the UK economy. Firstly, UK firms can take advantage of an abase acceptable at a lo down the cost of their production an was ke speir products more con internationally. This is benefit for a MK economy overall as it max made by domestic coma a line s Secondly, fire advantage of large economies of scale through which are frives down costs and makes their goods and services 🛭 di sy transferring labour-intensive, iow para since-orientated economy is created, as alluded to by Figure 6. This constant is a service stend to be di ്രയു transferring labour-intensive, low-paid manufacturing wo valued and competitive on international markets.

Fourthly, globalisation provides consumers with more choice and che

Large numbers of lower skilled manual labourers have suffered from unemployment as a result of globalisation. With manufacturing incredeveloping countries, large areas of the country formerly based aroundeft behind, with the gains from globalisation being felt elsewhere, in

of increased imports from a greater variety of locations.

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Globalisation is not beneficial for UK

economic growth pick up pace in developing countries. As wages inci leading developing countries will also move towards service-orientat than in the West, risking further outsourcing of jobs and structural us even larger scale. The gains from globalisation are not distributed equally and can ofter inequalities. While large multinational companies benefit from global. more profitable, free movement of money also allows companies way obligations, meaning the government does not receive the amount it and cannot so effectively redistribute wealth in order to reduce inequilibrium demand. These reduced financial capabilities could be contributing to in the UK, as highlighted in Figure 6, as money made by multinational being reinvested domestically. In addition, increased global ecor on it in second ectedness makes the economic shocks happenin 🎉 💥 ere, which it has a limited ability 🕻 economy against Finally, global and mumber of environmental negative external ea asportation of goods and people, as well as the environn eased economic activity. Conclusion Overall, globalisation provides large firms in the UK with substantial more highly valued service economy; however, the gains are often no and the UK economy is exposed to global shocks and is vulnerable to Level Marks Description 5 13-15 Strong knowledge of relevant economic conc evident, and is presented confidently and log expanded vocabulary. A complete analysis of ideas and concepts will evidence-based knowledge in a manner well the context. A thorough conclusion which uses relevant s evidence extensively, displaying a high level

Marking

Furthermore, this risk of structural unemployment remains, and stan

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26

Preview of Answers Ends Here	
This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of answers ends here to stop students looking up answers their assessments. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.	to