



Starters and Plenaries

for OCR AS and A Level Year 1 Microeconomics

Second Edition, February 2022

zigzageducation.co.uk

**POD
7813**

Publish your own work... Write to a brief...
Register at publishmenow.co.uk




Contents

Thank You for Choosing ZigZag Education	iii
Teacher Feedback Opportunity.....	iv
Terms and Conditions of Use	v
Teacher's Introduction	1
Scarcity and Choice	2
Activity-by-activity Plan.....	2
Activity 1 – The economic problem.....	3
Activity 2 – The market economy.....	4
Activity 3 – Productive and allocative efficiency.....	5
Activity 4 – Allocation of resources and objectives of economic agents	6
Activity 5 – Allocation of resources.....	7
Activity 6 – Opportunity cost.....	8
How Competitive Markets Work	9
Activity-by-activity Plan.....	9
Activity 7 – Specialisation and trade	11
Activity 8 – Supply and demand (1).....	12
Activity 9 – Supply and demand (2).....	13
Activity 10 – Supply and demand (3).....	15
Activity 11 – Price elasticity of demand	16
Activity 12 – Income elasticity of demand	17
Activity 13 – Elasticities (1).....	18
Activity 14 – Elasticities (2).....	19
Market Failure and Government Intervention.....	21
Activity-by-activity Plan.....	21
Activity 15 – Market failure (1)	22
Activity 16 – Market failure (2)	23
Activity 17 – Government intervention.....	24
Activity 18 – Government failure	25
Answers.....	26

Teacher's Introduction

This resource is essentially an activities-only resource that has been designed to support the learning and teaching of AS and A Level OCR Microeconomics. These useful activities will help to either switch pupils into learning mood at the beginning of the session or wind down and take learning right up to the end of the lesson. Students will build on their understanding of key terms while developing new knowledge that is integral to the specification.

There are 18 activities in this resource, which closely follow the specification order, and can be conducted as individual, group or full-class activities. Teacher's notes, plus an activity-by-activity plan, are provided at the beginning of the resource to give guidance on how to teach the content. Some of this guidance includes additional activities. Here is an example:

Spec. Area	Topic	Activity Description	Notes				Extra Resources	Assessment Objectives				Suggested Use
								AO1	AO2	AO3	AO4	
1.1 Nature of Economics	What is economics?	Activity 1 – Fill in the missing words followed by a cut out and paste activity.	Individual tasks (but can be done in pairs as well, where students can compare their answers).	✓	✓		Scissors and glue.	X	X			Plenary

The starters and plenaries included are designed to help teachers prevent any breaks in students' learning by encouraging them to recap previously studied topics or begin to learn new ones. Each activity sheet should take between 10 and 20 minutes to complete. The end of the resource includes an answer sheet for students and/or teachers to use in marking.

It is hoped that this resource, as well as offering support for teaching the essential elements of the OCR examination, will help students build on any knowledge they already have.

Happy teaching!

December 2017

Update: Second Edition, February 2022

Minor updates to match 2019 specification: removed non-spec questions on supply and demand, and removed questions on public/private goods and marginal utility that are no longer AS/Year 1.

Free Updates!

Register your email address to receive any future free updates* made to this resource or other Economics resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

Go to [zzed.uk/freeupdates](https://www.zzed.uk/freeupdates)

Activity-by-activity Plan

Spec. Area	Topic	Activity Description	Notes	Individual	Pairs	Groups	Resources	Assessment Objectives				Suggested Use
								AO1	AO2	AO3	AO4	
Introduction to Microeconomics	The basic economic problem	Activity 1 – searching pictures task followed by some quick questions.	Task 1 can be done in pairs. Other tasks can be done individually.	✓	✓		Students will need computers and internet for task 1.	X	X			Plenary
	The market economy	Activity 2 – research task followed by answering the country/person tasks.	Full-class activity. Only do this task after students have been taught about Adam Smith, Karl Marx and Friedrich Hayek.	✓	✓		Students will need access to the Internet to research economic thinkers.		X	X		Starter
	Productive and allocative efficiency	Activity 3 – quick definition question followed by diagrammatic analysis.	Individual work.	✓								Plenary
	Allocation of resources and objectives of economic agents	Activity 4 – quick question followed by match up task and a discussion question.	Tasks 1 and 2a can be done individually. Task 2b should be done in pairs.	✓	✓			X	X	X		Starter
	Allocation of	Activity 5 – short question										Starter or

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



INSPECTION COPY



Activity 1 – The economic problem

1. a) Search for photos of three examples each for the following categories and paste them in the table below.

Needs	Wants	Economic goods
		

- b) Discuss, in pairs, the economic problem represented by these pictures

2. State whether each statement below indicates a positive (P) or a normative (N) statement.

- The Bank of England has set the interest rate at a record low of 0.25%.
- The government is considering imposing a sugar tax.
- The Bank of England should not have set the interest at 0.25%, as it is too low.
- The Bank of England aims to keep the inflation rate at about 2%.
- A 2% inflation rate is the perfect level of inflation.

3. a) Unjumble the following words:

- Grnvmnteeo
.....
- Smrif
.....
- Dlsshoooue
.....

- b) What are your identified words in part (a) examples of?

.....
.....

- c) Briefly state the need for each identified in part (a).

-
.....
-
.....

4. Define the basic economic problem.

.....

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 2 – The market economy

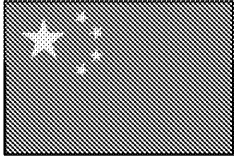
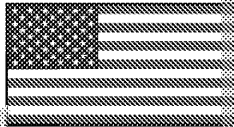



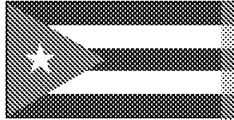
- Split the class into three groups and give them roughly 10 minutes to find personalities:
 - Adam Smith
 - Karl Marx
 - Friedrich Hayek

Now the groups may appoint a presenter who will very briefly explain to the class what each personality was and what were their main theories.

- Read out the following quotes to the class to see if they are able to identify who said them.

A	‘I do not expect anything from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, or the baker, but from his regard to his own interest.’
B	‘Each tries to establish over the other an alien power, so as thereby to find satisfaction of his own selfish need.’
C	‘Some provision for those threatened by the extremes of indigence or starvation, be it only in the interest of those who require protection against acts of desperation on the part of the needy.’
D	‘Communism is the riddle of history solved, and it knows itself to be the only solution.’
E	‘The natural effort of every individual to better his own condition...is so powerful, that it is alone, and without any assistance, ...capable of carrying on the society to wealth and prosperity.’
F	‘There is no reason why ...the state should not help to organize a comprehensive system of social insurance.’

- Here are a few flags of certain countries. Guess what country it is and what type of economy it has.

	Country Type of economy	
	Country Type of economy	
	Country Type of economy	

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 3 – Productive and allocative efficiency

1. a) Define the term allocative efficiency.

.....

.....

- b) Do you know the other term for allocative efficiency?

.....

.....

- c) Write down the formula for allocative efficiency.

.....

.....

2. a) Define the term productive efficiency.

.....

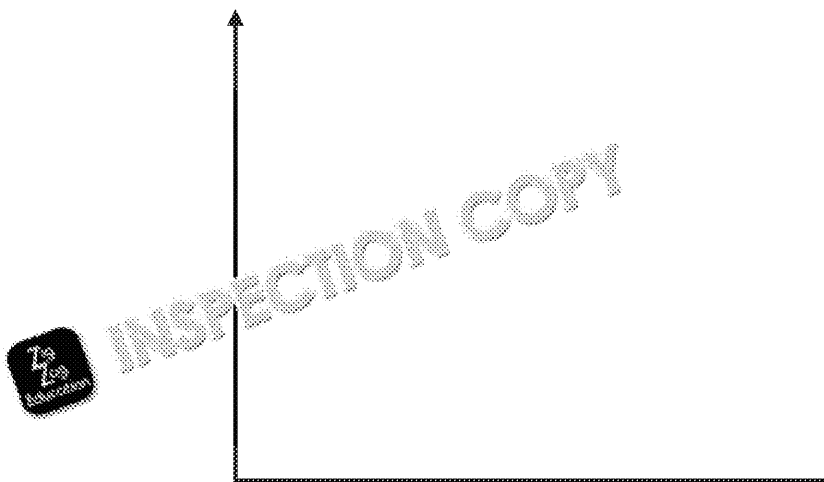
.....

- b) Write down the formula for productive efficiency.

.....

.....

- c) Show a productively efficient point on the PPF below:



3. What is meant by economic efficiency?

.....

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 4 – Allocation of resources objectives of economic agents

INSPECTION COPY

1. What are the three main questions that a producer needs to ask him/herself about resources?

-
-
-

2. a) Below is a list of objectives of various economic agents. Correctly assign the objectives to the economic agents listed below.

Objectives		
Sales	Utility	
Profit	Wages	

Economic agents:

- Government
- Households
- Firms

- b) In pairs, discuss how these economic agents can go about achieving their objectives.



INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**







Activity 5 – Allocation of resources

INSPECTION COPY

1. Briefly explain how the following types of economies allocate resources.

- Planned economies
- Market economies
- Mixed economies

2. In the table below, write down the advantages and disadvantages of each

 Free market economy	Advantages	
	Disadvantages	
Planned economy 	Advantages	
	Disadvantages	

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 6 – Opportunity cost

1. a) Explain to your partner what the term opportunity cost means without using the term.
- b) A businessman has already reinvested in his business and expects to make a profit. He is now looking to buy some shares on the stock market, whose return is 10%. A similar investment in government bonds might yield 12%.

What will be the opportunity cost of investing in government bonds?

.....

.....

2. One student will be picked from your class to draw one of the following in a graph.

- Production Possibility Frontier
- Label the axes
- The maximum productive potential of an economy
- Efficient allocation of resources
- Inefficient allocation of resources
- Unattainable level of production
- Opportunity cost
- Increase in economic growth
- Recession

(Note: you may need to draw a separate pair of axes for drawing the shift)

3. Complete the following table with potential opportunity costs to the business.




Business Decision	Possible Opportunity Cost
Clothes shop purchases a new line of shirts	
IT firm repays its loan	
School employs more lunchtime staff	
Record shop pays a local band to visit and play	
Local publisher writes a new business book	
Football team buys foreign player	
Bank opens a new location	

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity-by-activity Plan

Topic	Activity Description	Notes				Extra Resources	Assessment Objectives				Suggested Use
							AO1	AO2	AO3	AO4	
Specialisation and trade	Activity 7 – fun task followed by unjumbling words, filling in the table and a question.	The first part of this activity should be conducted as a full-class activity. The second part works as pair work. Now get two students to stand next to each other and provide them with two buckets. One will be filled with balls and the other will be empty. Place these buckets at either ends of the classroom.	✓	✓		the first bucket you will need two buckets and a number of balls	X	X			Starter or plenary
	Activity 8 – two market tasks followed by a fun physical activity.	Tasks 1a can be done individually. Task 1b is a whole class activity. For task 1b, split the class into two groups. Now one by one call upon students at random from each team and ask them to draw an example of any one of the following types of demand and supply (see question 2a) on the board. Other team members need to correctly guess in order to score a point. Students drawing on the board cannot talk to their teammates.	✓			Access to white board and some board pens.		X			Starter or plenary
	Activity 9 – quick Q/A	Divide the class into two groups and pass this									

The role of markets

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



INSPECTION COPY



Activity 7 – Specialisation and Division of Labour

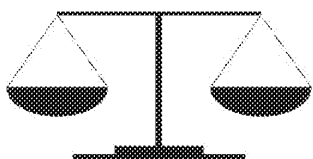
INSPECTION COPY

1. The first student should pick the ball up and pass it to the next person – who then passes the ball into the empty bucket. After each round, one more student should join. How many more people make any difference?
2. Now get them to unjumble the following words to get to the bottom of the activity.

V	N	I	I	O	I	D	S	F	O	A	
L	I	O	E	P	I	N	I	S	S	T	A

3. Work with the person next to you or in a group.

Divide the task within pairs where one person thinks of examples of business division of labour are essential and the other thinks of examples of business division of labour may not work very well. The person who wins will be the one with the most examples and 'tip the scales'. Choose which side of the scales you want: 'division of labour' or 'specialisation and division of labour' (you may decide at the start).

Specialisation and division of labour		Not specialisation and division of labour

4. Give **two** examples of how specialisation and the division of labour can affect the economy.

.....

.....

.....

.....

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**





Activity 8 – Supply and demand

1. a) Match the following keywords to their correct definitions:

Keywords
Individual supply
Joint demand
Composite demand
Composite supply
Joint supply
Market demand
Competitive supply
Individual demand
Market supply

Definitions
Demand for similar goods.
Quantity supplied by a single producer.
Aggregate quantity demanded by all consumers.
Supply of similar goods.
When two or more goods are produced together.
When demand for one good is positive for another good.
When a good is demanded for more than one use.
Aggregate quantity supplied by all producers.
Quantity demanded by a single consumer.

- b) Your teacher will call upon students at random from each team and any one of the following types of demand and supply (see Question 1) to correctly guess in order to score a point. Students drawing on the teammates.

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



INSPECTION COPY





Activity 9 – Supply and demand

INSPECTION COPY

1. Write down three reasons each for shifts in demand and supply.

- Shifts in demand

a)

b)

c)

- Shifts in supply

a)

c)

Divide the class into two groups and pass this sheet around so that each group asks a question. Compare the answers of the two groups.

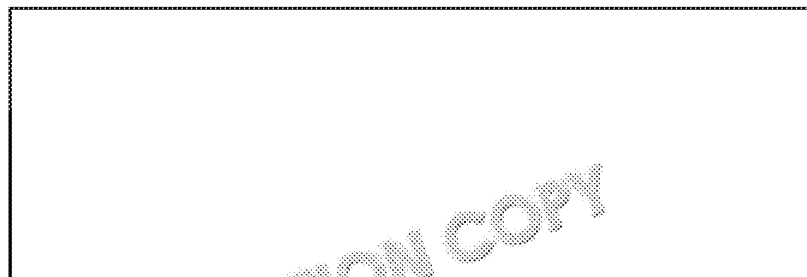
Normalitea Ltd is a producer of teas, coffees and cakes. A new company, which produces teas, has moved in. Normalitea Ltd is experiencing a visible drop in demand for its products.

2. a) How will this move affect consumers?

.....

.....

b) Show this on a diagram.



c) Unjumble the following word:



Menu upsslur

d) What do you think the formula for the above term will be?

.....

.....

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 9 – Supply and demand (2)

Seeing this fall in sales, Normalitea Ltd has decided to introduce a buy-one-get-one-free product.

3. a) How will this move affect Normalitea Ltd?

.....

.....

.....

.....

- b)  this on a diagram.

- c) Unjumble the following words:

drocrepu ps!

- d)  do you think the formula for the above term will be?

.....

.....

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 10 – Supply and demand

INSPECTION COPY

1. Explain the assumptions of the model of supply and demand.

.....

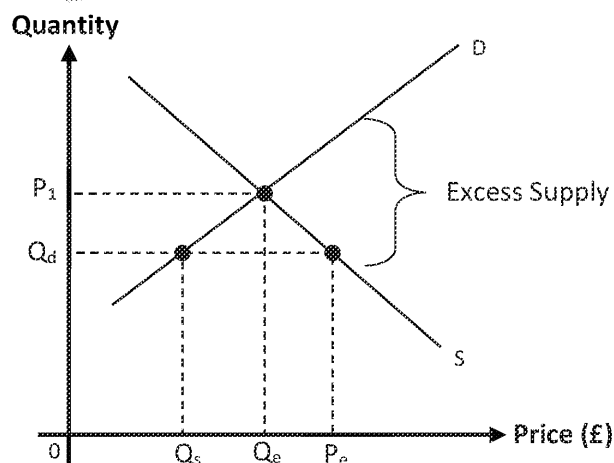
.....

.....

.....

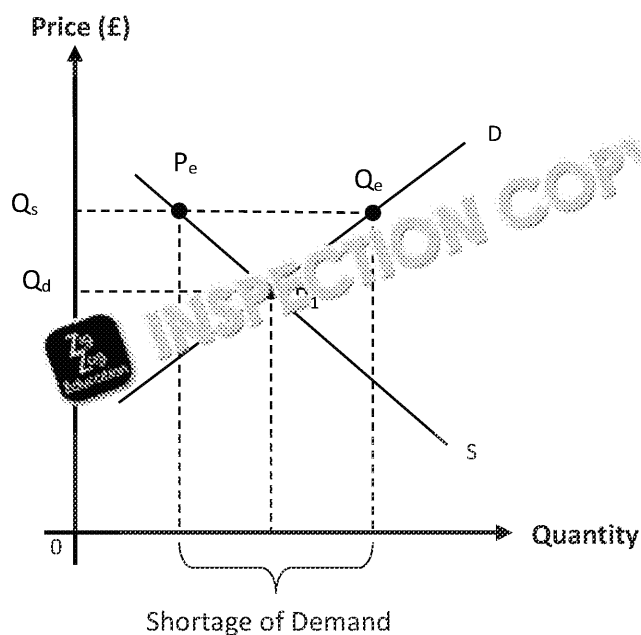
.....

2. Circle the mistake in the diagram below and get your friend to redraw the new diagram.



.....

Now swap roles and do the same with the following diagram.



.....

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 11 – Price elasticity of demand

INSPECTION COPY

1. Explain what is meant by price elasticity of demand (PED).

.....

.....

2. What is the formula for PED?

.....

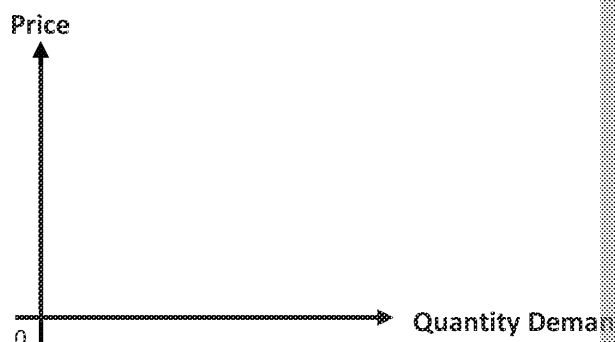
3. a) Identify the problem with the following formula and write out the correct formula.



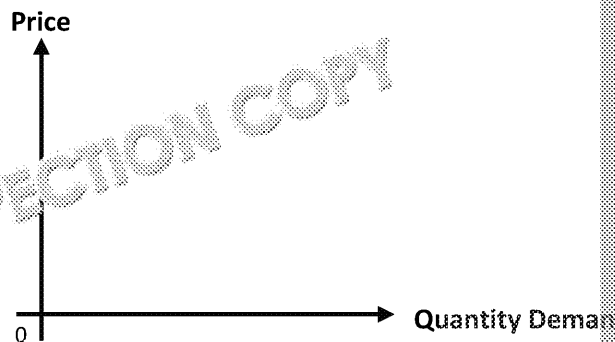
$$\text{revenue} = \frac{\text{Price}}{\text{Quantity}} \times 100$$

.....

- b) On the axes below, show how a fall in price will lead to an increase in proportion.



- c) On a separate diagram, show how an increase in price will lead to an increase in proportion by a smaller proportion.



- d) When is total revenue maximised?

.....

.....

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



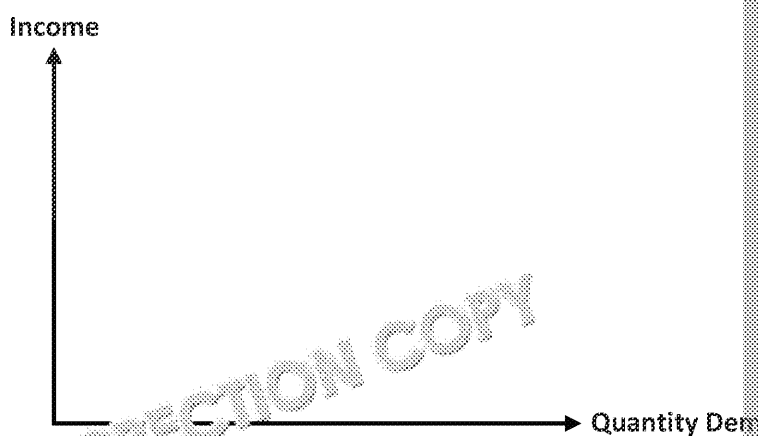


Activity 12 – Income elasticity of demand

1. Match up the following by colour coding them:

Positively elastic demand	$0 < YED < 1$	Normal/luxury good	
Negatively elastic/inelastic demand	$YED < 0$	Inferior good	
	$YED > 0$	Normal good/necessity	

2. Draw the demand curves for luxury and inferior goods on the same axes



3. Pepsi and Coca-Cola are close substitutes. Explain how it will help the brand if the YED between these two drinks is +1.5.

.....

.....

.....

INSPECTION COPY

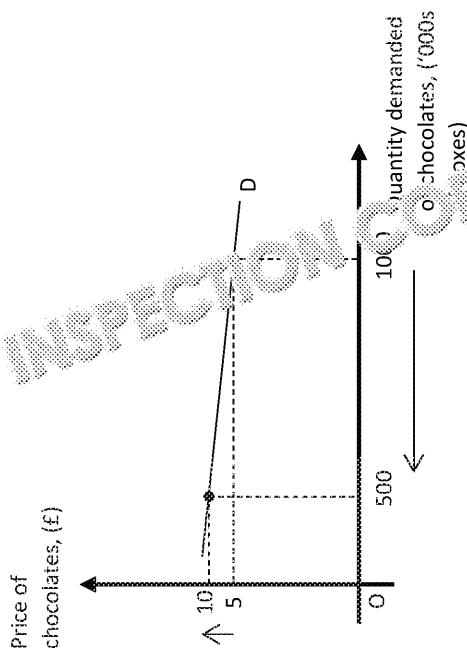
COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity 13 – Elasticities (1)

1. Cut out the graphs below and in groups of 4–5 students, individually work out the answers for the following. Then compare your answers with each other.

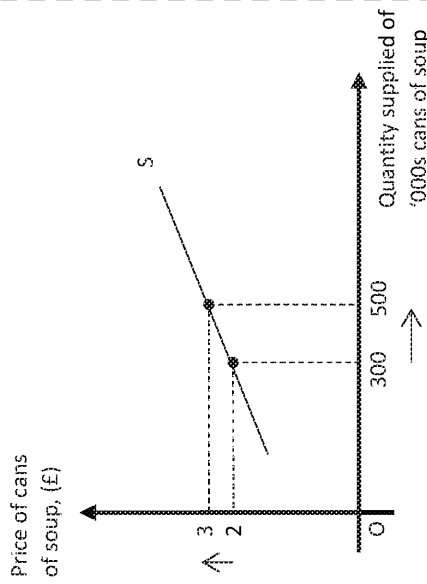
A Calculate the price elasticity of demand of a box of chocolates. Is the demand price elastic or inelastic?



D Real income increases from £1,000 to £1,500 a month. Calculate the income elasticity of demand of tinned meat. What type of good is this?

Price of tinned meat, (£)

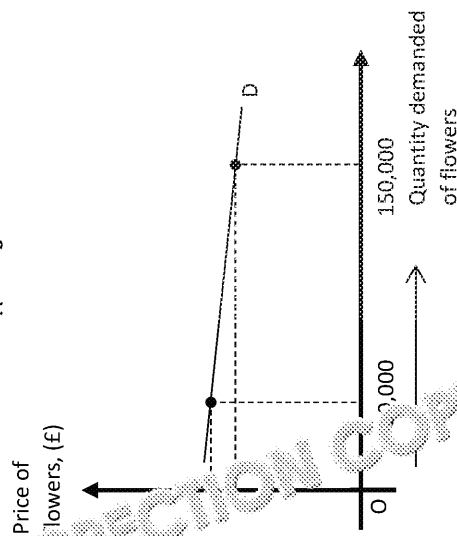
B Calculate the price elasticity of supply of a can of soup. Is the supply price elastic or inelastic?



Calculate the cross elasticity of demand of a box of tea. What type of good is this?

Price of bottle of milk, (£)

C Real income increases from £30,000 to £35,000 a year. Calculate the income elasticity of demand of a bouquet of flowers. What type of good is this?



E

Price of tea, (£)

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



INSPECTION COPY



Activity 14 – Elasticities (2)

Teacher Sheet

- Split the class into two groups to play a game of noughts and crosses on the board. Each group will choose an individual from each group to ask a question. The groups will only win if the chosen person from their group has answered correctly. Note the answers (in bold terms) but have been converted into questions so they can readily be used in the game.

Question: Interpret the numerical values of PED, XED, YED and PES.

PED value	Level of elasticity
What does PED > 1 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of relatively elastic ?
What does PED < 1 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of relatively inelastic ?
What does PED = 1 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of elastic ?
What does PED = 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of perfectly inelastic ?
What does PED = infinity tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of perfectly elastic ?

YED value	Level of elasticity of demand
What does YED > 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of positively elastic/inelastic ?
What type of good does YED > 0 depict?	What is the numerical value of normal ?
Give an example of a good with YED > 0	What is clothing an example of?
What does 0 < YED < 1 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of relatively inelastic ?
What type of good does 0 < YED < 1 depict?	What is the numerical value of necessity ?
Give an example of a good where YED is between 0 and 1	What is milk an example of?
What does YED > 1 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of relatively elastic ?
What type of good does YED > 1 depict?	What is the numerical value of luxury good ?
Give an example of a good with YED > 1	What is television an example of?
What does YED < 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of elastic ?
What type of good does YED = 1 depict?	What is the numerical value of normal ?
What does YED < 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of negatively elastic/inelastic ?
What type of good does YED < 0 depict?	What is the numerical value of inferior ?
Give an example of a good with YED < 0	What is tinned meat an example of?

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity 14 – Elasticities (2) (co

XED value	Level of elasticity of demand
What does XED > 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of positively elastic/inelastic ?
What type of good does XED > 0 depict?	What is the numerical value of substitute good ?
Give an example.	What are tea and coffee exam
What does XED < 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of negatively elastic/inelastic ?
What type of good does XED < 0 depict?	What is the numerical value of complementary good ?
Give an example.	What are cars and fuel exam
What does XED = 0 tell us about the demand?	What is the numerical value of relationship between the dem
What type of good does XED = 0 depict?	What is the numerical value of unrelated ?
Give an example.	What are phones and jackets




PES value	Level of elasticity of supply
What does PES > 1 tell us about the supply?	What is the numerical value of relatively elastic ?
What does PES < 1 tell us about the supply?	What is the numerical value of relatively inelastic ?
What does PES = 1 tell us about the supply?	What is the numerical value of elastic ?
What does PES = 0 tell us about the supply?	What is the numerical value of perfectly inelastic ?
What does PES = infinity tell us about the supply?	What is the numerical value of perfectly elastic ?

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity-by-activity Plan

Spec. Area	Topic	Activity Description	Notes				Assessment Objectives	Suggested Use
Market Failure and Government Intervention	Market failure	Activity 15 – writing down definitions	Pair work where students work individually and then mark each other's papers.	✓	✓		AO1	Starter or plenary
	Market failure	Activity 16 – illustrating information in a diagram (story board)	Class activity. The teacher should pick students at random for this activity.			✓	AO1 AO2 AO3	Plenary
	Government intervention	Activity 17 – presentation task.	Make groups of four. PowerPoint is not essential. Diagrams and analysis is strongly encouraged.			✓	AO1 AO2 AO3	Plenary
	Government failure	Activity 18 – understanding concepts and making up task.	Individual work.	✓			AO1	Starter or plenary

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



INSPECTION COPY



Activity 15 – Market failure

INSPECTION COPY

1. You have five minutes to write down the definitions to six of the following the person next to you and mark each other's answers.

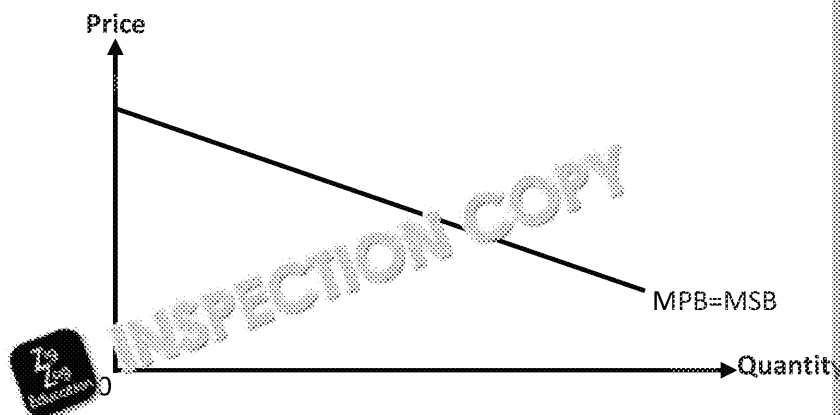
Market failure	
Misallocation of resources	
Externality	
Private cost	
External cost	
Social cost	
Private benefit	
External benefit	
Social benefit	
Marginal private cost	
Marginal private benefit	
Marginal social cost	
Marginal social benefit	
Market equilibrium	
Social optimal equilibrium	
Welfare loss	
Welfare gain	
Economic agents	
Government intervention	

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity 16 – Market failure

- Imagine that you are a producer of cigarettes. Illustrate on the diagram (on the board) the personal cost to you for producing cigarettes.



Your teacher will pick students at random, who will represent a group/interest (on the board) the following tasks:

- Student 1 – You are a member of the general public. Illustrate on the diagram (on the board) the cost to you, as a member of society, of someone else producing cigarettes.
- Student 2 – You are a member of the regulatory committee. Illustrate on the diagram (on the board) the welfare loss of the production of cigarettes.
- Student 3 – You represent the government. Briefly explain what measures you would take to eliminate or at least reduce this loss of welfare.

.....

.....

- Student 4 – You also represent the government. Illustrate on the diagram (on the board) the level of taxation on the production of cigarettes that is required to eliminate this loss of welfare.



**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**





Activity 17 – Government intervention

1. In groups of four to five, make a brief presentation for your class summarising why governments may intervene in markets. Your presentation does not need to be on a particular market, but one of the following methods used by the government.
 - (a) Subsidising goods
 - (b) Taxing goods
 - (c) Maximum prices
 - (d) Minimum prices
 - (e) Legislation and regulation
 - (f) Buffer stock schemes

Remember to think about the specific market failure that is occurring, and consider alternative ways the government could intervene.



INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED





Activity 18 – Government failure

1. Explain the difference between government failure and market failure.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. Below list some of the reasons why governments may cause the market failure with a correct explanation.

Reasons	Explanation
Asymmetric information	Intervention generally has high administrative costs to the government for monitoring companies, collecting of fines, taxes, etc. These costs may outweigh the benefits intervention may provide.
Administrative costs	Government intervention may have some adverse effects.
Distortion of price mechanism	Government may have conflicting priorities, incorrect or compromised measures taking market failure.
Conflicting priorities	Government decisions may not be fully informed by available information.
Unintended consequences	There is a misallocation of resources when the market is not allowed to function freely.

INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Answers

Activity 1 – The basic economic problem

1. a) Needs: e.g. food, water, shelter, companionship, identity.
Wants: Xbox, BMW, caviar, foreign holidays and jewellery.

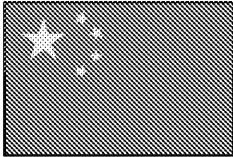
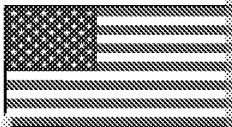


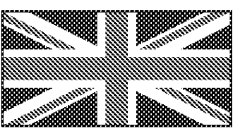

Free goods: air, water, ideas (if not patented).
Economic goods: any good that is scarce (its consumption has an opportunity cost).
2.
 - The Bank of England has set the interest rate at a record low of 0.25%.
 - The government is considering imposing a sugar tax.
 - The Bank of England should not have set the interest rate at 25%, as it is very low.
 - The Bank of England aims to keep the inflation rate at about 2%.
 - A 2% inflation rate is the perfect level of inflation.
3. a)
 - Government
 - Firms
 - Households
 b) Economic agents.

 c)
 - Governments aim to increase overall welfare in the economy.
 - Firms tend to maximise profits.
 - Households seek to maximise their welfare/utility/satisfaction.
4. Our wants are unlimited while resources are limited. Thus, there is scarcity of resources.

Activity 2 – The market economy

2. a) Adam Smith
b) Karl Marx
c) Friedrich Hayek
d) Karl Marx
e) Adam Smith
f) Friedrich Hayek

3.

	Country China Type of economy Command	
	Country France Type of economy Mixed	
	Country UK Type of economy Mixed	

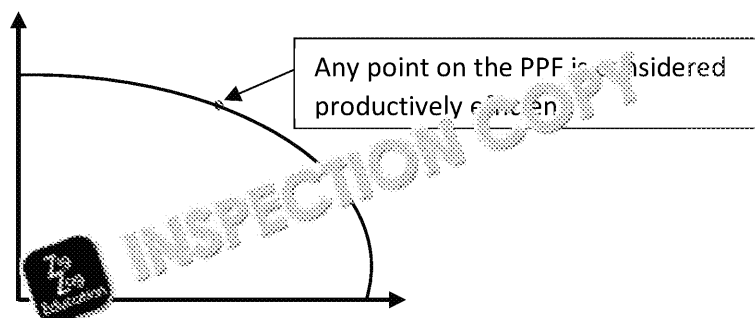
INSPECTION COPY

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity 3 – Productive and allocative efficiency

- Allocating resources fully and efficiently, which represent consumer preferences.
 - Welfare maximisation.
 - $P = MC$
- Producing output at the lowest unit cost.
 - $MC = AC$
 -



- Economic efficiency refers to a situation in which there is both allocative and productive efficiency.

Activity 4 – Allocation of resources and objectives of economic agents

- What to produce?
 - How to produce?
 - For whom to produce?

-

Governments	Economic welfare
Households	Utility, wages
Firms	Sales, profit, revenue

- Each of these agents pursues their objectives by *maximisation*. Firms will attempt to maximise their profit. Consumers will maximise their utility – it seems natural that people strive to be as happy as possible.

Activity 5 – Allocation of resources

- Planned economies: government decides how to allocate resources.
 - Market economies: forces of demand and supply allocate resources automatically.
 - Mixed economies: a combination of the price mechanism and government decisions.

-

Free market economy	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firms tend to profit maximise. Can lead to higher wages for workers, which they can spend. Competition between firms means low prices. Competition also means efficient resource allocation. Production decisions are based on consumer choice, not political decision. Innovation is encouraged – this has effects on the economy. Economic freedom.
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can lead to market failure. Certain public goods are not provided. No control over pollution levels. May create a more unequal society as the rich become richer and the poor become poorer. Profit motive can produce adverse effects on the environment. Free market economies are vulnerable to instability. Businesses can be manipulative, e.g. is product quality what consumers prefer or can businesses manipulate preferences? Promotes consumerism.

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED

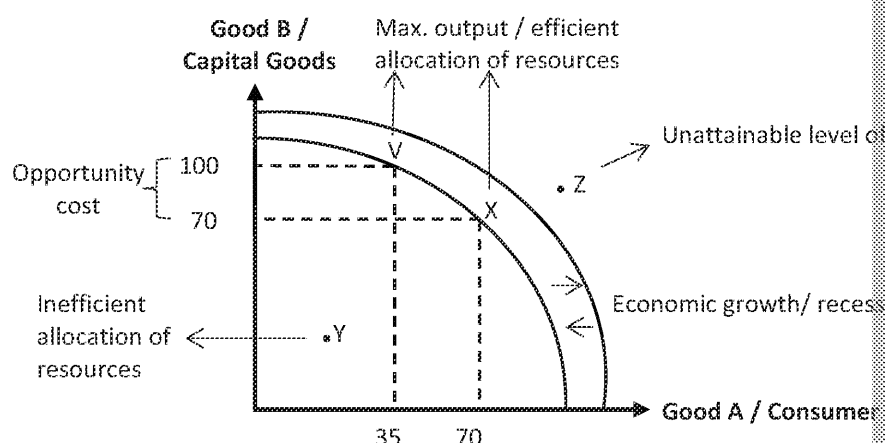


Planned economy	Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More certainty in terms of economic decisions. • Creates more equal societies. • Provides public goods. • Can overcome market failures by government intervention. • Maximises welfare rather than profits. • Produces socially beneficial products.
	Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can lead to government failure. • Public sector does not profit maximise. Production is not based on consumer demand. • Public sector tends to have higher average cost than private sector. • Lack of consumer sovereignty, e.g. consumer choice is limited. • Possible threat to democracy. • Bureaucratic.

Activity 6 – Opportunity cost

- E.g. more time spent on one thing means less time spent on the next best alternative foregone.
 - $15\% \text{ inflation} = 3\%$

2.




3.

Business Decision	Possible Opportunity Cost
Clothes shop purchases a new line of shirts	e.g. a new line of trousers
IT firm repays its loan	e.g. a new computer
School employs more lunchtime staff	e.g. a new teacher
Record shop pays a musician to visit and play	e.g. a new album
Educational publisher writes a new business book	e.g. a new textbook
Football team buys foreign player	e.g. a new kit
Bank opens a new location	e.g. promotion

Activity 7 – Specialisation and Trade

2.

 D I V I S I O N O F I
S P E C I A L I S A T I O N

- Countries can specialise in the production of goods and services for which they have a comparative advantage. Saudi Arabia can specialise in the production of oil. In this manner, all countries can produce goods that they themselves cannot produce due to a shortage of one or more resources.
 - Division of labour also helps to reduce scarcity to an extent because it increases the production of goods and services. Hence, the same amount of resources can produce more goods and services.

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity 8 – Supply and demand (1)

1. a)

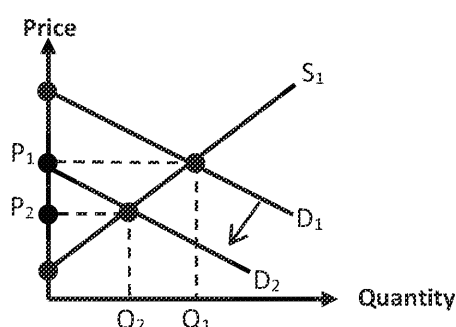
Keywords	Definitions
Individual demand	Quantity demanded by a single producer.
Market demand	Aggregate quantity demanded by producers.
Joint demand	When demand for one good is positively linked to
Composite demand	When a good is demanded for multiple uses.
Competitive demand	Demand for similar goods.
Individual supply	Quantity supplied by a single producer.
Market supply	Aggregate quantity supplied by producers.
Joint supply	When two or more goods are produced together.
Composite supply	When there are a number of sources to supply a good.
Competitive supply	Supply of similar goods.

Activity 9 – Supply and demand (2)

- Shifts in demand may be due to: Demographic changes, changes in fashion, changes in income, changes in prices of related goods.
 - Shifts in supply may be due to: Costs of production, output of related goods, taxes and/or subsidies, natural disasters.

2. a) Consumer surplus will decrease.

b)

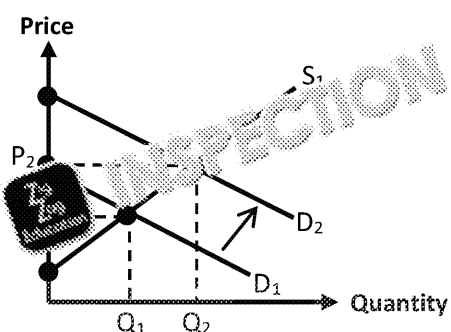


c) Consumer surplus.

d) $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{height} \times \text{base}$

3. a) Demand will increase and the producer surplus will also increase.

b)



c) Producer surplus.

d) $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{height} \times \text{base}$

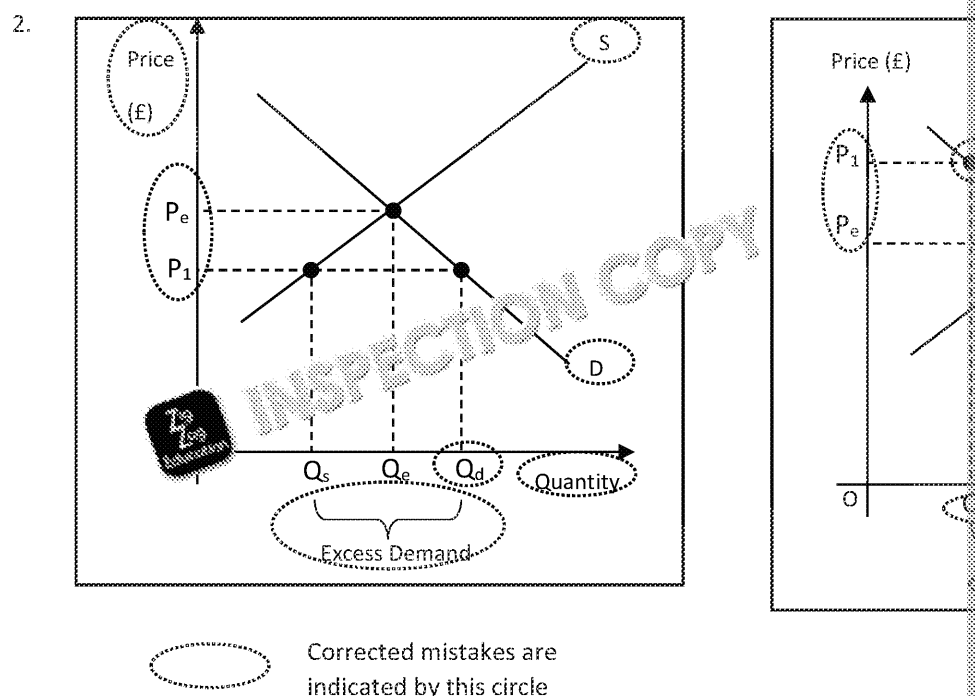
INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Activity 10 – Supply and demand (3)

- Markets are competitive. There are a large number of buyers and sellers in a market, so no individual buyer or seller is a price taker (*not* price makers).
 - Ignores the 'time lags'. For example, it may take a while before a fall in price affects supply.

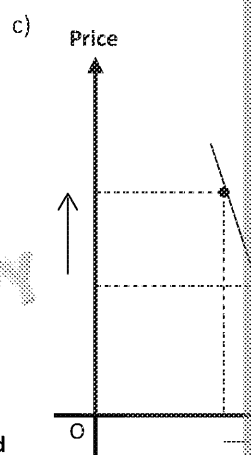
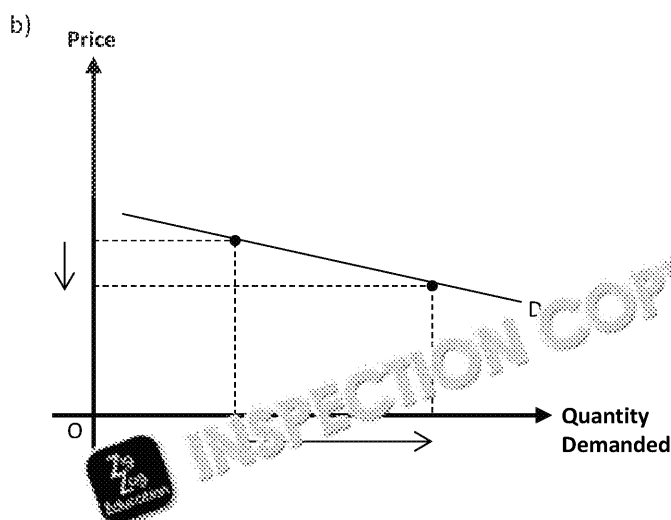


Activity 11 – Price elasticity of demand

- PED measures the responsiveness of demand following a change in the price of a good.

$$\text{Price elasticity of demand} = \frac{\text{Percentage change in quantity demanded}}{\text{Percentage change in price}}$$

- Total revenue = price \times quantity



- When demand is unit elastic.

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED

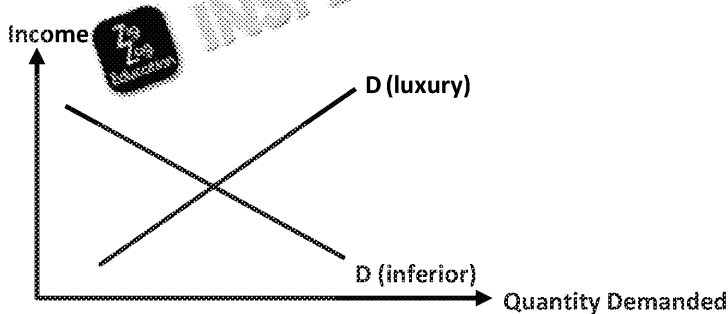


Activity 12 – Income elasticity of demand

1.

Positively elastic demand	$YED > 0$	Normal/luxury good	
Positively inelastic demand	$0 < YED < 1$	Normal good/necessity	
Negatively elastic/inelastic demand	$YED < 0$	Inferior good	

2.



3. XED bigger than 1 suggests that cross elasticity of demand is elastic. This means that if the price of Pepsi will result in a massive increase in the demand for Coca-Cola. Likewise, if the price of Coca-Cola will experience a massive increase in demand, as consumers switch from Coca-Cola to Pepsi.

Activity 13 – Elasticities (1)

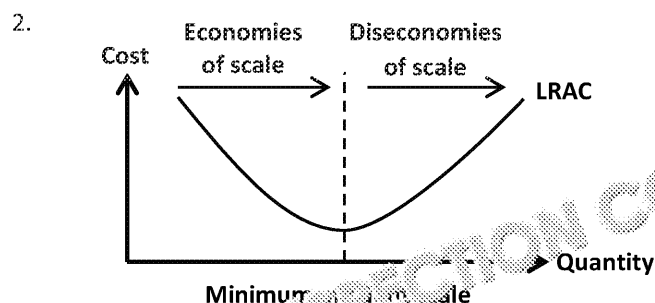
- A. % change in demand = $\frac{500,000 - 1,000,000}{1,000,000} \times 100 = -50\%$
 % change in price = $\frac{10 - 5}{5} \times 100 = 100\%$
 PED (chocolates) = $\frac{-50}{100} = -0.5$
 Inelastic demand
- B. % change in supply = $\frac{500,000 - 300,000}{300,000} \times 100 = 66.67\%$
 % change in price = $\frac{3 - 2}{2} \times 100 = 50\%$
 PES (soup) = $\frac{66.67}{50} = 1.3$
 Elastic supply
- C. % change in demand = $\frac{150,000 - 30,000}{50,000} \times 100 = 200\%$
 % change in income = $\frac{35,000 - 30,000}{30,000} \times 100 = 16.67\%$
 YED (flowers) = $\frac{200}{16.67} = 12$ (approx.)
 Luxury good
- D. % change in demand = $\frac{5 - 15}{15} \times 100 = -66.67\%$
 % change in price = $\frac{3 - 2}{2} \times 100 = 50\%$
 YED (wine) = $\frac{-66.67}{50} = -1.33$
 Inferior good
- E. % change in demand = $\frac{5 - 15}{15} \times 100 = -66.67\%$
 % change in price = $\frac{3 - 2}{2} \times 100 = 50\%$
 XED (tea or milk) = $\frac{-66.67}{50} = -1.33$
 Complementary goods

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Activity 15 – Economies and diseconomies of scale

1. a) When an increase in the size of a firm leads to a decrease in its average cost.
b) When there is a decrease in the average cost of a firm due to an increase in the size of the firm it operates in.
c) When an increase in the size of a firm also leads to an increase in its average cost.



3.

Financial economies	Easier access to credit for larger businesses.
Technical economies	Technology that might not be suitable for small businesses, e.g. automated distribution systems.
Managerial economies	Room for specialist managers once a business grows large enough for business development, manager of human resources.
Marketing economies	Nationwide advertising is expensive so likely only cost-effective for large businesses.
Risk-bearing economies	Larger businesses can cross-subsidise losses from different areas. For example, a retail store in London could cross-subsidise the losses of a store in a less profitable area.

Activity 16 – Market failure (1)

1.

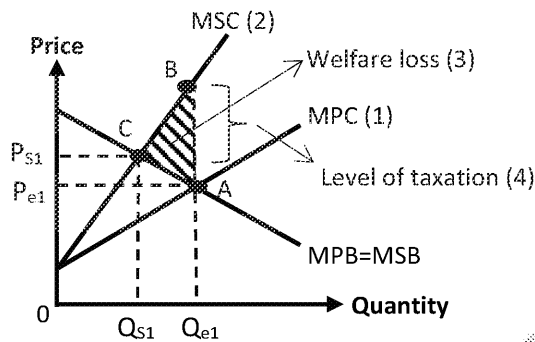
Market failure	This refers to the misallocation of resources that result from market failure.
Misallocation of resources	This refers to the inefficient use of resources. In other words, it is not the best possible way, which means the market is not efficient.
Externality	This refers to the additional consequences, positive or negative, of a transaction that affect third parties.
Private cost	This is the direct cost of production to the producer.
External cost	This is the cost to the third party of production or consumption.
Social cost	This is the external cost and private cost combined.
Private benefit	This is the direct benefit or utility of consumption to the consumer.
External benefit	This is the benefit to the third party of production or consumption.
Social benefit	This is the external benefit and private benefit combined.
Marginal private cost	This is the private cost of producing one more unit of a good or service.
Marginal private benefit	This is the private benefit of consuming one more unit of a good or service.
Marginal social cost	This is the cost of producing one more unit of a good or service to society.
Marginal social benefit	This is the benefit of consuming one more unit of a good or service to society.
Market equilibrium	This is where the marginal private benefit is the same as the marginal private cost of producing and consuming a good or a service.
Social equilibrium	This is where the marginal social benefit is the same as the marginal social cost of producing and consuming a good or a service.
Welfare loss	This refers to the loss in efficiency that results from market failure.
Welfare gain	This refers to the gain in efficiency as the market moves towards social equilibrium.
Economic agents	These are all the stakeholders in an economy (i.e. they have an interest in the economy).
Government intervention	This refers to the measures that a government undertakes to correct market failure.

COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED



Activity 17 – Market failure (2)

1.



The government could tax cigarettes to discourage consumers from purchasing them.

Activity 18 – Government failure

1. Market failure refers to the misallocation of resources that result from the price mechanism. Government failure refers to the misallocation of resources that results from measures taken to correct the initial misallocation of resources caused due to market failure.

2.

Reasons	Explanation
Asymmetric information	Government decisions may not be fully informed due to asymmetric information.
Administrative costs	Intervention generally has high administration costs for the government for monitoring compliance of rules. These costs may be greater than the benefits of intervention.
Distortion of price mechanism	There is a misallocation of resources when the price mechanism is not allowed to function freely.
Conflicting priorities	Government may have conflicting priorities, which may lead to compromised measures taking place to deal with the problem.
Unintended consequences	Government intervention may have some additional negative consequences.

INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**

