

AQA A-LEVEL ECONOMICS • 7136

ECONOMICS



EXAM QUESTION PACK

3.2.2.3 THE DETERMINANTS OF AGGREGATE DEMAND

SCORE

/177

PERCENTAGE

%

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1.

In the past few years, CPI inflation has often differed by more than 1% from its 2% target. In the winter of 2015 the UK experienced a brief period of deflation but, more recently, inflation has been over 3%.

Explain the main causes of a rise in inflation.

[15 marks]

2.

The Global Context Extract B (lines 13 –15) refers to the possible benefit to the UK and other economies if countries hosting major sports competitions become more open to investment in the long term.

Explain the term 'investment' **and** analyse **two** possible economic benefits for the UK when it is investing overseas.

[9 marks]

3.**THE GLOBAL CONTEXT****Extract B: Winners and losers**

The debate over the consequences of globalisation for individual countries continues. Inevitably, there will be benefits and costs, winners and losers. For example, whilst the UK has experienced deindustrialisation, its service sector has been successful in world markets.	1
As the debate continues, one aspect of globalisation cannot be disputed: that the greater integration of economies has meant that major events occurring in one part of the world will have an impact not just on the affected country or region but are now much more likely to have global significance.	5
Some events are known about well in advance of them actually happening. Major sports competitions are an example. In 2012, for instance, the UK will host the Olympic Games. Similarly, Russia and Qatar will host the football World Cup in 2018 and 2022 respectively. The economic impact of such events on host countries is likely to be positive. For other countries, the immediate impact is likely to be more limited. However, the UK and other economies could benefit if these events make the host countries more open to trade and investment in the long term.	10
Other events are far less predictable or are completely unpredictable. For example, how might the UK cope with a disruption to gas and oil supplies if relations with Russia deteriorate or political turbulence in the Middle East escalates? What path to recovery will the UK take following the devastating effects of the 2008 US financial crisis?	15
Generalisations about the economic impact of natural disasters are often unhelpful. Hurricane Katrina in 2006, which caused billions of dollars of damage in the New Orleans area of the USA, had minimal economic impact on the rest of the world. However, the Japanese earthquake and tsunami in 2011 are on a different scale. Japan accounts for 7% of world GDP. There are fears that the scale of the damage may lead to a return to recession in Japan, as fearful Japanese consumers spend less and save more. Global supply chains originating in Japan, such as car components supplied to the rest of the world, have been severely disrupted. The UK, as well as Japan's other trading partners, will struggle to maintain exports to the Japanese market until stability is restored.	20
Like any other country, the UK needs to have a strong economy to be able to respond successfully to all types of global event and to secure sustained economic growth. Important factors include high productivity, resource mobility, innovation, skilled labour, a strong infrastructure in its widest sense and general flexibility in the economy. The ability to make use of these supply-side qualities will, however, also depend on aggregate demand. The impact of major global events on UK aggregate demand will inevitably vary considerably, positively or negatively, with unknown consequences for macroeconomic performance.	25
	30
	35

Source: news reports, 2010/11

4.

The European Union Context Extract D (lines 22–23) argues that government spending ‘can initiate a powerful stimulus to an economy through the multiplier process’.

Explain ‘the multiplier process’ **and** analyse its possible impact on an economy’s unemployment **and** economic growth.

[9 marks]

Extract D: Is EU unity threatened?

Europe, and indeed much of the world, was shaken by the depth of the economic downturn from 2008. Many countries, including the UK, saw the solution to be a return to Keynesian economics and, therefore, tolerance of large budget deficits. This was coupled with significant monetary expansion, so that, in the UK for example, the Bank of England Bank Rate was cut to 0.5% in 2009, accompanied by a policy of 'quantitative easing' (increases in the money supply). 1
5

The UK pressed other EU governments to embark on fiscal expansion. Not all shared the UK's enthusiasm and, at best, wanted only a much more modest fiscal stimulus than was the case in the UK. However, events sometimes overtook such wishes. Ironically, given the scale of the UK fiscal stimulus, until the latter part of 2009 the UK was the only major economy to remain in recession. This may reflect the greater significance of the housing and financial sectors in the UK compared to other EU countries. 10

The fiscal position of many EU countries has given rise to concern. Italy, for example, now has a national debt (the total outstanding debt of central government) of around 120% of GDP, even though its annual budget deficit is not exceptionally large. Some countries have shown a greater determination than Italy to cut their deficits. In December 2009, for example, Ireland announced sharp cuts in public sector wages. But it is certainly not just Italy which has shown complacency. The EU's Stability and Growth Pact limits annual borrowing to 3% of GDP. EU governments are under increasing pressure to return to this target by 2014. 15
20

The short- to medium-term benefits of fiscal expansion during downturns cannot be denied. Government spending can initiate a powerful stimulus to an economy through the multiplier process. Aggregate demand therefore rises. The UK Pre-Budget Report put government spending at £676 billion. Tax cuts will give households more spending power. Coupled with cheap credit and retail price discounts, recovery can therefore be helped through increased consumption. 25

However, the impact of increased government borrowing arising from budget deficits across the EU is of concern amongst some economists. It may eventually force the authorities to increase interest rates, lead to 'crowding-out' of private sector activity and make public spending cuts and tax increases an inevitability. In the UK, for example, a VAT rate of 17.5% was restored in January 2010 following a temporary cut to 15%. Equally, the 2009 Pre-Budget Report announced an increase in National Insurance contributions. 30

The problem in trying to assess the impact of fiscal expansion is, of course, not knowing what might have happened without it. Certainly, some economists are quick to attribute the end of recession in France and Germany in 2009 to such fiscal loosening. Indeed, it is difficult to argue that, for any country in the EU, economic growth and employment cannot be beneficial to some extent at a time when business and consumer confidence are both at a low level. 35

Whether such a policy eventually causes inflation to make an unwelcome return remains to be seen. At that point, EU members may experience a greater urgency to balance budgets and reduce monetary expansion. 40

Source: various sources, 2010

6.

The European Union Context Extract E (lines 8–9) states: ‘There’s a lack of concern about international competitiveness in France.’

Explain what is meant by ‘international competitiveness’ **and** analyse how the international competitiveness of France might be improved.

[9 marks]

7.

THE EUROPEAN UNION CONTEXT

Extract E: The French economy faces problems

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned the French government that, unless it makes major economic reforms to lower its labour costs and avoid tax rises, the economy is likely to experience reduced growth. This view was echoed in a recent survey of bankers, in which France was identified as the most serious threat to Europe’s recovery from the debt crisis which has crippled growth and driven unemployment to record highs. The outlook for France, the Eurozone’s second largest economy, is more worrying than that for Italy, Spain or Germany.

1

5

The Chief Executive officer of the Institute of International Finance said: ‘There’s a lack of concern about international competitiveness in France.’ French President, François Hollande, is failing to revive business investment in the face of one of the world’s highest tax burdens. Such investment could generate greater efficiency and higher productivity, especially important if the euro’s exchange rate does not always work in France’s favour.

10

An IMF spokesperson, Edward Gardner, also said that French unemployment, which currently stands at 11%, would continue to rise, despite President Hollande’s vow to reduce it by the end of the year. ‘It reflects in large part a general phenomenon in Europe that the recovery is slower in coming than we had expected.’ The euro area’s recovery almost came to a halt as the French economy unexpectedly shrank and German growth slowed.

15

The failure of the French economy to improve is in contrast to the overall success of the German economy and the stronger signs of recovery in the UK. President Hollande now faces difficult choices in reducing government spending to reach European budget deficit commitments. Furthermore, a recent announcement that VAT will rise, despite previous claims that there would be no significant tax rises, may cause further problems for the economy.

20

25

Source: News reports, 2013

8.

In May 2014, the European Central Bank (ECB) President, Mario Draghi, warned that there was a risk of deflation across economies in Europe.

Explain why deflation may occur in an economy.

[15 marks]

9.

Which one of the following is an injection into the circular flow of income of the UK?

- A UK households buying goods from UK firms out of their current income ☐
- B The purchase of raw materials by UK firms from abroad ☐
- C UK firms retaining some of their income as profit ☐
- D The government spending money on old age pensions ☐

[1 mark]

10.

The Balance of Payments Extract E (lines 8–10) states that: ‘The hope was that with sterling having lost about a quarter of its value since the financial crash five years previously, this depreciation would have boosted exports ...’

With the help of a diagram, explain how a boost to exports would help the recovery of the UK economy.

[9 marks]

11.

It is now nearly a decade since the financial crisis caused a recession in the UK. In March 2009, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) set the UK Bank Rate at 0.5%, which was a record low, in order to stimulate economic growth.

Explain the main features of a recession.

[15 marks]

12.

Explain how the data in **The Balance of Payments Extract D** show that increasing growth in real GDP frequently leads to an increased deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services.

[4 marks]

13.

The Balance of Payments

Extract E: Re-balancing the UK economy

The UK government wants to re-balance the economy more towards investment, manufacturing and exports, and away from consumption and government spending. Manufacturing only accounts for around 11% of what is produced in Britain, while the service sector accounts for over three-quarters of UK GDP. 1

Britain, which until recently exported more to Ireland than to the combined BRIC economies (Brazil, Russia, India, and China), wants to export more to emerging economies and help its companies access the fastest-growing markets in the world. 5

In 2012, Britain's trade deficit hit its highest level since 2007. The hope was that with sterling having lost about a quarter of its value since the financial crash five years previously, this depreciation would have boosted exports in the same way that it did during the early 1990s, when the pound depreciated after a sterling crisis. The last time that Britain had a trade surplus was towards the end of that decade, in 1997. 10

Source: news reports, February 2014

14.

The Balance of Payments

Extract D: UK trade figures and real GDP growth 2006 - 2012

	UK trade balance			Real GDP (% change on previous year)
	Trade in goods (£ million)	Trade in services (£ million)	Balance of trade in goods and services (£ million)	
2006	-76 842	41 643	-35 199	2.8
2007	-90 535	53 802	-36 733	3.4
2008	-94 261	61 689	-32 572	-0.8
2009	-82 933	59 560	-23 373	-5.2
2010	-98 585	65 733	-32 852	1.7
2011	-100 092	76 832	-23 260	1.1
2012	-108 700	75 319	-33 381	0.3

Source: news reports 2014

15.

Economic Growth and Development in Africa Extract B (lines 4–5) states: ‘Economists can generally agree on the causes of economic growth such as investment, innovation and improvements in productivity’.

With the help of a diagram, explain why investment can lead to increased economic growth.

[9 marks]

16.

Explain the term ‘upturn in the economic cycle’ (**Extract E**, line 1) **and**, with the help of a diagram, analyse why this may have caused Spain’s unemployment rate to fall.

[9 marks]

17.

Economic growth and development in Africa

Extract B: Living standards

Economic growth in Africa is expected to accelerate in 2014 and 2015. However, this growth is failing to translate into job creation and the broad-based development that is needed to reduce high poverty and rising inequality rates in many countries, the UN has said. 1

Economists can generally agree on the causes of economic growth such as investment, innovation and improvements in productivity. There is greater disagreement over the consequences. An important part of the debate is the impact of economic growth on economic development and living standards. The debate has become more complex as measurement of economic development has become more sophisticated. However, real GDP per capita (income per head) remains one of the basic measures. Various indices, such as the Human Development Index, incorporate a number of factors into their calculations in order to give as comprehensive a view of living standards as possible and to allow more accurate international comparisons. Factors include life expectancy, infant mortality and nutritional levels. 5 10

Supporters of continued economic growth point to increased employment, greater welfare, more support for the disadvantaged and more resources for health, education and infrastructure. Opponents of unconstrained economic growth point to the rapid depletion of exhaustible natural resources, environmental deterioration and a widening inequality in the distribution of income and wealth. 15

Source: News reports 2013

18.

Explain the phrase ‘devaluation of the exchange rate’ (**Extract B**, line 12) **and**, with the help of a diagram, analyse how a devaluation of the Chinese currency (the yuan) may affect economic growth in the UK.

[9 marks]

19.

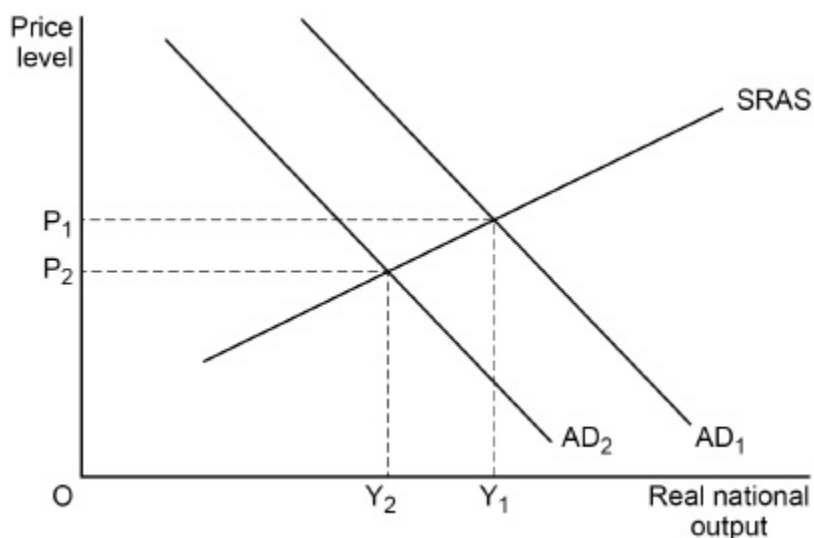
The Government has ruled out the possibility of a rise in VAT before 2020 but other indirect taxes may increase. It has also stated that the personal income tax allowance will be increased from £10 800 in 2015/16 to £12 500 by 2020, and plans to cut the main rate of corporation tax from 20% to 17%.

Explain how changes in both government spending **and** taxation might affect the level of economic activity.

[15 marks]

20.

The diagram below shows two aggregate demand (AD) curves and the short-run aggregate supply (SRAS) curve for an economy.



All other things being equal, the change in real national output from Y_1 to Y_2 is most likely to have been caused by an increase in the

- A government's budget deficit.
- B level of interest rates.
- C size of the labour force.
- D volume of exports.

☐
☐
☐
☐

[1 mark]

21.

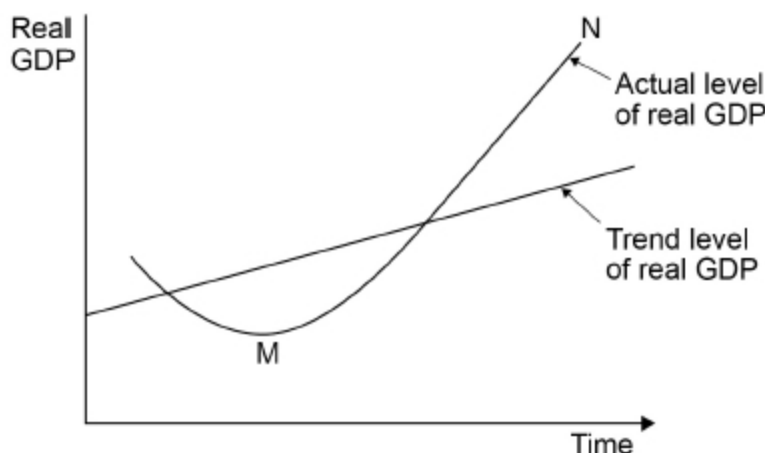
The UK has seen significant changes in its pattern of trade with the rest of the world in terms of what we trade and with whom. The UK's current account deficit widened from £29.1bn in 2011 to £100.2bn in 2015. The deficit in 2015 was 5.4% of GDP, the largest annual deficit as a percentage of GDP since records began in 1948.

Evaluate the measures that might be taken to reduce a deficit on the current account of the UK's balance of payments.

[25 marks]

22.

The diagram below shows the actual level of real GDP and the trend level of real GDP over time for an economy. The economy starts its recovery from recession at point M. After several years of growth the economy reaches point N.



All other things being equal, which one of the following is the most likely consequence of the economy's growth path between points M and N?

- A A decrease in the level of interest rates due to deflation.
- B A decrease in the rate of inflation due to increased output.
- C An increase in investment due to the accelerator process.
- D An increase in the value of the multiplier due to a rise in the savings ratio.

☐
☐
☐
☐

[1 mark]

23.

An African Development Bank report showed that Angola received more direct foreign investment than any other African country in 2015. Angola is a less economically developed country (LEDC) that has had fluctuating economic growth in the past. Despite having suffered from a long civil war which ended in 2002, many multinational corporations (MNCs) are now investing heavily in Angola's growing economy.

Explain the main barriers that LEDCs face when attempting to achieve stable, long-term economic growth.

[15 marks]

24.

Explain how the data in **Extract D (Figures 1 and 2)** show that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014.

[4 marks]

25.

Using the data in **Extract D (Figure 2)**, calculate the average amount saved per household in 2016 if average household income was £26 300. Give your answer to the nearest pound.

[2 marks]

26.

The marginal propensity to consume (MPC) in an economy is 0.5. If the MPC increases by 20% the new value of its multiplier will be

A 2.0

☐

B 2.5

☐

C 5.0

☐

D 10.0

☐

[1 mark]

Mark schemes

1.

Relevant issues include:

- definitions/explanations: inflation, cost-push inflation, demand-pull inflation, the general price-level, price indices
- explaining possible causes of rises in demand-pull inflation through an increase in the components of AD such as:
 - increased consumption due to the falling unemployment
 - increased investment due to falling interest rates
 - increased government spending due to a discretionary policy to raise welfare spending, e.g. pensions
 - increased exports due to higher economic growth in a trade partner
 - decreased imports and increased exports due to a depreciation in the currency
 - a rise in the money supply supporting the monetarist view and using the Fisher equation
- explaining possible causes of rising cost-push inflation through an increase in the costs of the factors of production such as:
 - rising wage costs
 - rising raw material costs
 - rising commodity prices such as oil
- explaining external shocks which may impact upon inflation
- explain microeconomic issues which may impact upon inflation such as rising housing costs affecting the RPI measure or possible collusion in energy markets affecting domestic fuel prices
- explaining possible short-run reasons for increases in prices and long-run reasons.

The use of relevant diagrams to support the analysis such as rising AD/AS should be taken into account when assessing the quality of the student's response to the question.

Level of response	Response	Max 15 marks
3	A good response provides an answer that: • is well organised and develops a selection of the key issues that are relevant to the question • shows sound knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles with few, if any, errors • includes good application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, good use of data to support the response • includes well-focused analysis with clear, logical chains of reasoning.	11 – 15 marks
2	A reasonable response provides an answer that: • focuses on issues that are relevant to the question • shows satisfactory knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some weaknesses may be present • includes reasonable application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, some use of data to support the response • includes some reasonable analysis but which might not be adequately developed or becomes confused in places.	6 – 10 marks
1	A weak response provides an answer that: • has identified one or more relevant issues • has some limited knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some errors are likely • has very limited application of relevant economic principles to the given context and/or data to the question • might have some limited analysis but it may lack focus and/or become confused.	1 – 5 marks

[15]

Explanation

For defining investment, for example, that which is spent on capital equipment which can be used to create output and / or improve efficiency.

Investment and its linkage with aggregate demand

Investment as an injection into the circular flow

Investment and human capital

Overseas investment, such as FDI, portfolio investment or investment by multinational companies.

Examples of investment.

Use of technical terms, e.g. gross / net investment; private / social capital; physical / financial capital.

For use of a relevant diagram, e.g. circular flow

Analysis of benefit

Overseas investment spearheading trade links boosting the export sector. Overseas investment can spearhead trade links thus helping to boost the UK export sector. This in turn can be the growth inducing factor for the economy, especially by generating an export multiplier leading to an economic stimulus of the sector.

Stronger international linkages benefiting the balance of payments on current account.

The potential benefits to domestic employment.

Profit, interest, dividends (PID) from overseas investment and uses to which these might be put.

Any other valid analysis.

Use of appropriate diagrams, e.g. AD / AS.

References to the UK economy in the analysis.

4.

For candidates who:

Explain

- by first defining the multiplier, eg the amount by which an increase in injections into the circular flow of money will increase total income in the economy
- by referring to the various injections into the circular flow and perhaps providing the contrast with leakages or withdrawals
- by providing a formula or formulae
- the process by relating the multiplier to aggregate demand, GDP etc.

Analyse the impact on unemployment, eg:

- the multiplier may be initiated by an increase in government capital expenditure, eg on road building. This not only creates jobs in the road-building sector but, as these workers begin to spend their income, jobs are also created in other sectors and so unemployment in the economy can be reduced
- exports and job creation
- private sector investment and job creation
- income changes across the economy.

Analyse the impact on economic growth, eg:

- if the multiplier serves its purpose and stimulates AD, by increasing incomes and household consumption, this will stimulate domestic production to some extent and this will cause a rise in actual growth as measured by GDP
- the impact of an investment-induced multiplier on AD and on productive capacity, and hence potential growth
- the impact of an export-led multiplier on AD with the potential for supply-side benefits also
- to the extent that the multiplier process may help sustain AD, it will make it less likely that capacity will be 'destroyed', eg plant being scrapped, and this may have beneficial consequences for future economic growth.

Reward references to the UK / other economies

[9]

6.

Explanation:

Definition: As there is no single definition for this, any suitable definitions can be credited: eg The ability of an economy to sell goods and services in or to other countries and linking to the theory comparative advantage or in terms of lower costs of production or price/non price competitiveness

Analysis:

For Example: A fall in corporation tax may reduce a firms costs therefore the firms expected profits may rise and improve confidence which may be a catalyst for investment which may increase spending on both human capital and physical capital which may lead to productivity advancements allowing firms to sell goods for cheaper on international markets.

Use of appropriate diagrams, eg AD/AS

Reference to the UK or other economies.

[9]

8.

Relevant issues include:

- lower AD leading to a fall in the price level
- reduction in consumer confidence and spending
- lower business confidence and investment
- price cutting by firms in a period of recession
- recession/deflation in the rest of the world
- falling world commodity prices
- strengthening exchange rate
- technological breakthroughs lowering costs of production
- impact of cheaper imports from low waged economies
- malign v benign deflation

The use of relevant diagrams to support the analysis should be taken into account when assessing the quality of the student's response to the question.

[15]

9.

D

[1]

10.

Level of response	An answer that:	Max 9 marks
3	• is well organised and develops one or more of the key issues that are relevant to the question • shows sound knowledge and understanding of relevant economic terminology, concepts and principles • includes good application of relevant economic principles and/or good use of data to support the response • includes well-focused analysis with a clear, logical chain of reasoning • includes a relevant diagram that will, at the top of this level, be accurate and used appropriately.	7-9 marks
2	• includes one or more issues that are relevant to the question • shows reasonable knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some weaknesses may be present • includes reasonable application of relevant economic principles and/or data to the question • includes some reasonable analysis but it might not be adequately developed and may be confused in places • may include a relevant diagram.	4-6 marks
1	• is very brief and/or lacks coherence • shows some limited knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some errors are likely • demonstrates very limited ability to apply relevant economic principles and/or data to the question • may include some very limited analysis but the analysis lacks focus and/or becomes confused • may include a relevant diagram but the diagram is not used and/or is inaccurate in some respects.	1-3 marks

An AS/AD diagram is expected, showing a rightward shift of the AD curve.

Relevant issues include:

- meaning of recovery
- exports as a component of aggregate demand
- impact on output and employment in the export-producing sectors
- export-led multiplier effects
- possible accelerator effects

[9]

11.

For defining / explaining • Recession • Economic growth • The trade cycle.	Up to 2 marks per definition or explanation to a maximum of 4 marks
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Award 1 mark for each logical link in the chain of reasoning:

For example Higher unemployment (1 mark) much of which will be cyclical unemployment (1 mark) due to a lack of AD which causes disposable incomes to fall (1 mark) which leads to further negative multiplier effects (1 mark) which may mean even less revenue and profits for firms (1 mark). Firms are also likely to be reluctant to hire new staff due to existing spare capacity (1 mark) and may just run down existing stocks (1 mark) rather than increase output (1 mark) which may exacerbate the unemployment problem and lead to both hysteresis (1 mark) and further problems of demotivated “long-term” unemployment (1 mark). Other issues include: Effects on inflation, balance of payments on current account, poverty, and investment.	Up to 15 marks
Use of diagrams to help support explanations, e.g. trade cycle, AD/AS	Up to 2 marks per diagram (1 mark for labelling, 1 mark for correct information shown) to a maximum of 4 marks
Reference to the UK and/or other economies.	1 mark per reference to a maximum of 2 marks

[15]

12.

Response:	Max 4 marks
- includes evidence that shows that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services. - clearly explains how this data is evidence that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services.	4 marks
- includes evidence that shows that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services. - unclear explanation of how this data is evidence that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services..	3 marks
- includes evidence that shows that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services. - limited explanation of how this data is evidence that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services.	2 marks
- includes evidence that does not clearly show that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services. - no explanation of how this data is evidence that increasing growth in real GDP leads to a reduced deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services.	1 mark

Relevant issues include:

- biggest trade deficit £36, 733 million coincides with the fastest growth rate in GDP (3.4%) in 2007
- years of recession (negative growth in GDP) occur when the deficit on balance of trade in goods and services improves in both years (2008 and 2009)
- when growth picks up in 2010 (1.7% from -5.2% in 2009) the deficit on the balance of trade in goods and service deteriorates (£32 852 million from £23 373 million)
- why an increase in the rate of growth of GDP often leads to an increased deficit in the balance of trade in goods and services

[4]

15.

Level of response	An answer that:	Max 9 marks
3	- is well organised and develops one or more of the key issues that are relevant to the question - shows sound knowledge and understanding of relevant economic terminology, concepts and principles - includes good application of relevant economic principles and/or good use of data to support the response - includes well-focused analysis with a clear, logical chain of reasoning - includes a relevant diagram that will, at the top of this level, be accurate and used appropriately.	7-9 marks
2	- includes one or more issues that are relevant to the question - shows reasonable knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some weaknesses may be present - includes reasonable application of relevant economic principles and/or data to the question - includes some reasonable analysis but it might not be adequately developed and may be confused in places - may include a relevant diagram.	4-6 marks
1	- is very brief and/or lacks coherence - shows some limited knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some errors are likely - demonstrates very limited ability to apply relevant economic principles and/or data to the question - may include some very limited analysis but the analysis lacks focus and/or becomes confused - may include a relevant diagram but the diagram is not used and/or is inaccurate in some respects.	1-3 marks

An AD/AS diagram is expected, illustrating the possible effect of investment on AD and/or LRAS.

A PPF diagram could also be used.

Relevant issues include:

- definition of economic growth; what is meant by investment
- impact of investment on capital stock
- impact of investment on LRAS
- impact of investment on productive capacity
- impact of investment on productivity and efficiency
- impact of investment on AD and possible multiplier effects

[9]

16.

The anticipated diagram would make appropriate use of diagrams, e.g. AD/AS, demand for labour, economic cycle.

Relevant issues include:

- For a relevant explanation of an upturn in the economic cycle: An economic cycle shows the fluctuations in an economy's economic activity over time and an upturn usually refers to a recovery after a recession or slump and indicates that real national income is on the increase.
- If there is an increase in economic activity, it signals that firms are beginning to increase production which may lead to increased business confidence and could lead to increased investment due to the accelerator, seeing as though investment is a component of aggregate demand. This will cause aggregate demand to rise and due to the fact that firms will be producing more output, they will need to hire more workers as labour is a derived demand which will reduce cyclical unemployment leaving consumers with more disposable income and further rises in consumption, further reducing unemployment.

[9]

18.

The anticipated diagram would make appropriate use of diagrams, e.g. AD/AS, currency diagrams.

Relevant issues include:

- For a relevant explanation of a devaluation of the exchange rate: An exchange rate is the value of one currency in terms of another and a devaluation is when a currency is lowered in value against another. This usually occurs in a fixed exchange rate system unlike a depreciation which is in a floating exchange rate system.
- Numerical example of a devaluation.
- As China devalues its currency, the value of the yuan falls in relation to the pound, therefore one pound buys more yuan. This makes imports from China relatively cheaper and exports from the UK to China relatively more expensive, thus the value of imports rises and the value of exports fall which are both components of aggregate demand causing aggregate demand to fall therefore reducing real national output and creating negative short-run economic growth.
- Effects on investment.
- Effects on business confidence.

[9]

19.**Relevant issues include:**

- definitions/explanations: government spending, taxation, economic activity
- explaining the different forms of government spending such as capital/current /transfers
- explaining the levels of government spending
- explaining the reasons for government spending i.e. the redistribution of income and wealth, merit good provision etc.
- explaining how changes in government spending and taxation can influence aggregate demand both directly and indirectly
- explaining discretionary policy
- explaining automatic stabilisers
- explaining the effects of the economic cycle on government spending and taxation
- explaining how changes in government spending could change aggregate supply such as:
 - capital spending on infrastructure
 - training and education
 - subsidies/grants for research and development
 - subsidies/grants for investment
 - tax credits
 - assisted childcare and the effects on labour supply
 - any other relevant point
- multiplier and possible accelerator effects
- explaining the different types of taxation
- explaining how changes in taxation could change aggregate supply such as:
 - reducing income tax creating incentives to work
 - reducing corporation tax allowing firms to retain more profit for investment
 - reducing taxation, possibly making UK firms more competitive abroad and effects on supply
 - using taxation (tariffs) as a form of protectionism, aiding domestic supply
 - any other relevant point.

The use of relevant diagrams such as AD/AS, or labour market diagrams to support the analysis should be taken into account when assessing the quality of the candidate's response to the question.

Note: Unless a candidate considers both government expenditure and taxation, they are unlikely to have 'developed a selection of key issues that are relevant to the question' and therefore unlikely to achieve level 3.

Level of response	Response	Max 15 marks
3	A good response provides an answer that: • is well organised and develops a selection of the key issues that are relevant to the question • shows sound knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles with few, if any, errors • includes good application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, good use of data to support the response • includes well-focused analysis with clear, logical chains of reasoning.	11 – 15 marks
2	A reasonable response provides an answer that: • focuses on issues that are relevant to the question • shows satisfactory knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some weaknesses may be present • includes reasonable application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, some use of data to support the response • includes some reasonable analysis but which might not be adequately developed or becomes confused in places.	6 – 10 marks
1	A weak response provides an answer that: • has identified one or more relevant issues • has some limited knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some errors are likely • has very limited application of relevant economic principles to the given context and/or data to the question • might have some limited analysis but it may lack focus and/or become confused.	1 – 5 marks

[15]

20.

B

[1]

21.**Areas for discussion include:**

- definitions/explanations: the balance of payments, the current account, current account deficit
- explaining the difference between a surplus or deficit on current account
- explaining the composition of the current account of the balance of payments
- explaining the historical experience of the UK's current account
- explaining the causes of deficits
- explain possible measures to reduce the deficit such as:
 - exchange rate manipulation
 - changes in interest rates potentially affecting the exchange rate
 - expenditure-reducing policies
 - expenditure-switching policies
 - the role of protectionism
 - government role in export promotion/trade deals
 - the role of fiscal and monetary policy
 - supply-side improvements which might begin to provide a solution to the weakness, such as:
 - competitiveness/unit labour costs
 - investment (human and physical capital)
 - technology, R&D and productivity
 - infrastructure
- consideration of the UK's membership of the WTO and EU restricting its ability to use protectionism
- consideration of whether the deficit is a problem if the capital account is in surplus
- consideration of the impact on other macroeconomic goals of trying to reduce the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments.

The use of relevant diagrams such as AD/AS diagrams to support the analysis should be taken into account when assessing the quality of the student's response to the question.

Level of response	Response	Max 25 marks
5	Sound, focused analysis and well-supported evaluation that: - is well organised, showing sound knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles with few, if any, errors - includes good application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, good use of data to support the response - includes well-focused analysis with clear, logical chains of reasoning - includes supported evaluation throughout the response and in a final conclusion.	21 – 25 marks
4	Sound, focused analysis and some supported evaluation that: - is well organised, showing sound knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles with few, if any, errors - includes some good application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, some good use of data to support the response - includes some well-focused analysis with clear, logical chains of reasoning - includes some reasonable, supported evaluation.	16 – 20 marks
3	Some reasonable analysis but generally unsupported evaluation that: - focuses on issues that are relevant to the question, showing satisfactory knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some weaknesses may be present - includes reasonable application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, some use of data to support the response - includes some reasonable analysis but which might not be adequately developed or becomes confused in places - includes fairly superficial evaluation; there is likely to be some attempt to make relevant judgements but these are not well-supported by arguments and/or data.	11 – 15 marks
2	A fairly weak response with some understanding that: - includes some limited knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some errors are likely - includes some limited application of relevant economic principles to the given context and/or data to the question - includes some limited analysis but it may lack focus and/or become confused - includes some evaluation which is weak and unsupported.	6 – 10 marks
1	A very weak response that: - includes little relevant knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles - includes application to the given context which, at best, is very weak - includes attempted analysis which is weak and unsupported.	1 – 5 marks

[25]

23.

Relevant issues include:

- definitions/explanations: economic growth, stable growth, LEDCs
- explaining the main characteristics of LEDCs with reference to measurements such as the HDI or GDP
- explaining factors that may be barriers to growth such as:
 - corruption
 - lack of property rights (both physical and intellectual)
 - poor infrastructure
 - a lack of, or poor quality, human capital
 - a lack of, or poor quality, physical capital
 - a lack of savings causing a lack of capital accumulation
 - institutional factors
 - primary product dependency
 - informal employment and a lack of tax revenue.

Note: some candidates may answer this question in terms of why MEDCs find it easier to achieve economic growth. This approach is fine and should be rewarded accordingly.

The use of relevant diagrams to support the analysis should be taken into account when assessing the quality of the student's response to the question.

Level of response	Response	Max 15 marks
3	A good response provides an answer that: • is well organised and develops a selection of the key issues that are relevant to the question • shows sound knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles with few, if any, errors • includes good application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, good use of data to support the response • includes well-focused analysis with clear, logical chains of reasoning.	11 – 15 marks
2	A reasonable response provides an answer that: • focuses on issues that are relevant to the question • shows satisfactory knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some weaknesses may be present • includes reasonable application of relevant economic principles to the given context and, where appropriate, some use of data to support the response • includes some reasonable analysis but which might not be adequately developed or becomes confused in places.	6 – 10 marks
1	A weak response provides an answer that: • has identified one or more relevant issues • has some limited knowledge and understanding of economic terminology, concepts and principles but some errors are likely • has very limited application of relevant economic principles to the given context and/or data to the question • might have some limited analysis but it may lack focus and/or become confused.	1 – 5 marks

[15]

24.

Response	Max 4 marks
- includes evidence that shows that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014 - clearly explains how this data is evidence that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014.	4 marks
- includes evidence that shows that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014 - unclear explanation of how this data is evidence that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014.	3 marks
- includes some limited evidence that shows that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014 - limited explanation of how this data is evidence that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014.	2 marks
- includes evidence that does not clearly show that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014 - no explanation of how this data is evidence that consumer confidence may have risen since 2014.	1 mark

Relevant issues include:

- explanation of relevant terms such as saving ratio and consumer confidence
- explaining why the saving ratio may indicate consumer confidence
- explaining why the gross debt to income ratio is an indicator of consumer confidence
- the household gross debt to income ratio rose in 2014 to 141%, the first rise since 2011 indicating households were more willing to take on debt
- confidence may have been low before 2014, as household gross debt to income was falling from a high of about 168% in 2008 to a low of 140% in 2013 indicating households were reducing indebtedness
- forecast data for the household gross debt to income ratio indicate this will continue to rise until 2020 (to 162%) indicating households are expected to borrow more in the future
- the savings ratio fell in 2014 by 0.9 percentage points from 2012, but had a larger fall after 2014 by 1.3 percentage points in 2016 indicating a small rise in the marginal propensity to consume
- the lowest saving ratio was in 2016 at 7.1% indicating a peak in consumer confidence and willingness to consume
- confidence may have been low before 2014 as the savings ratio peaked in 2010 at 11.2% indicating household pessimism and a reluctance to spend.

[4]

25.

Calculation:

$$£26\,300 \times 0.071 = £1867.30$$

$$= £1867 \text{ to the nearest } £$$

Response	Marks
For a correct answer (£1867) with the £ sign.	2 marks
For a correct answer but without the £ sign and/or not to the nearest £ (eg £1867.30).	1 mark

[2]

26.

B

[1]