Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2017

Pearson Edexcel GCE A Level
in Economics A (9EC0)

Paper 02 The National and Global Economy

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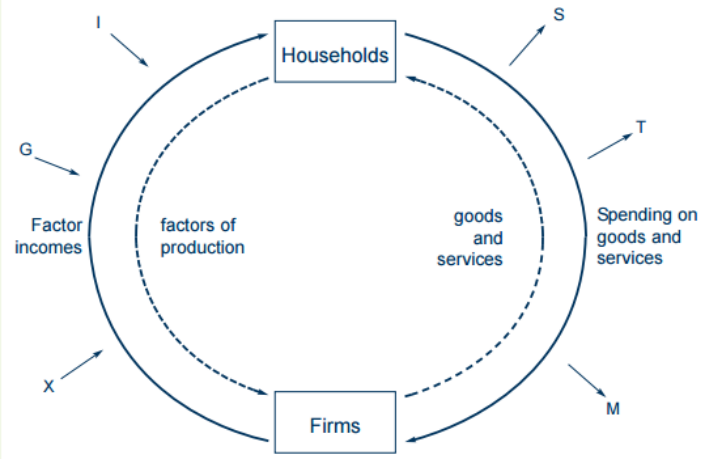
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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1(a)	A	**(1)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1(b)	**Knowledge 2, Application 1, Analysis 1** **Knowledge/understanding:** 1 mark for identifying an effect on the circular flow of income. 1 mark for any specific reference to injections (I, G, X) and/or withdrawals (S, T, M). 1 mark for any specific reference to flows between households and firms. Candidates may achieve these marks using a diagram. **Application:** 1 mark for reference to the chart, e.g. unemployment has fallen. **Analysis:** 1 mark for linked development, explaining link between unemployment and circular flow. For example: Unemployment fell by three percentage points resulting in rising consumption and investment (1) and further rounds of increases in disposable income (1) however household may also spend more on imports (1). An acceptable simple diagram of the circular flow of income might be sketched as follows:  	**(4)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(a)	**Knowledge 2** **Knowledge/understanding**: 1 mark for identifying one reason; 1 mark for linked development, e.g. • The decrease in the mps reflects a rise in the marginal propensity to consume (1) due to rising consumer confidence (1) • Decrease in mps due to rise in marginal propensity to tax (1) to reduce the budget deficit. (1) • Low interest rates (1) reducing the incentive to save/lower rate of return (1)	**(2)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(b)	**Knowledge 2** **Knowledge/understanding**: 1 mark for identifying the effect on the value of the multiplier; 1 mark for the linked development on the size of the multiplier, e.g. • The value of the multiplier is likely to increase (1), due a decrease in withdrawals (1).	**(2)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(c)	D	**(1)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
3(a)	B	**(1)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
3(b)	**Knowledge 2, Analysis 1, Application 1** **Knowledge/understanding:** 2 marks for identifying how UK inflation is measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI); • Inflation rate measures change in average prices in an economy over a year (1) • A representative basket of goods and services used by average households is recorded (1) • A survey of average prices is recorded (1) • Reference to a base year (1) • Reference to Family/Household/Consumer Expenditure Survey (1) **Analysis:** Items are weighted according to proportion of spending on each product (1) **Application:** 1 mark for reference to the chart, e.g. Food and Fuel is dragging inflation downwards For example: A household expenditure survey (1) is completed to decide what goes in to the basket of goods (1). This is used to attach weights to products based on proportion of spending (1). In January 2015 CPI inflation was 0%. (1) **NB: Candidates must refer to weights for the analysis mark.**	**(4)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4(a)	**Application 3, Analysis 1** **Application**: 3 marks for: e.g. • Gini coefficient/inequality fell (1) from 0.36 in 2007 to 0.34 in 2010 (1) • Global Financial Crisis began in 2008 (1) • Changes in taxation and/or government policies (1) **Analysis:** 1 mark for inferences from data, e.g. • Inequality fell due to falling incomes at top of the distribution (top quintiles) (1) • Inequality fell due to increases in benefits at very bottom (quintile). (1) • Inequality constant due to wage/benefit freezes (1).	**(4)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4(b)	A	**(1)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
5(a)	A	**(1)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
5(b)	**Knowledge 2, Application 1, Analysis 1** **Knowledge/understanding**: 1+ 1 for limitations: • ignores qualitative factors, such democracy, quality of education or human rights for example (1) • ignores other measures ranging from gender equity, proportion of workforce in agriculture to environmental biodiversity (1) • ignores income distribution (1) • PPP values change very quickly and are likely to be inaccurate or misleading (1) **Analysis**: 1 mark for linked development. **Application**: 1 mark for reference to the data e.g. Vietnam's HDI 0.666.	**(4)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
6(a)	**Knowledge 1, Application 2, Analysis 2** **Knowledge/Understanding:** Identifying data 0.95 & 0.75 (1) **Application:** • Correct percentage change formula (1) • Correct data inputted into formula (1) **Analysis:** Calculation of the percentage change in the exchange rate: 0.75-0.95 / 0.95 X 100 = -21% (2) **N.B. award full marks for correct answer between -21% and -21.1%** **NB If no reference to minus/fall/decrease then maximum 4 marks**	**(5)**

Question Number	Answer	Mark
6(b)	**Knowledge 2, Application 2, Analysis 2, Evaluation 2** **Knowledge/understanding:** 2 marks for identification of two factors (1+1), e.g. • falling oil prices • falling commodity prices • changing relative exchange rates • government fiscal tightening • low consumer or business confidence • increase in savings **Analysis:** 2 marks for linked explanation of how these explain the fall in Eurozone inflation (1+1), e.g. • Falling oil prices in the world economy reduce key costs of production such as transportation, reducing prices of many products in the economy **Application:** 2 marks (1+1) for reference to the data/candidates' own knowledge, e.g. • From figure 2, Eurozone inflation 0.1% in 2015 (1) • ECB predicts Eurozone inflation to rise 'by just 1 per cent in 2016' (extract A) (1) • Figure 2 shows disinflation occurring (1) • Inflation fell from just over 3% in 2011 (1) to less than 0.25% in 2015 (1) **Evaluation:** 2 marks for evaluation (1+1 / 2) • Inflation likely to rise in the future, with ECB expecting 1.6% in 2017 • Oil prices are very volatile and could easily rise rapidly due to world events such as instability in the Middle East • Rising GDP in the Eurozone may mean more demand-pull inflation in the future • Depends on extent of fiscal tightening by government • Oil prices a significant cost of production for businesses	**(8)**

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
6(c)	**Knowledge 2, Application 2, Analysis 2,** Likely impacts on the current accounts include: • Reduced demand for Eurozone exports as they appear more expensive when converted into other currencies. • Increased demand for Eurozone imports as they appear cheaper when converted into other currencies.	**(6)**

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	A completely inaccurate response.
Level 1	1–2	Displays isolated or imprecise knowledge and understanding of terms, concepts, theories and models. Use of generic or irrelevant information or examples. Descriptive approach which has no link between causes and consequences.
Level 2	3–4	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic principles, concepts and theories. Applies economic ideas and relates them to economic problems in context, although does not focus on the broad elements of the question. A narrow response or the answer may lack balance.
Level 3	5–6	Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using relevant and focused examples which are fully integrated. Economic ideas are applied appropriately to the broad elements of the question.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
6(c) continued	**Evaluation 4** • Euro may not have appreciated against all currencies. • Euro may have appreciated against currencies of countries who do not receive many Eurozone exports. • Magnitude discussion • May change in the long term • Marshall-Lerner condition • J-curve effects • Non-price factors may be more important	**(4)**

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No evaluative comments.
Level 1	1–2	Identification of generic evaluative comments without supporting evidence/ reference to context. No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	3–4	Evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning and appropriate reference to context. Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and/or is critical of the evidence.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
6(d)	**Knowledge 2, Application 2, Analysis 4,** ECB QE programme is effective: • Explanation of process of QE • should encourage banks to increase lending and thus hopefully increase consumption/investment • Inflation/GDP may well have been much lower without QE • Confidence of markets would have been much lower without QE • QE programme to be extended for a further 6 months • Lower interest rates encourages consumption/investment, thus increasing AD and therefore inflation • Low government bond yields for Eurozone countries • Depreciation of the Euro affecting X-M NB One side of this argument should count as KAA and the opposing argument as Evaluation	**(8)**

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	A completely inaccurate response.
Level 1	1–2	Displays isolated or imprecise knowledge and understanding of terms, concepts, theories and models. Use of generic or irrelevant information or examples. Descriptive approach which has no chains of reasoning or links between causes and consequences.
Level 2	3–5	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic principles, concepts and theories. Applies economic ideas and relates them to economic problems in context, although does not focus on the broad elements of the question. A narrow response; chains of reasoning are developed but the answer may lack balance.
Level 3	6–8	Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using relevant and focused examples which are fully integrated. Economic ideas are carefully selected and applied appropriately to economic issues and problems. The answer demonstrates logical and coherent chains of reasoning.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
6(d) continued	**Evaluation 4** ECB QE programme isn't effective: • Inflation likely to remain below target into at least 2017 • Low inflation is largely down to factors outside the central bank's control (e.g. oil prices) • Lack of confidence among firms and consumers meaning they are not responding as the ECB would like to the QE programme • Banks are still reluctant to lend money to firms and consumers • Time lags • Extension of QE programme suggests that it hasn't worked • Other policies may be more effective NB One side of this argument should count as KAA and the opposing argument as Evaluation	**(4)**

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No evaluative comments.
Level 1	1–2	Identification of generic evaluative comments without supporting evidence/reference to context. No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	3–4	Evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning and appropriate reference to context. Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and/or is critical of the evidence.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
6(e)	**Knowledge 3, Application 3, Analysis 3** **Potential policies may include:** • Fiscal policies, e.g. reduced corporation tax to increase investment and therefore increase AD • Supply-side policies, e.g. increased investment in education to create a more highly-skilled and therefore more productive workforce N.B. Candidates may discuss more than one of each type of policy N.B. Candidates must discuss both fiscal and supply-side policies for level 3	**(9)**

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	A completely inaccurate response.
Level 1	1–3	Displays isolated or imprecise knowledge and understanding of terms, concepts, theories and models. Use of generic or irrelevant information or examples. Descriptive approach which has no chains of reasoning or links between causes and consequences.
Level 2	4–6	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic principles, concepts and theories. Applies economic ideas and relates them to economic problems in context, although does not focus on the broad elements of the question. A narrow response; chains of reasoning are developed but the answer may lack balance.
Level 3	7–9	Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using relevant and focused examples which are fully integrated. Economic ideas are carefully selected and applied appropriately to economic issues and problems. The answer demonstrates logical and coherent chains of reasoning.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
6(e) continued	**Evaluation 6** Evaluation of the policies, e.g. • Governments in many Eurozone countries are having to focus on reducing national debt and can't afford policies such as tax cuts • Supply-side policies take a long time to have an impact on the economy	**(6)**

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No evaluative comments.
Level 1	1–2	Identification of generic evaluative comments without supporting evidence/reference to context. No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	3–4	Evidence of evaluation of alternative approaches which is unbalanced. Evaluative comments with supporting evidence/reference to context and a partially-developed chain of reasoning.
Level 3	5–6	Evaluative comments supported by relevant chain of reasoning and appropriate reference to context. Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and/or is critical of the evidence.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
7	**Knowledge 4, Application 4, Analysis 8 Evaluation 9** **NB Candidates may refer to countries imposing protectionist policies themselves or facing protectionist policies from other countries** Effects might include: • Falling output and living standards (analysis based on the law of comparative advantage and empirical evidence of countries following protectionist policies) • Prices increase for consumers and welfare (analysis based on tariff diagram) • Levels of unemployment • Economies of scale for firms • Analysis based on AD/AS – e.g. on inflation • Retaliation by other countries	

	Evaluation points • Depends on the type of protectionism. Quotas might be compared/contrasted with tariffs, for example • Depends on whether the country is in a trade bloc or is exporting to trade blocs. Award other consideration of changes in the patterns of trade • Short run/long run effects, e.g. dumping might have short term benefits and long term costs • Extent of the country's dependency on world trade • Extent of increase in protectionism for the particular country • After the recession the protectionism might start to fall again, or comparison with the 1930s protectionism after the Great Depression • Fear of WTO might mean that protectionism is more insidious. Answers might consider relative success of WTO because rulings are more closely adhered to even if there are more incidences of protectionism, numerically • Justification for protectionism, e.g. inability to change exchange rates, retaliation • Questioning the figure (from Global Trade Alert) – it includes forms other than traditional protectionism, e.g. subsidies to domestic researchers **NB For a Level 4 response, candidates must refer to developing economy in their answer.**	**(25)**

Knowledge, application and analysis		
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	A completely inaccurate response.
Level 1	1–4	Displays isolated or imprecise knowledge and understanding of terms, concepts, theories and models. Use of generic or irrelevant information or examples. Descriptive approach which has no chains of reasoning or links between causes and consequences.
Level 2	5–8	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic principles, concepts and theories. Applies economic ideas and relates them to economic problems in context, although does not focus on the broad elements of the question. A narrow response or superficial, two stage chains of reasoning only.
Level 3	9–12	Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and models. Ability to apply economic concepts and relate them directly to the broad elements of the question with evidence integrated into the answer. Analysis is clear and coherent, although it may lack balance. Chains of reasoning are developed but the answer may lack balance.
Level 4	13–16	Demonstrates precise knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using appropriate examples. Analysis is relevant and focused with evidence fully and reliably integrated. Economic ideas are carefully selected and applied appropriately to economic issues and problems. The answer demonstrates logical and coherent chains of reasoning.

Evaluation		
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No evaluative comments.
Level 1	1–3	Identification of generic evaluative comments without supporting evidence/reference to context. No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	4–6	Evidence of evaluation of alternative approaches which is unbalanced leading to unsubstantiated judgements. Evaluative comments with supporting evidence/reference to context and a partially-developed chain of reasoning.
Level 3	7–9	Evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning and appropriate reference to context. Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and is critical of the evidence provided and/or the assumptions underlying the analysis enabling informed judgements to be made.

Question Number	Indicative content	Mark
8	**Knowledge 4, Application 4, Analysis 8, Evaluation 9** Understanding that oil has a macroeconomic consequence through the effect on the net trade component of AD and/or shifting the costs of production for all firms as SRAS or LRAS shift. Possible macroeconomic consequences may include: • An increase in overall economic activity (real GDP) as the cost of production decreases for businesses, especially for those that are heavily dependent on oil inputs. Application, e.g. a 10% fall in oil prices boosts growth by 0.1 to 0.5 percentage points. • Some sectors such as agriculture, air transport, services involving other travel and oil-intensive manufacturing sectors will benefit as the price of their key input falls. • Benefits for consumers, e.g. real household incomes after essential costs also rise as oil prices fall, which may increase consumer spending, ***but this is not automatically awarded as a factor increasing AD***. The connection involves two possible mechanisms: overall consumer prices fall as cost savings are passed on to households which spend more in domestic markets, and real wages increase as demand for labour rises in fast-expanding sectors. • Oil importing countries e.g. S Korea can stop subsidising energy, enjoy reduced external debt • As a result of growing economic activity, government tax revenues may rise as the tax take from corporate and personal income taxes increase • The fall in the oil price should also have a small impact in narrowing the UK trade deficit. • Application, e.g. prices have fallen by over 75% in 18 months	

	Possible evaluation points include: • Problems for oil producers, with macro effects on employment, tax revenue etc. • The problems in the financial sector – stock markets respond by seeing most prices collapse, especially fuel producers, and stock markets might collapse • Increased external debt for oil exporting countries (and gas, as gas prices are also falling) e.g. Russia, Venezuela • Negative effect on consumer confidence, political instability with impact on markets • Reduced research into new exploration of oil • Reduced investment into new technologies to replace oil ($380 billion) • Externalities might increase or decrease (depending on effect on carbon fuels, fracking firms etc) • Depends on how long the oil prices stays low, and who much further it went/will go • Risks from 'sectoral stagnation' in developed economies or continued problems in the Eurozone e.g. the oil and gas extraction sector is negatively affected by the reduction in the oil price • Government experiences declining tax revenues from the oil and gas sector. **NB For a Level 4 response there must be a logical connection for a change in aggregate demand – do not automatically award an increase/decrease in AD.**	**(25)**

Knowledge, application and analysis		
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	A completely inaccurate response.
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Evaluation		
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Level 3	7–9	Evaluative comments supported by relevant reasoning and appropriate reference to context. Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and is critical of the evidence provided and/or the assumptions underlying the analysis enabling informed judgements to be made.

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