PEARSON EDEXCEL A-LEVEL ECONOMICS B · 9EB0

ECONOMICS



EXAM QUESTION PACK

2.3 PRODUCTIVITY AND EFFICIENCY

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
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Questions

Q1.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

The International Monetary Fund has called on the G20 group of large industrialised countries to boost government spending on infrastructure.

(Source: https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jul/23/imf-calls-for-more-government-spending-as-rate-cuts-lose-their-impact)

(a) Draw an aggregate demand and aggregate supply diagram to show the likely impact of an increase in government spending on infrastructure on a country's price level and real output.

(4)



(b) Which **one** of the following would be an example of government spending on infrastructure?

(1)

An increase in:

☒ **A** construction work on new railway lines

☒ **B** interest payments on the national debt

☒ **C** salaries for teachers

☒ **D** unemployment benefit payments

(Total for question = 5 marks)

Q2.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

Answer the question with a cross in the box you think is correct ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

A number of business groups have signed an open letter to the UK Government asking it to commit to delivering the full High Speed 2 rail link. This will connect London to the northern cities of Manchester and Leeds at a cost of £56 billion and reduce journey times by as much as 50%.

(Source adapted from: https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/22/business-heads-urge-next-pm-to-commit-to-finishing-hs2)

(a) Explain **one** likely impact of this project on aggregate supply in the UK.

(4)

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(b) Government spending on the High Speed 2 rail link is an example of which of the following?

(1)

- ☒ **A** Automatic stabilisers
- ☒ **B** Capital expenditure
- ☒ **C** Current expenditure
- ☒ **D** Transfer payments

(Total for question = 5 marks)

Q3.

(a) Explain the difference between 'good' deflation (Extract B, line 16) and 'bad' deflation (Extract B, line 27).

(5)

(b) With reference to Figure 1 and Extract A, examine the likely reasons for the fall in oil prices since the middle of 2014.

(8)

(c) With reference to Extract A, discuss the factors necessary for the success of a cartel.

(12)

EITHER

(d) With reference to the information provided and your own knowledge, evaluate the microeconomic and macroeconomic effects of a sustained period of deflation.

(25)

OR

(e) With reference to the information provided and your own knowledge, evaluate the

microeconomic and macroeconomic effects of a sustained fall in global oil prices.

(25)

(Total for question = 50 marks)

Q4.

Global oil prices fell from a 2008 peak of $147 a barrel to $27 in 2016.

Evaluate the likely macroeconomic consequences of a significant fall in global oil prices.

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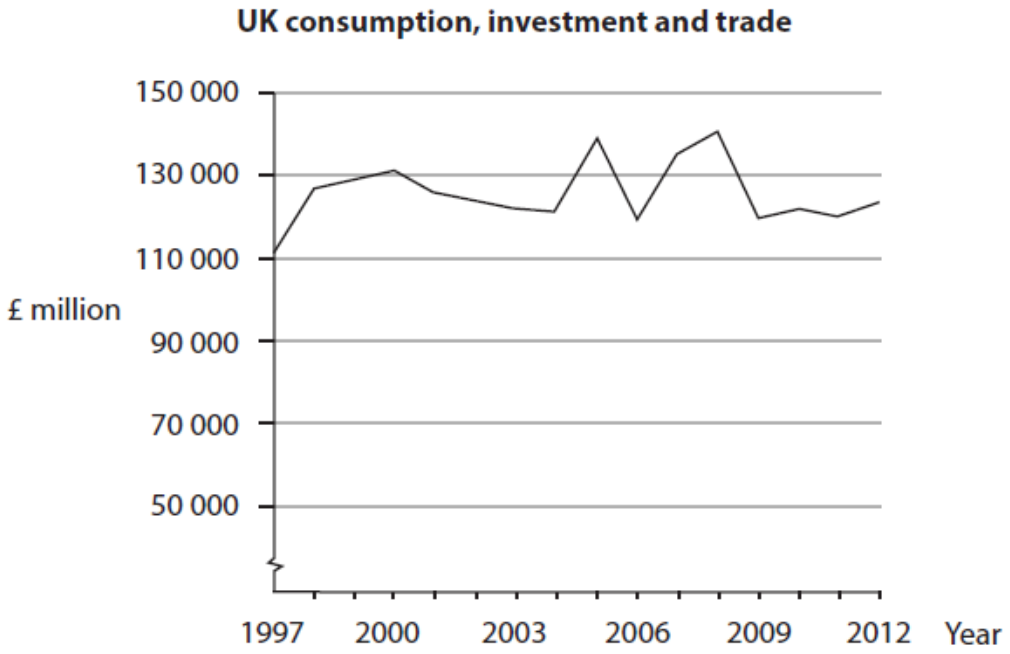
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(Total for question = 25 marks)

Q5.

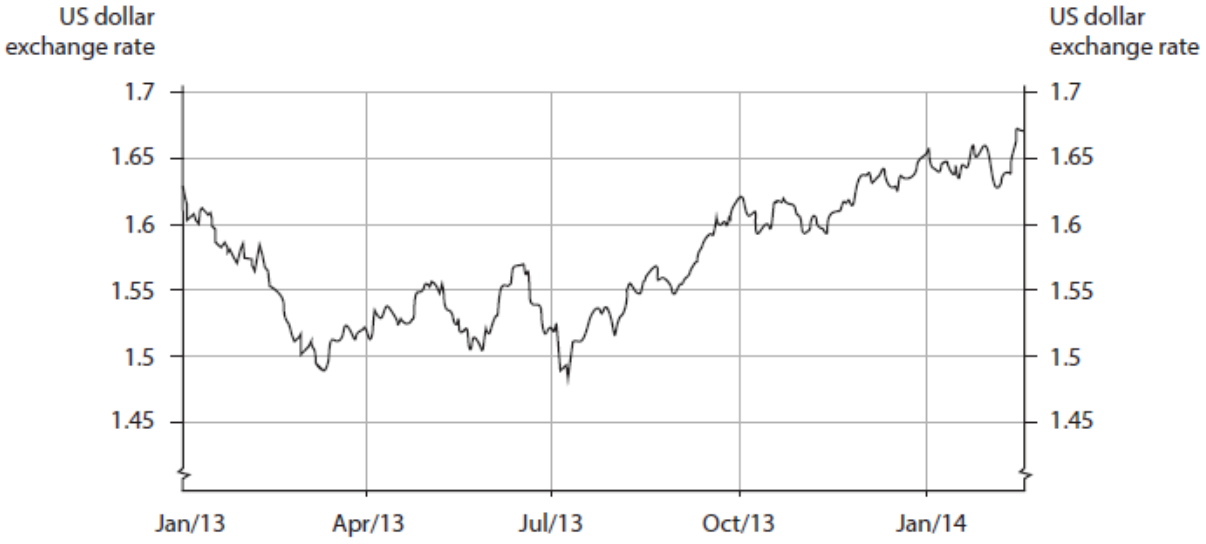


(Source: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/bus-invest/business-investment/q3-2013-provisional-results/stb-business-investment-q3-2013-provisional.html#tab-Business-Investment-and-other-components-of-GFCF)

Figure 1: UK real annual business investment, 1997–2012 (seasonally adjusted)

(a) With reference to Figure 1, explain what has happened to real annual business investment since 2008.

(4)



(Source: http://www.tradingeconomics.com/united-kingdom/currency)

Figure 2: British pound (£) to US dollar ($) exchange rate, 1 January 2013 to mid-February 2014

(b) With reference to Figure 2, explain the likely effect of an appreciation of the British pound (£) against the US dollar ($) on the volume of UK imports from, and UK exports to, the USA.

(5)

Extract A

Why Britain needs a pay rise

UK growth in 2013 has been caused mainly by increases in consumption. Rising consumption tends to encourage companies to invest. The increase in demand for goods and services means firms need more productive capacity, often moving to bigger premises and buying capital equipment. Crucially, though, they only do so if they think the increase in consumption is likely to be permanent.

At the start of 2013, it was hard to see why consumer spending would rise. The economy had recorded little growth for two years and confidence was low. Inflation had been higher than earnings growth during 2012, making it hard for families to manage.

Three factors combined to change the picture: cheap credit, the Bank of England's funding for lending scheme (FLS), and rising consumer confidence. The Bank of England cut its official interest rate to 0.5% in early 2009, but it took a long time for the monetary stimulus to have an impact.

It only really did so when FLS was announced in the summer of 2012. This was a deal under which the commercial (high street) banks could borrow more cheaply from the Bank of England provided they passed on the benefits to their customers.

The idea was that household and business borrowers would benefit: loans would become more readily available and the interest rates charged on them would be lower. Lending to businesses was disappointing, but the impact on the mortgage market was rapid and significant: more mortgages were approved, and at lower rates of interest. This contributed to the improvement in the housing market, which in turn boosted confidence, leading to higher spending, and this led to higher growth.

Consumers ran down their savings to fund this higher spending. Again, this is not unusual. Households become more cautious in troubled times and they save more just to be on the safe side.

However, unless consumers are willing to save less and less and borrow more and more, there is only so long this process can continue. Eventually, consumer spending growth has to be the result of rising real incomes rather than falling savings.

After a year in which the consumer has been the driving force behind the expansion of the economy, 2014 should be the year when investment contributes to growth. Many of the conditions for an increase in business spending are in place: companies are cash rich, profitability is good, interest rates are set to stay low, and ageing capital stock needs replacing.

The one factor not in place is the most important one of all: an increase in real wages. If companies believe that consumers will carry on spending, they are much more likely to go ahead with new investment projects. If they think consumer spending will not increase, then they will be unwilling to invest. This will mean that inflationary pressures build up and the trade deficit will continue to widen.

(Source: adapted from 'Why Britain needs a pay rise', Larry Elliott, *The Guardian*, 29 December 2013 http://www.theguardian.com/money/2013/dec/29/why-britain-needs-pay-rise)

(c) With reference to Extract A, explain **two** reasons why consumer spending rose in 2013.

(6)

(d) Assess the importance of interest rates in determining the level of business investment in the UK.

(10)

(e) Discuss the likely impact of both a lack of new investment and an appreciation of the British

pound (£) on 'inflationary pressures' in the UK (Extract A line 36).

(15)

EITHER

(f) Evaluate whether the UK government should focus on achieving economic growth as its key macroeconomic objective.

(20)

OR

(g) Evaluate the use of monetary policy to achieve the UK's macroeconomic objectives.

(20)

(Total for question = 60 marks)

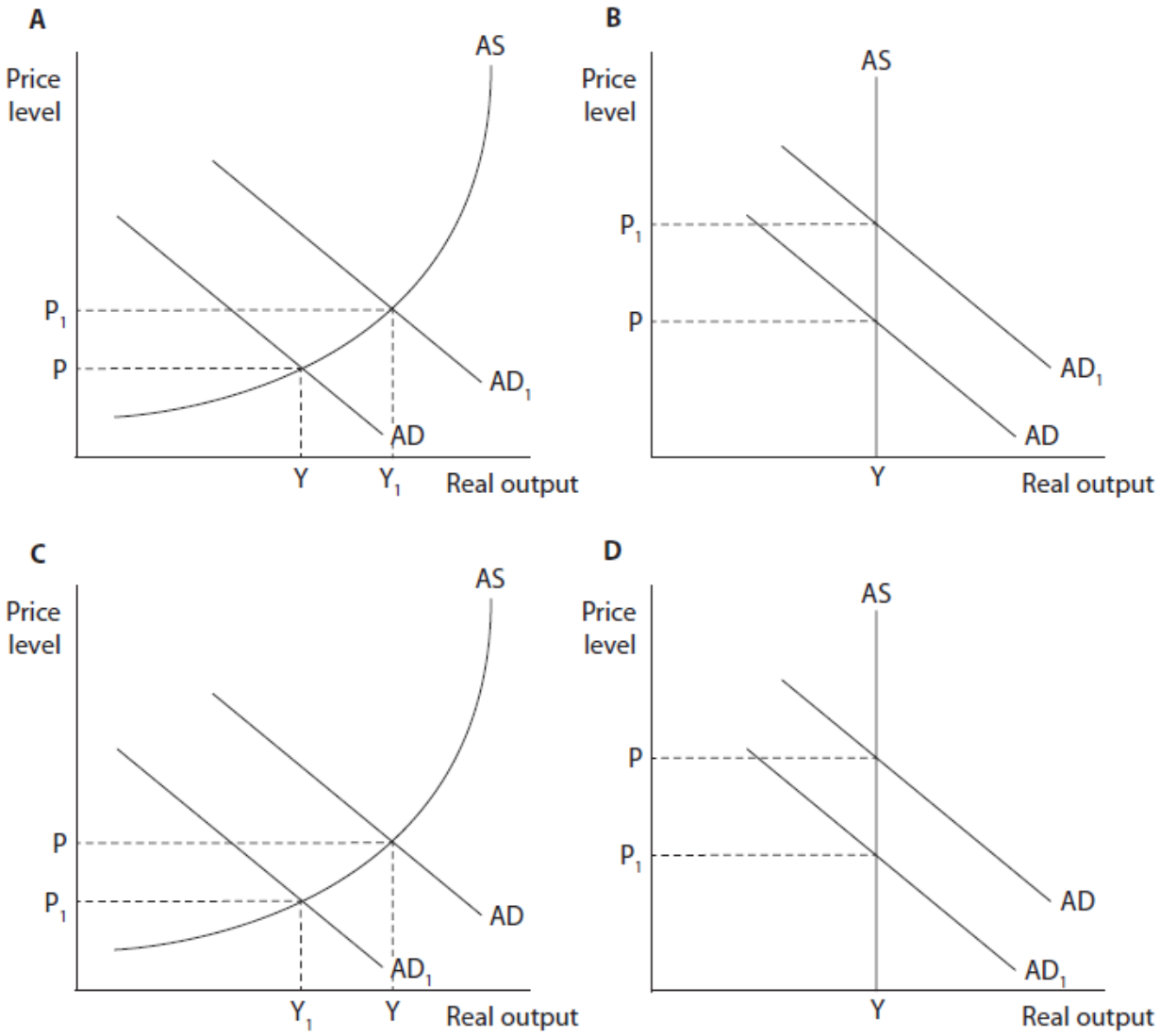
Q6.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

Answer the question with a cross in the box you think is correct ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

(a) Which **one** of the following diagrams illustrates the impact of an increase in net exports along a Keynesian long-run aggregate supply curve?

(1)



☒ **A**

☒ **B**

☒ **C**

☒ **D**

(b) Using the classical long-run aggregate supply curve, explain what will happen in the long run to real output if aggregate demand increases.

(2)

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(c) Explain the likely impact on aggregate demand of a fall in average house prices.

(2)

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(Total for question = 5 marks)

Q7.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

(a) Illustrate the shape of the Keynesian long-run AS curve on the diagram below.

(1)



(b) Explain what is meant by spare capacity in an economy.

(2)

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(c) Which **one** of the following is most likely to cause a movement along the AS curve?

Changes in:

(1)

☒ **A** competition policy

☒ **B** relative productivity

☒ **C** the cost of raw materials

☒ **D** the level of aggregate demand

(Total for question = 4 marks)

Q8.

Read extracts A and B before answering this question.

Hand car wash (HCW) firms in the UK

Extract A

What is the true human cost of your £5 hand car wash (HCW)?

The UK's hand car washes (HCWs) are extremely price competitive, but they have also been linked to modern slavery. Are they ever fair for workers?

There is little agreement about how many HCWs there are in the UK. Estimates range from 10 000 to 20 000. This lack of accurate information about the industry makes government regulation very difficult. Automated car washes, with their fierce rotating bristles, used to be the first option for drivers in a hurry. Now there is more choice. While the economy slows and incomes fail to keep up with inflation, demand for HCWs has grown. Many people see paying £5 for a car washed by someone else, rather than cleaning it at home, as a small expense which yields a high utility. But what is the true cost of a £5 car wash – and what should we be paying?

The growth of HCWs is partly the result of changes in the structure of industry in the UK. Many petrol stations have closed as drivers fill up at supermarkets. Garages and their forecourts have closed as cars become more reliable and locked into service agreements. The available sites for HCWs have therefore increased significantly and rents have fallen.

HCW entrepreneurs have identified available land and have benefitted from changes in the labour market, partly as a result of EU migration. UK drivers are now able to obtain cheap and effective hand car washing. For many migrants, car washes are a first job. "They accept car washing for a short period while they improve their language skills and move into other industries," says Ian Clark, a professor of work and employment at Nottingham Business School. "But there are also car-wash workers without networks who are in a dead end, working there for long periods."

Many drivers are only interested in getting the cheapest wash. If the price is very low, it probably means that workers are receiving less than the minimum wage and working in poor conditions. Crude calculations illustrate the problem. A £5 HCW employing five workers for 10 hours a day would need to wash 79 cars a day to just cover the wage costs. This assumes the workers are paid the minimum wage. This is one car every seven and a half minutes. Even if the profit can be higher on valet services, the price of which can be as little as £12 for a full inside-and-out clean, it's hard to see how a car wash price as low as £5 pays a living wage. This ignores all other costs which HCWs incur such as business rates and rent.

Evidence from car-wash workers is limited but Clark and others have been able to build a picture of some of the tougher conditions on drenched forecourts. "Like nail bars and small garment manufacturers, car washes are what we call 'hard-to-reach places,'" Clark explains. As part of the research, Clark and his team spoke to workers from 45 HCWs in the Midlands.

Clark and his team met and observed workers who lacked waterproof boots or trousers, or hi-vis jackets and gloves. "They're spraying around hydrochloric acid solution for alloy wheels, breathing in the vapour and fumes," Clark says. Some workers were paid a little over half the minimum wage.

(Source adapted from: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/16/true-human-cost-5-pound-hand-car-wash-modern-slavery)

Extract B

Government intervention in the HCW industry

There are three main areas of government intervention that might impact on labour intensive firms such as HCWs:

First, there is the planning issue which focuses on the impact on the environment, for example, the disposal and recycling of waste water and chemicals. There could be planning regulations to prevent the use of tarmac rather than concrete on forecourts. Tarmac allows waste water and chemicals to seep into the sub soil. It could also be a requirement to have a sludge trap to stop the waste entering waterways.

Second, there is the health and safety issue for workers. Prolonged exposure to chemicals and lack of protective clothing puts the health of workers at risk. Performance targets could involve minimum levels of protective clothing and rest breaks for the workers.

Third, there is the issue of tax. The informal nature of the business type makes tax evasion easier.

Not all UK HCWs violate regulations. There are legitimate, regulated HCW firms as well as examples of good practice by independent outlets. One national supermarket, Tesco, has banned all independent hand car washes from its car parks. It is now in a partnership agreement with national car wash operator Waves. It uses a WashMark certificate of quality and compliance which was introduced by the industry to improve working conditions. Other major supermarkets are considering similar changes. One adviser believes £9 is a reasonable minimum price for a basic wash. Some pressure groups have developed a mobile phone app where evidence of unreasonable conditions can be reported by drivers.

Involving drivers in the issue, and making them demand fairer car washes, creates an incentive for good businesses to improve practices and come forward to get a WashMark certificate.

(Source adapted from: https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/environmental-audit/Hand-Car-Wash-evidence.pdf research into HCWs by Professor Ian Clark, Nottingham Business School May 2018)

(a) Using the information provided, explain the market structure that best describes the hand car wash (HCW) industry in the UK.

(5)

(b) Examine **two** reasons why the demand for HCWs increases during a period when consumer 'incomes fail to keep up with inflation' (Extract A line 8).

(8)

(c) Discuss the likely effects of changes in the level of migration on firms such as HCWs in the UK. Use a labour market diagram and the information provided to support your answer.

(12)

EITHER

(d) Evaluate the microeconomic and macroeconomic factors which determine the number of firms in an industry. Refer to HCWs or another industry of your choice.

(25)

OR

(e) Evaluate the microeconomic and macroeconomic effects of increased government

intervention in an industry. Refer to HCWs or another industry of your choice.

(25)

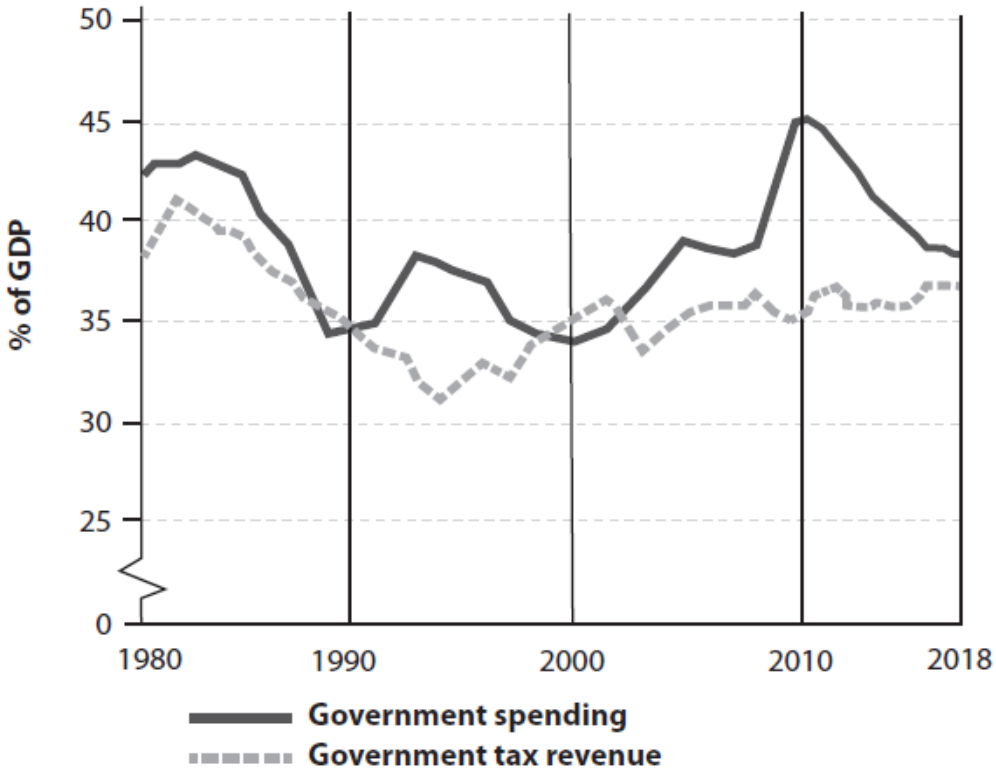
(Total for question = 50 marks)

Q9.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

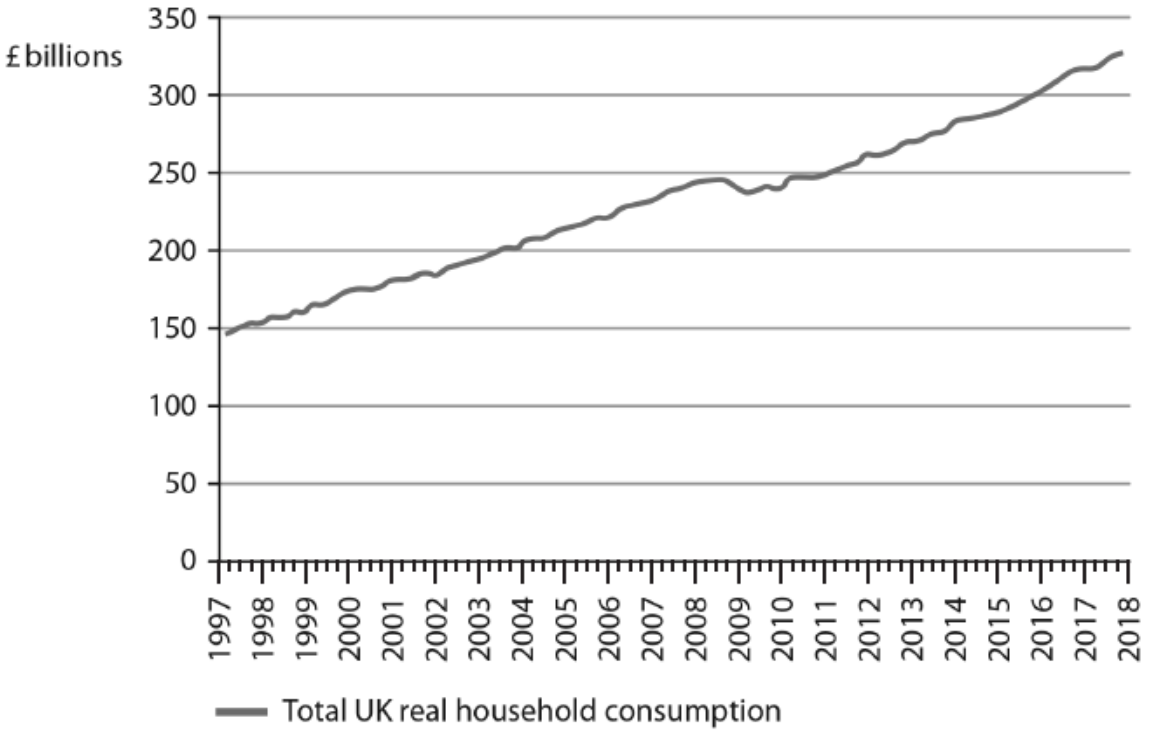
UK government budget and household consumption

Figure 1: UK government spending and tax revenue as % of GDP, 1980–2018



(Source: adapted from Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), http://cdn.obr.uk/EFO-MaRch_2018.pdf © Crown copyright 2018)

Figure 2: UK real household consumption, quarterly, £ billions, 1997 to 2018



(Source: adapted from ONS, www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/satelliteaccounts/bulletins/consumertrends/apriltojune2018)

Extract A

UK household consumption

Despite the slow growth in real household disposable incomes, consumer spending rose in 2017. Annual spending per person increased by £589, when compared with 2016. This may have reflected UK households' delay in adjusting to the increase in inflation that was associated with the fall in the exchange rate of the British pound. The increase in consumption has also been driven by low interest rates. In 2017 UK house prices increased by an average of 5.1%.

UK consumers have financed most of their spending by borrowing on credit cards in order to maintain their living standards. In 2017 borrowing on credit cards rose by 9.6%, the second-highest level since before the financial crisis. This has increased the Bank of England's concerns about the sustainability of borrowing, given the slow growth in real incomes. The Bank has also indicated that the base interest rate was likely to rise faster than previously expected. More expensive credit could therefore constrain the ability of households to spend.

(Source: adapted from 'Consumer Trends UK', ONS, https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/ nationalaccounts/satelliteaccounts/bulletins/consumertrends/octobertodecember2017 and © Crown copyright 2018)

Extract B

Reduction of the UK's budget deficit

Since 2010 many economists have believed that the biggest problem facing the government was the rising budget deficit. In late 2017, the UK's Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the government would continue with its plans to decrease its budget deficit. To address this issue, the government further reduced welfare payments and introduced extra spending cuts in the public sector.

The UK government had estimated that the fall in UK productivity since the financial crisis was only temporary. However, it has now accepted that this fall in the level of productivity is a long-term issue. Subsequently, the UK's forecast long-term trend rate of growth was reduced. Slower growth means lower tax receipts, higher spending and a bigger budget deficit.

Some economists have suggested that the government should not pursue additional reductions in the budget deficit. They have also claimed that the responsibility of the government is not to balance the budget but to balance the economy by moving it to full employment.

(Source: adapted from 'Philip Hammond must ditch deficit reduction and invest. But will he?', The Guardian, https:// www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/nov/19/philip-hammond-must-ditch-deficit-reduction-and-invest-but-will-he')

(a) With reference to Figure 1, explain the term 'balanced government budget'.

(4)

(b) Explain the likely effect of a fall in the exchange rate of the British pound on aggregate demand.

Refer to Extract A in your answer.

(5)

(c) With reference to Figure 2 and Extract A, explain two likely influences on the level of UK real household consumption.

(6)

(d) Assess the likely impact on the UK economy of an 'increase in consumption' (Extract A, lines 5–6).

Use an aggregate demand and aggregate supply diagram in your answer.

(10)

(e) Discuss the factors that might explain why 'the UK's forecast long-term trend rate of growth was reduced'

(Extract B lines 9–10).

(15)

EITHER

(f) Evaluate supply-side policies that could be used to increase the UK's rate of economic growth.

(20)

OR

(g) Evaluate the likely macroeconomic effects of the UK government pursuing a policy of reducing its budget deficit.

(20)

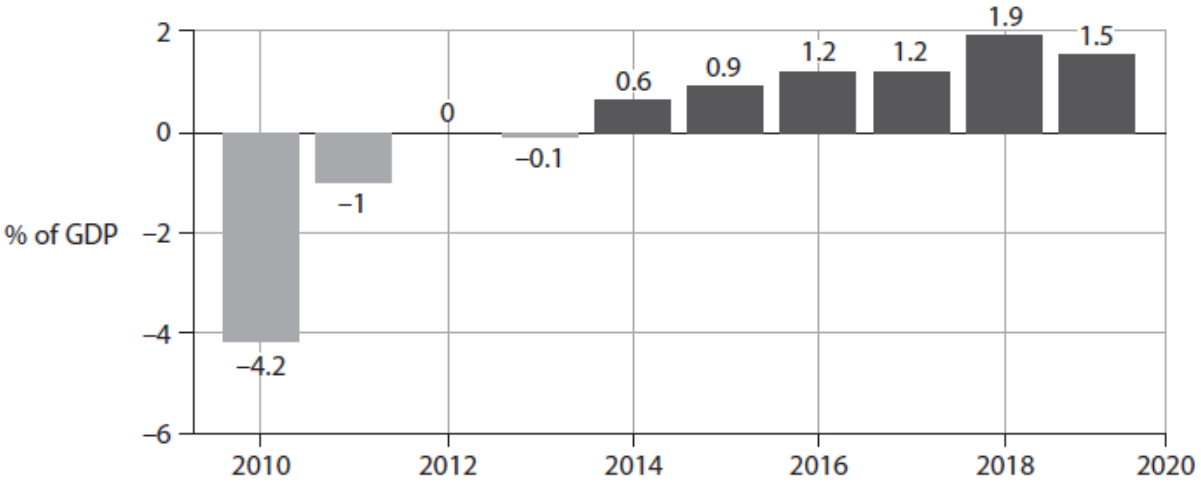
(Total for question = 60 marks)

Q10.

Read Figures 1 to 4 and extracts C and D before answering this question.

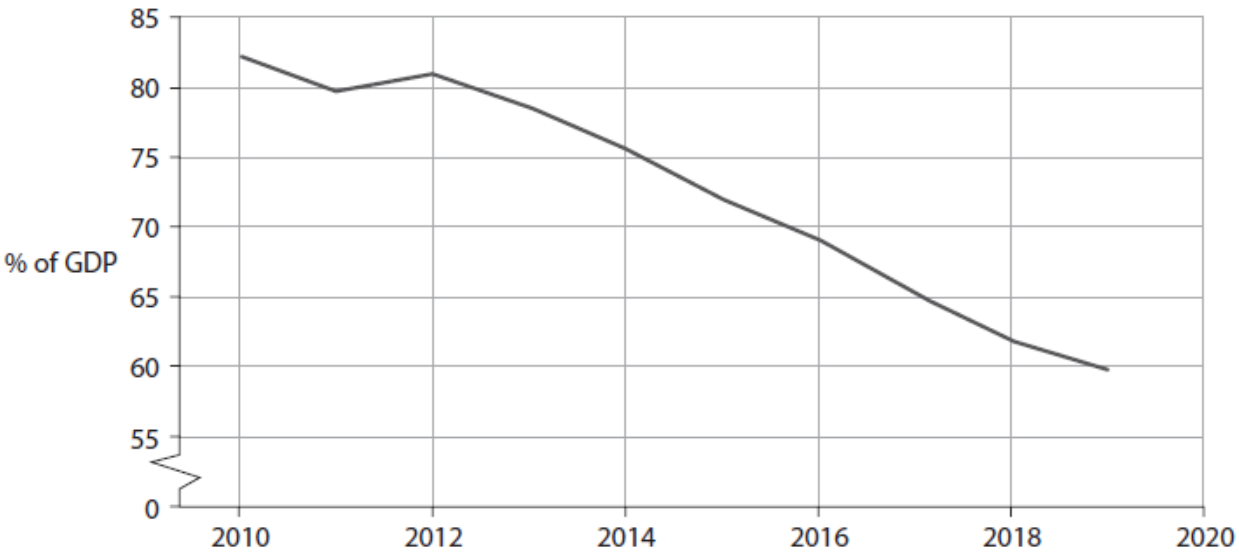
The German economy

Figure 1: German government budget balance, percentage of GDP, 2010 to 2019



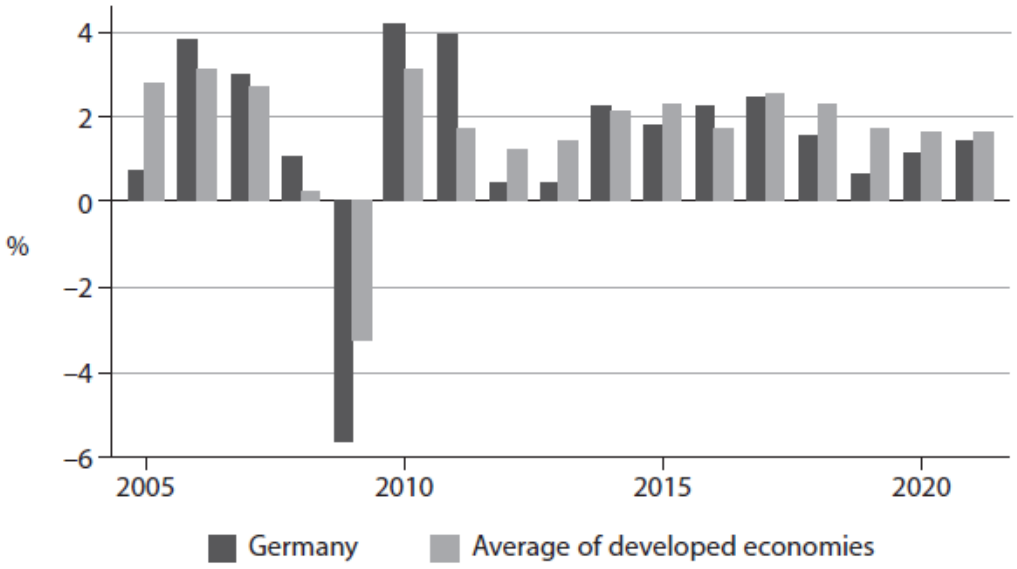
(Source adapted from: The Economist Nov 14th 2019)

Figure 2: German national debt, percentage of GDP, 2010 to 2019



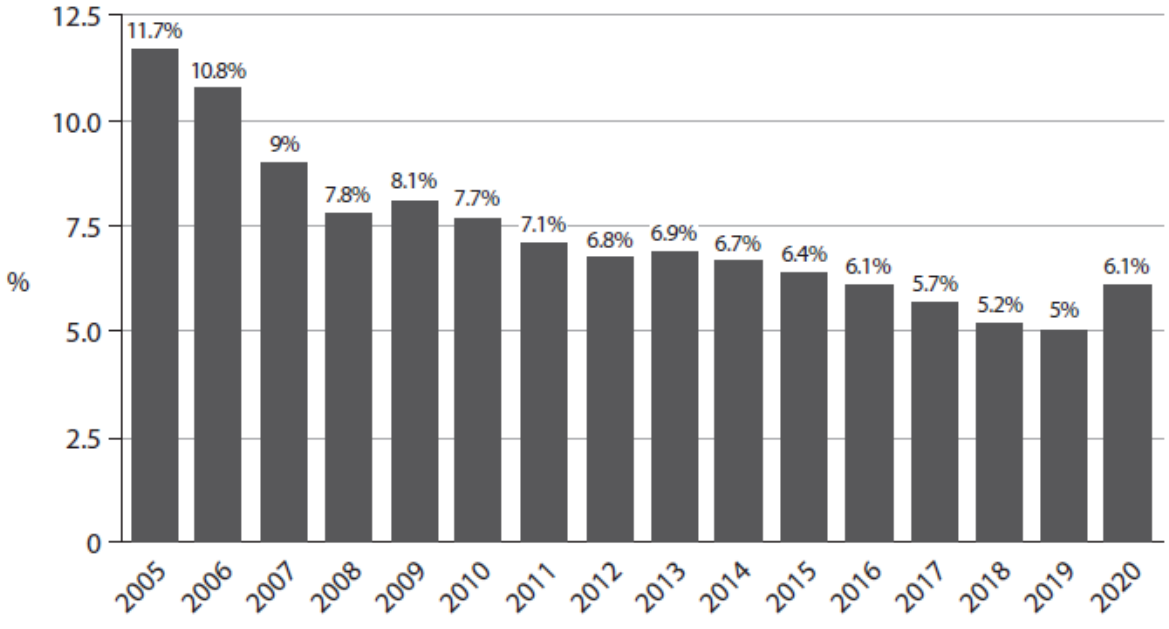
(Source adapted from: The Economist Nov 14th 2019)

Figure 3: Annual percentage change in real GDP, Germany and average of developed economies, 2005 to 2021 (forecasted data for 2020 and 2021)



(Source adapted from: IMF and German Federal Statistical Office)

Figure 4: Unemployment rate in Germany, percentage of labour force, 2005 to 2020 (2020 figure is forecasted)



(Source adapted from: bundesagentur für arbeit.de and https://www.ft.com/content/5486b247-c73e-4887-a2b2-528b23e301a6)

Extract C

Why Germany keeps to budget rules despite a slowdown in growth

Germany's economic boom is over, as it has entered recession. During the last ten years of economic growth well over 4 million jobs were created.

The fear of recession has revived a debate in Germany: should the government spend more to stimulate growth? It is written into the German constitution that the fiscal deficit cannot be greater than 0.35% of GDP, once the effects of the economic cycle have been removed. Germany's budget has been in surplus since 2014 and the government is always reluctant to increase spending which would create a deficit. In 2018, aided by booming employment and low interest costs on existing debt, the budget ran to a surplus 1.9% of GDP.

Germany's main trading partners have long been angered by German fiscal policy. The French President criticised Germany's budget and current account surpluses that "always occur at the expense of others".

Large parts of Germany's infrastructure need significant investment. As the economy has slowed, a decision to run a balanced-budget policy has become harder to defend. In wealthy regions of Germany, crumbling schools have been closed for fear of collapse, and information and mobile technology on a wide scale needs to be modernised. The World Economic Forum reported that accessibility of fibre optic broadband also "remains the privilege of the few". However, private sector firms, such as major motor manufacturers, are still willing to invest in new technology and the profitability of some of these firms, in the long run, benefits as a result.

The state development bank puts Germany's investment shortfall at €138 billion (£120 billion). Arguments for a much more expansionary fiscal policy have failed to influence government policy. Big government programmes, such as a recent package to reduce Germany's carbon emissions, are only implemented when they satisfy fiscal rules.

(Source adapted from: The Economist Nov 14th 2019 and https://www.ft.com/content/3cec4908-d164-11e9-8367-807ebd53ab77 7th September 2019 and https://www.ft.com/content/198f072e-4e42-11ea-95a0-43d18ec715f5 and https://www.ft.com/content/d89d9404-c586-11e9-a8e9-296ca66511c9 and https://www.ft.com/content/8f87c03c-93dc-11e8-b67b-b8205561c3fe)

Extract D

Germany drops to number 7 in the Global Competitiveness Index

Despite being the largest economy in the European Union, Germany's competitiveness is declining, according to the World Economic Forum (WEF). Germany dropped four places in the WEF's Global Competitiveness Index, coming in as the seventh-most competitive economy. Out of the 103 indicators used in the report, Germany received lower scores in 53 areas in 2019.

(Source: https://www.dw.com/en/germany-falls-in-global-competitiveness-ranking/a-50745071 8 October 2019)

(a) Explain **one** reason why a country such as Germany wants to avoid an increase in the national debt relative to GDP (Figure 2).

(5)

(b) Examine **two** likely effects of the forecast change in the rate of unemployment between 2019 to 2020, on firms in Germany. Refer to Figure 4 in your answer.

(8)

(c) Discuss the likely impact of investment in new technology on the profitability of firms in Germany, as described in Extract C line 20. Use a cost and revenue diagram to support your answer.

(12)

EITHER

(d) Evaluate the microeconomic and macroeconomic factors which are likely to determine the rate of economic growth in Germany relative to other developed economies.

(25)

OR

(e) Evaluate the microeconomic and macroeconomic impacts of 'a much more expansionary fiscal policy' (Extract C line 23) on the German economy.

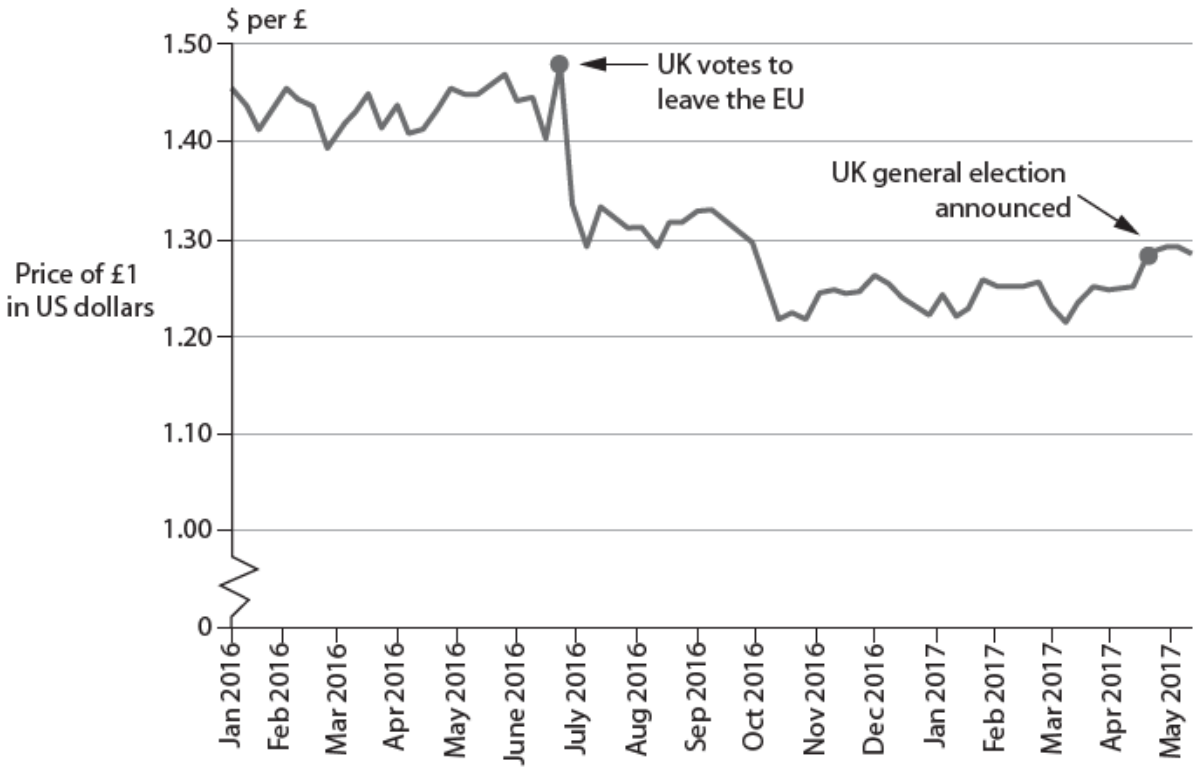
(25)

(Total for question = 50 marks)

Q11.

The UK economy since the financial crisis

Figure 1: Pound sterling to US$ exchange rate, 2016-17



(Source: adapted from https://www.ft.com/content/d50ce580-3968-11e7-ac89-b01cc67cfeec)

Extract A

UK companies use forward currency market

The Norfolk-based picture frames maker Nielsen Bainbridge recently made forward contracts in the foreign exchange market to reduce the impact of currency fluctuations. The pound's post-Brexit referendum depreciation has been a test of nerve for Nielsen Bainbridge and many other importers. At present the company's suppliers are located in Europe or China. "Currency therefore has a big impact on our business and the margins we can obtain," says Ms Burdett, the Finance Director. Forward contracts enable institutions, businesses and individuals to lock in an exchange rate over a certain period of time regardless of how the rate moves during that time. Ms Burdett buys currency as soon as Nielsen Bainbridge confirms a large order as a way to fix costs. One third of UK business managers are considering shifting from EU to UK suppliers.

(Source: adapted from 'UK companies use pound strength to hedge forex risk' by Roger Blitz, Markets, © FT.com, 16 May 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/d50ce580-3968-11e7-ac89-b01cc67cfeec)

Extract B

Bank of England seeking to prevent future bank bailouts

The Bank of England has ordered big lenders in the UK to find £116 billion of funding to ensure that taxpayers will never again have to bail out the banking sector. The Bank intends to publish details of how each of the big lenders would cope in the event they find themselves in a situation similar to Royal Bank of Scotland and Lloyds Banking Group, which needed £65 billion of taxpayer bailouts during the 2008 Global Financial Crisis. This had a significant negative impact on the UK government's national debt and, many would argue, increased the need for contractionary fiscal policy. Having said that, the UK government sold all its shares in Lloyds Banking Group in 2017 and, according to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, "recovered every penny of its investment in Lloyds".

Sir Jon Cunliffe, the deputy governor at the Bank responsible for financial stability, said regulators needed to let banks fail in a similar way that traditional companies collapse. This has not been possible in the past because of the risk that savers lose their money and because a system did not exist to allow banks to be put into insolvency.

"Just like when other businesses fail, losses arising from bank failure would be imposed on shareholders and investors. This protects the public from loss and incentivises banks to operate more prudently," said Cunliffe.

(Source: adapted from 'Bank of England tells lenders to find £116bn to help prevent bailouts', by Jill Treanor, 02 October 2017, Copyright The Guardian News and Media Ltd https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/oct/02/bank-of-england-bailouts-rbs-lloyds and 'Lloyds bank bailout repaid in full, Philip Hammond claims', by Jill Treanor, Larry Elliott, 21 April 2017, Copyright Guardian News & Media Ltd 2017 https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/apr/21/lloyds-bank-bailout-repaid-in-full-philip-hammond-claims)

Extract C

Bank of England tells lenders to increase capital reserves

The Bank of England has told lenders they will need to build a special reserve worth £11.4 billion by the end of 2018 as it tries to make banks more resilient to the risk posed by mounting consumer debt. This reserve of assets that can be readily turned into cash is a way of forcing banks to set aside capital reserves in good times in order to keep lending to the wider economy at a steady level, even during an economic downturn. In 2017 the Bank of England told UK banks it would raise the reserve ratio, relative to all assets, from zero to 0.5% and also forecast a further increase to 1% by the end of 2017.

The move is not intended to directly reduce consumer demand for credit, which in 2017 grew by 10.3% on an annual basis, but it may well lead to banks becoming less willing to lend to consumers. Since the Bank of England has recently become increasingly concerned about consumer borrowing, including rising car loans and credit card debt, this may be no bad thing as far as the Bank of England is concerned, even if it does have a negative impact on the wider economy.

Analysts are concerned about the impact on consumer confidence of rising inflation, partly caused by a falling pound. With falling real incomes consumers could become more vulnerable to falling behind with their credit card and personal loan repayments. Despite these concerns the UK economy recently recorded the lowest rate of unemployment since 1975.

(Source: adapted from 'Bank of England tells lenders to increase capital buffers by £11.4bn' by Caroline Binham, Gemma Tetlow and Martin Arnold © Financial Times 2017 https://www.ft.com/content/9bc99294-5b1b-11e7-9bc8-8055f264aa8b)

(a) With reference to Extract A, explain the role of forward markets in currencies.

(5)

(b) With reference to Extract A and Figure 1, examine the likely impact of the change in the sterling exchange rate on the UK economy.

(8)

(c) With reference to the last paragraph in Extract C, assess the impact of a fall in real incomes on subjective happiness.

(10)

(d) With reference to Extract C, discuss the potential conflicts between macroeconomic objectives when the central bank attempts to control inflation.

(12)

(e) Discuss whether providing substantial government financial support to banks is the best policy response during a financial crisis.

(15)

(Total for question = 50 marks)

Q12.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

Answer the question with a cross in the box you think is correct ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

(a) Illustrate the shape of the **Classical** long-run aggregate supply (AS) curve on the diagram below.

(1)



(b) Explain the reason for the shape of the Classical long-run AS curve.

(2)

.....

.....

.....

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.....

.....

.....

(c) Which **one** of the following is an example of a market-based supply-side policy?

(1)

☒ **A** A reduction in unemployment benefits

☒ **B** Construction of new transportation links

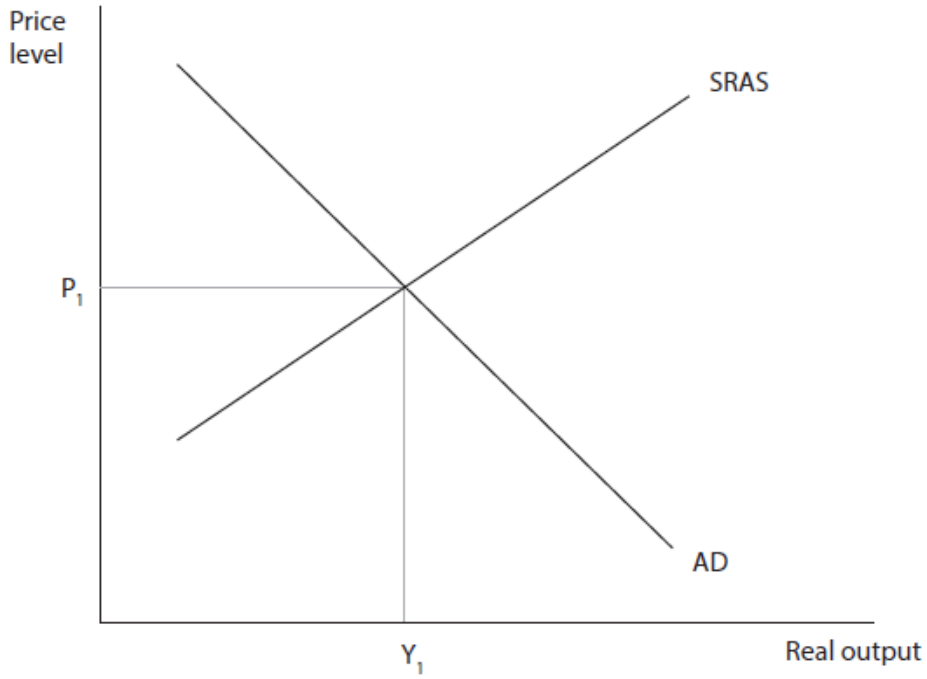
☒ **C** Government-funded apprenticeship schemes

☒ **D** Increased government spending on healthcare

(Total for question = 4 marks)

Q13.

The diagram below shows the aggregate demand (AD) and short-run aggregate supply (SRAS) for the UK.



(a) Define the term 'aggregate demand'.

(1)

.....

.....

.....

(b) Annotate the diagram above to show the likely impact of a rise in the cost of raw materials on the UK's equilibrium level of real output and price level.

(2)

(c) Which **one** of the following factors is most likely to cause an increase in the long-run

aggregate supply?

(1)

☒ **A** Decrease in investment

☒ **B** Increase in relative productivity

☒ **C** Increase in the level of unemployment benefits

☒ **D** Reduced access to credit for consumers and businesses

(Total for question = 4 marks)

Q14.

(a) Which **one** of the following would be most likely to cause aggregate demand to increase?

A fall in:

(1)

☒ **A** government spending

☒ **B** net trade (X–M)

☒ **C** the marginal propensity to consume

☒ **D** the marginal propensity to save

(b) Draw an aggregate demand and aggregate supply diagram illustrating the likely impact of a rise in interest rates on the price level and real output.

(4)

(Total for question = 5 marks)