



Sixth Form Preparation for Success

Welcome to Economics

EDEXCEL A Level Economics



Introduction

We have recently seen unprecedented events in the world of Economics. The effects of the coronavirus pandemic on global economies has been catastrophic. The UK suffered a 20% fall in GDP in the second quarter of this year, sending the economy into recession. But what exactly does all this mean? How does it affect jobs? Can the government continue to

support businesses and industries? Where is the money coming from? All these questions and more will be answered when you study Economics. Using a variety of learning experiences, and through completing this bridging work, you will gain a wider appreciation of current affairs and the world around you. These are crucial in shaping a successful academic approach to Economics at A Level and beyond.

Part I – Y11 into 12 Economics Bridging Work To be completed May – Sept

Remember that prizes will be awarded for 'exceptional' work that demonstrates effort above expected!

a) Investigate places of interest

Although you won't be able to physically visit places during lockdown, many organisations have links to virtual tours and online webinars. Contact customer services with any questions – people love to hear from students who take an interest in their line of work - Do a virtual tour of the Houses of Parliament at <https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/virtualltour/> - Follow in the footsteps of some of the world's greatest Economists <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/economics/about-department/famous-economists/economist-walks-around-london>

b) Wider reading

Whilst there are not any essential texts for economics, there are hundreds of extremely useful and interesting books. In recent years, economics literature has become much more accessible

and the following list includes titles that are pleasurable and interesting to read. They cover lots of theory and content without at all feeling like reading a textbook. If you do read any of these, it would be great for you to write a short book report and maybe make it into a poster for display in the Economics classroom.

The Undercover Economist	Tim Harford
Doughnut Economics	Kate Raworth
The Economics Book	Niall Kishtainy
The Economic Naturalist	Robert H Frank

Useful websites:

The following list of websites can be accessed to supplement the classroom lesson material and help secure knowledge.

<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics> - Lots of powerpoints, videos, revision notes, online lessons, etc on all topic areas of Economics

<https://www.youtube.com/user/EconplusDal/videos?app=desktop> - short video explanations on individual topics by this Economics youtuber.

<https://www.economicsonline.co.uk/> - Explanations of different topics.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy> - And other BBC website pages eg. Business for all the relevant, up-to-date examples of Economics in action. Great for application purposes in written work.

Other useful sites which should be regularly viewed and can be referred to in lessons:

www.ft.com

www.theguardian.com

www.economist.com

c) Compulsory tasks

Task 1 – Macroeconomic Objectives

Using [this video](#) and the notes template in the appendix, outline the four main macroeconomic objectives. (I would advise that you use four separate notes pages, one for each objective)

Task 2 – Macroeconomic Objectives

Using the [trading economics website](#) write a summary, using the table below, of the changes to each of the four macroeconomic objectives over the last 10 years.

Economic Growth (GDP)	Inflation (CPI)
Balance of Payments (Current Account)	Unemployment

Task 3 – Economic Thinkers

Using the notes template again, write a summary of the work of the following three economic thinkers. Adam Smith, Friedrich Hayek & Karl Marx. All of the information and extra activities can be found [here](#).

Task 4 – Diversity in Economics

Traditionally voices in economic thought have lacked diversity. Thankfully, that has now changed. Choose one (or more) of the following economic thinkers and repeat task 3. Thomas Sewell, Mariana Mazucato, Amartya Sen or Gita Gopinath.

Appendix

1.1 Notes Template. If you are unable to use a printer or prefer working with pen and paper then this template can be copied onto your paper.

Topic	
Summary and questions	Notes
Summary/Reflection:	

d) Stretch!

Tutor2U have very helpfully created a number of short courses for year 11 students that are going on to study economics. All of [these courses](#) are great, it would be brilliant if you could complete one or two of the courses that interests you.

Part II - Year 12 Head Start! for completion June – September



We hope you enjoy immersing yourself in Economics in preparation for the A level. Good luck and we look forward to making some amazing work with you in September.