

A Level Economics – Bridging Materials 2025

The aim of this work is to prepare you for your Economics qualification that you will be starting in September. By the end of this work, you should understand what Economics is and have an idea of the key economic problem facing all economies. You will also have an insight into some of the key issues we will be looking into in both sides of the course - microeconomics (industries and businesses) and macroeconomics (the UK economy as a whole). ***Use the writing in red as a guideline of how to set out and structure your work to ensure that are researching each concept in enough detail.***

You will be tested on your understanding of this work within the first week back. You should bring your notes made with you to your lesson and then upload a copy to Showbie.

Subject	Economics
Securing	<p>Make flashcards with definitions of the key terms. <i>You could make physical cards or online copies, but you need to upload a copy of this cards to Showbie when your teacher sets up the folder in September.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Economic problem2. Opportunity cost3. Social science4. Production possibility frontier5. Factors of production6. Land7. Labour8. Capital9. Enterprise10. Command economy11. Mixed economy12. Free market economy13. Aggregate demand14. Government spending15. Imports16. Exports17. Aggregate supply18. Consumption19. Investment20. Balance of payments21. Exchange rates22. The business/economic cycle23. Tax24. Interest rates25. Economic welfare
Processing Understanding the first foundation Topics in Economics	<p>Part A – Explain what the economic problem is and give an example about the current trade-offs the UK government has to make when they are allocating their spending. This should be around 5 sentences. See the example below for how much we expect you to write:</p> <p>https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference/basic-economic-problem-revision-video-playlist</p>

Example – the economic problem is...

An example of a trade off that the UK government has faced is whether or not they should continue to invest in HS2 or not. This was designed to speed up the transport times between London and Edinburgh, however it has proven to be a very financially costly and time-consuming project and as a result phase 2 has been cancelled. The money and time could therefore be used on other projects that take priority such as improving pot holes on roads and smart motorways.

Research into the 3 different types of economic systems. For each economic system, comment on the features, pros and cons. The three types you should be comparing are – free market economies, command economies and mixed economies.

<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference/1-1-6-free-market-economies-mixed-economy-and-command-economy>

Example of how to structure it...

A free market economy is...

An example of this market is...

The main feature of this market is...

Two benefits of using this economic system are...

Two limitations of using this economic system are...

Part B – research into what is meant by “aggregate demand.” Make a note of the key components that make up aggregate demand. For each component, give examples of how and why they might change.

<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference/aggregate-demand>

Example of how to structure it...

The main 5 components of aggregate demand are...

The first component refers to....

The second component refers to...

The third component...

The fourth component...

The fifth component...

The component which has the biggest impact on aggregate demand is...

Each component may be affected by the following factors...

Research into the key economic objectives that the government is working towards. You should make a note on what is meant by that objective, and what the target is that they have set. See if you can research into where the government current is for each indicator.

1. Unemployment
2. Economic growth
3. Government budget
4. Inflation
5. Trade deficit
6. Inequality
7. Environment

<p>Exploring</p> <p>Looking into the wider world of economics</p>	<p><u>Part A MICRO – research into the following issues and complete the questions</u></p> <p>Rising house rent – <i>you should use two different articles when researching into this current UK issue and when answering each question, use full sentences. This should take up at least half an A4 page.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the rental housing market referring to? 2. What is the substitute (alternative) for renting a house? 3. Why are house rental prices rising? 4. Why is this a problem if housing rental prices are rising? 5. What is a maximum price for house rents? Why do you think the government tried to resolve the situation by using this method? <p>Smoking and Vaping crises - <i>you should use two different articles when researching into this current UK issue and when answering each question, use full sentences. This should take up at least half an A4 page.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the issues to society of high smoking and vaping levels? 2. What are the negative side effects for individuals of smoking and vaping? 3. How has the government tried to reduce the levels of smoking and vaping in the UK? 4. What else do you think the government could do to try and reduce these levels? See if you can make a comparison to another country <p><u>Part B MACRO– research into the following issues and complete the questions</u></p> <p>Inflation: <i>you should use two different articles when researching into this current UK issue and when answering each question, use full sentences. This should take up at least half an A4 page.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How has inflation changed between 2021 and 2025? 2. What caused inflation to change in this way? 3. What is inflation? 4. What is the problem of these changes? <p>Interest Rates: <i>you should use two different articles when researching into this current UK issue and when answering each question, use full sentences. This should take up at least half an A4 page.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How have the interest rates changed between 2019 and 2025? 2. What is the interest rate? 3. What is the impact of the changes in these interest rates – who are the winners? Who are the losers? <p>Exchange Rates - <i>you should use two different articles when researching into this current UK issue and when answering each question, use full sentences. This should take up at least half an A4 page.</i></p>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How has the pound changed in value since 2016 – Brexit? 2. What is the exchange rate? 3. How will changes in the exchange rate affect imports and exports?
Reviewing	Make a list of 5 questions that you would like to ask your Economics teacher when you come to school in September.