ECONOMICS

INTRODUCTION

The public assessment of this subject is based on the Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4–6) Economics jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. Candidates have to refer to the Guide for the knowledge, understanding, skills etc they are required to demonstrate in the assessment.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this assessment are to evaluate students’ abilities and achievements in the following:

1. to know and understand fundamental economic concepts and theories;
2. to apply such concepts and theories to explain real world situations, especially the Hong Kong economy;
3. to understand and interpret economic information presented in various forms;
4. to acquire the basic tools of economic analysis;
5. to analyze economic issues;
6. to evaluate arguments, proposals and policies from different perspectives and make informed judgments; and
7. to present ideas clearly, and in a well-reasoned manner, illustrating answers with diagrams and examples.

MODE OF ASSESSMENT

The following table outlines the various components of the public assessment of Economics in 2014 HKDSE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Examination</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1</td>
<td>Multiple-choice questions will be set on the compulsory part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Section A: Short questions will be set on the compulsory part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Section B: Structured/essay-type questions will be set on the compulsory part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section C: Structured/essay-type questions will be set on the elective parts of the curriculum. Candidates are only required to attempt the questions from one of the two elective parts.</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
School-based Assessment (SBA) | Task-based Assessment: news commentary or essay/report. Candidates are required to complete three tasks. | 15% |

**PUBLIC EXAMINATION**

The written examination of Economics will contain questions testing candidates’ knowledge and analytic ability in the fundamental and selected areas of economics, and those testing higher order thinking skills. Candidates should be able to apply their knowledge of economic analysis to practical problems and illustrate general principles with relevant examples.

**SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)**

SBA will be implemented starting from the 2014 HKDSE. The assessment will be based on students’ performance in the tasks of news commentaries or essays/reports. The assessment covers the following abilities of students:

(a) to collect data/information of an economic phenomenon or issue and to give a proper description in the language of economics;
(b) to analyse the economic phenomenon or issue identified using economic concepts and theories, together with appropriate diagrams and tools;
(c) to present the arguments or deductions and to derive implications in a logical and systematic way; and
(d) to discuss and evaluate arguments, proposals and policies from different perspectives and make informed judgments.

SBA is compulsory for all school candidates. SBA can take the form of news commentaries or essays/reports. Students are required to complete three tasks during S5 and S6. Each task carries equal marks, i.e. 5% of the subject total. A written report of each task is required for each individual student. In the written report, the student should provide a complete record of references and sources of the news/economic phenomena he/she is discussing or analysing, and attach the originals if available.

Candidates are required to keep good custody of their work for inspection and authentication purposes until the release of the HKDSE results.

Private candidates need not complete the SBA component. Their subject result will be based entirely on the public examination result.

The detailed requirements, regulations, assessment criteria and guidelines will be provided in the SBA Handbook for HKDSE Economics published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.