

NSS ECONOMICS Public Assessment & Standards-referenced Reporting

Hong Kong Examinations and
Assessment Authority

October/November 2008



HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (HKDSE)

&

HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL (HKAL)



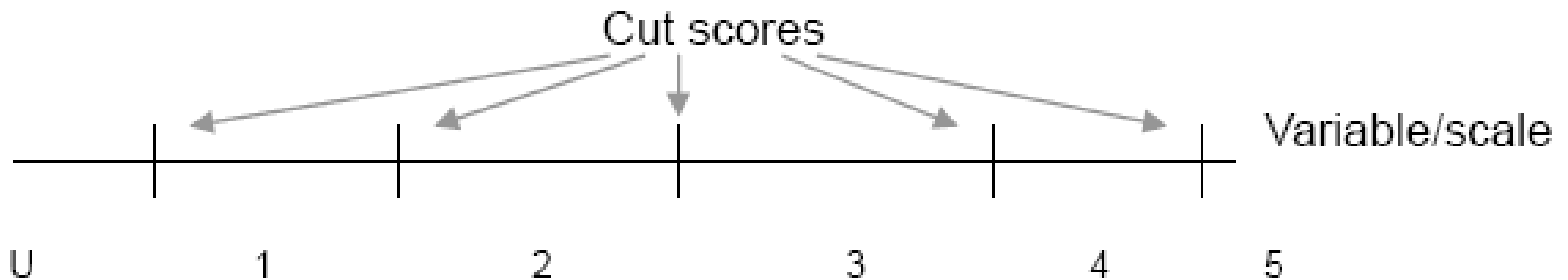
School Year	HKDSE Economics			HKAL
09-10	S4	-	-	-
10-11	S5	S4	-	F6
11-12	S6 (2012 First Exam)	S5	S4	F7 (Last Cohort Exam)
12-13		S6 (2013 Exam)	S5 (SBA starts)	F7 Repeaters (Last Exam)
13-14			S6 (2014 Exam)	



Standards Setting



- Based on examination and statistically moderated SBA results, candidates are awarded with a total score
- A panel of judges will determine the minimum scores a candidate must obtain for meeting various standards (Levels 1-5)



Standards-referenced Reporting (SRR)

- There are 5 levels of performance (5 being the highest and 1 the lowest) illustrated by level descriptors and samples of performance
- The standards are held constant
- The percentage of students awarded a given level can vary from year to year
- The standards themselves are transparent



Levels 5** and 5* are awarded using norm-referencing

Level Descriptors



- drafted through analyzing students' performance in the pilot test and past examinations
- generic performance of students, in terms of both knowledge and skills
- typical performance of candidates at different levels of achievement
- accompanied by annotated samples of students' work to illustrate typical performance at each level
- subject to review after the 2012 exam

Pilot Testing of Sample Paper

- From March-May 2007, 14 schools of different bandings, different MOIs, 267 F.7 students participated in the test
- Selected questions excluding those from new syllabus topics were used
- Collection of data about the performance of students with different abilities from a range of schools



HKDSE Economics Draft Level Descriptors



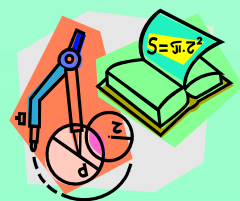
- Knowledge of econ definitions, terms and concepts
- Integration of econ concepts, relationships
- Econ analysis
- Informed judgment and evaluation
- Application of maths and graphs in econ
- Communication skills in econ



Level 5



- provides precise definitions and explanation of economic terms and applies economic concepts accurately and comprehensively
- integrates comprehensively economic terms, concepts, relationships and theory
- displays logically consistent and comprehensive analysis of a wide range of economic issues, government policies and their impact
- demonstrates informed judgment and evaluation of arguments, proposals and policies from different perspectives
- applies mathematical and graphical tools accurately and comprehensively in economic analysis
- uses precise economic vocabulary and illustrative examples extensively in the exposition of economic issues and government policies in communication



Standards Setting and Maintenance



- A panel of judges (experienced teachers, markers, examiners and university colleagues) determine the boundaries between levels with reference to
 1. Level descriptors
 2. Monitoring test results
 3. Previous exam results
 4. Statistical modeling (Rasch Model)

Coming HKDSE Documents



1. SRR booklet with sample papers

Mar – Jun 09

2. SBA handbook

Jun 09

3. SBA sample tasks

Mar – Jul 10

DRAFT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS**HKDSE ECONOMICS**

The typical performance of candidates at this level:

Level 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides precise definitions and explanation of economic terms and applies economic concepts accurately and comprehensively • integrates comprehensively economic terms, concepts, relationships and theory • displays logically consistent and comprehensive analysis of a wide range of economic issues, government policies and their impact • demonstrates informed judgment and evaluation of arguments, proposals and policies from different perspectives • applies mathematical and graphical tools accurately and comprehensively in economic analysis • uses precise economic vocabulary and illustrative examples extensively in the exposition of economic issues and government policies in communication
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides correct definitions and explanation of economic terms and applies economic concepts in a number of cases • integrates economic terms, concepts, relationships and theory in a number of cases • displays in a number of cases logically consistent analysis of economic issues, government policies and their impact • demonstrates informed judgment and evaluation of arguments, proposals and policies from a number of different perspectives • applies mathematical and graphical tools correctly in economic analysis • uses correct economic vocabulary and illustrative examples in the exposition of economic issues and government policies in communication
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides clear definitions of relevant economic terms and relevant discussion using economic concepts in some economic contexts • integrates partially economic terms, concepts, relationships and theory • displays an analysis of some economic issues, government policies and their impact • attempts to give some informed judgment and evaluation of some arguments, proposals and policies • uses appropriate mathematical and graphical tools to analyze some cases in the context of economics • uses appropriate economic vocabulary and examples in the exposition of some economic issues and government policies in communication
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides basic definitions of economic terms and basic descriptions of some economic concepts • demonstrates basic understanding of the links between economic data, concepts, relationships and theory • demonstrates some explanation of some economic issues, government policies and their impact in the context of economics • demonstrates basic computational and graphical skills in the description or discussion involving economic contexts • provides basic descriptions of some economic issues and government policies in communication
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows some knowledge of economic concepts in simple contexts • demonstrates simple interpretation of economic data in simple contexts • demonstrates simple computational and graphical techniques in the context of economics • uses some terminology to communicate some basic economic ideas in simple contexts
Unclassified	