

HKDSE Economics

Sample papers



香港考試及評核局
Hong Kong
Examinations and
Assessment Authority

Public Assessment

Based on

- New Senior Secondary Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4—6) Economics jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority
- Assessment Framework prepared by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority



Design of Sample Papers

- Covers every topics in C&A guide (Papers 1 and 2)
 - Format based on current CE papers
 - Illustrates questions for new topics
 - Illustrates difficult topics/questions
- Students choose their elective question(s) in paper 2 on the spot.



Design of Sample Papers

- Questions testing knowledge and concepts
- Questions testing analytic ability in hypothetical examples
- Questions on higher order thinking skills such as
 - Application of economic analysis in a real-life context
 - Evaluation of a social policy
- Allocation of marks reflects the complexity of the question
- Answer spaces allowed reflects the requirement of the question



Sample Paper 1

- 25% of subject mark
- 40 MC questions
- Covers every topics in the compulsory part
- Includes questions similar to existing CE and AL exam questions
- Includes questions for new topics
- Weighting of microeconomics and macroeconomics is about the same



Sample Paper 2

- 60% of subject mark
- Covers a wide range of topics
- Includes questions similar to existing CE and AL exam questions
- Weighting of microeconomics and macroeconomics is about the same



Sample Paper 2

Sample paper 2 section A

- 50 marks
- 8 short questions

Sample paper 2 section B

- 54 marks
- 3 structured/essay-typed questions



Sample Paper 2

Sample paper 2 section C

- 16 marks
- A choice of one out of two electives
- New topics:
 - Anti-competitive Behavior and Competition Policy (Elective 1)
 - Economic Growth and Development (Elective 2)



Sample Paper 1 (Multiple Choice Questions) – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
A.	Basic economic concepts	0	2	3
B.	Firms and production	0	2	2
C.	Market and price	0	3	4



Sample Paper 1 (Multiple Choice Questions) – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
D.	Competition and market structure	1	0	0
E.	Efficiency, equity and the role of government	0	2	1
F.	Measurement of economic performance	0	2	2



Sample Paper 1 (Multiple Choice Questions) – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
G.	National income determination and Price level	0	2	1
H.	Money and banking	1	1	2
I.	Macroeconomic problems and policies	1	1	3



Sample Paper 1 (Multiple Choice Questions) – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
J.	International trade and finance	0	1	3
* Total		3 (7%)	16 (40%)	21 (53%)

* Total number of questions is 40. All questions carry equal marks.



Sample Paper 2 – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
A.	Basic economic concepts		Q1 (3)	Q4b (5)
B.	Firms and production	Q3 (2)	Q9di (1); Q9dii (2)	Q3 (3); Q9ci (2)
C.	Market and price		Q9a (2); Q9b (5); Q9cii (1); Q9ciii (1)	Q4a (4); Q11ai (4); Q11aii (7); Q11b (7)



Sample Paper 2 – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
D.	Competition and market structure			
E.	Efficiency, equity and the role of government	Q2 (4)		
F.	Measurement of economic performance			Q8a (2)



Sample Paper 2 – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
G.	National income determination and Price level	Q6a (4)		
H.	Money and banking			Q5b (3); Q7a (1); Q7b (3)
I.	Macroeconomic problems and policies	Q5ai (2)	Q10a (10)	Q5aii (2); Q6b (6); Q10b (12)



Sample Paper 2 – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic		Abilities tested		
		Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
J.	International trade and finance			Q8bi (3); Q8bii (3)
*Total for Compulsory Sessions		12 (11%)	25 (24%)	67 (65%)



Sample Paper 2 – Content/Ability Coverage

Syllabus Topic	Abilities tested		
	Knowledge	Application	Analysis, synthesis and evaluation
<u>Elective Part 1</u> Monopoly pricing, Anti-competitive Behaviors and Competition Policy	Q12ai (2); Q12aii (2)	Q12aia (2); Q12aiii (4)	Q12bia (2); Q12biia (4)
<u>Elective Part 2</u> Extension of Trade Theory, Economic Growth and Development	Q13a (1); Q13dia (4)	Q13di (4)	Q13b (3); Q13c (4)



Sample Paper 2 – Content/Ability Coverage

Remarks:

* Total mark of compulsory sessions is 104.

** Total mark of each elective session is 16.

The teaching hours suggested for Topic D is only 8 hours out of 216 (3.7%) and the concepts related to this topic are examined in Elective part 1 [2 marks out of 120 (1.7%)] and in the multiple choice paper [1 mark out of 40 (2.5%)].



Comments from External Moderators in June 2008 (1)

- The question papers have achieved a breadth which allows them to reflect the Curriculum and Assessment Aims and Objectives as stated in the Guide.
- A good mix of questions based on verbal, numerical and diagrammatic forms.
- The balance between questions testing knowledge and those testing higher-order skills seems appropriate.
- Paper 2 provides the greater opportunity to demonstrate the application of the more difficult concepts and elements of the course.



Comments from External Moderators in June 2008 (2)

- The demands of the questions range from straightforward knowledge to more complex evaluation of economic policy.
- The cognitive demands are comparable to UK A-level paper. Those difficult questions would stretch the more able candidates.

