

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 5

The candidate evidence shows the following marks for each question.

Section 3

Question 10a

Describe the economic consequences of an ageing population on the UK.

The answer was awarded **6 marks** (out of 9) for this question for:

- ◆ suggesting the future burden of pension and welfare costs
- ◆ giving data about pension costs (statistic mark)
- ◆ suggesting increased spending on healthcare will be needed
- ◆ giving data about the increasing cost of healthcare with age (statistic mark)
- ◆ developing increased healthcare spending with decreased education spending
- ◆ suggesting that the pension age will have to rise to cover the cost of pensions

The point about future burden was repeated.

The candidate had already achieved the 2 marks available for statistics therefore, the statistic about pension age could not be given.

The points about the poverty line, migration and foreign direct investment were too off-topic to gain a mark.

Question 10b

Explain the economic implications of a fall in the value of the pound on the UK economy.

The answer was awarded **6 marks** (out of 8) for this question for:

- ◆ linking an increase in the cost of imports with affordability
- ◆ linking increased cost of raw materials with higher prices
- ◆ linking business failure with the negative multiplier effect
- ◆ linking increasing commodity prices with rising oil prices and costs for consumers
- ◆ linking less ability to travel abroad with decreased revenue for UK airlines
- ◆ linking hot money outflows with further falls in the value of £

Question 10c

Discuss the measures which the UK government could introduce to improve the country's productivity.

The answer was awarded **6 marks** (out of 8) for this question for:

- ◆ suggesting tax breaks for firms to use for research and development
- ◆ suggesting lower corporation tax to increase international competitiveness
- ◆ suggesting investment in infrastructure to improve connectivity
- ◆ developing connectivity with mobility of labour
- ◆ suggesting investment in education to improve skills
- ◆ suggesting a 'help to grow' scheme to improve management of firms

The candidate had already achieved the 2 marks available for statistics, therefore the statistic about tax rates could not be given.

The points about inward migration to reduce labour shortages and subsidising firms to take on workers did not gain marks because having a higher number of workers does not necessarily improve productivity.

The candidate achieved a total of **18** marks out of 25 for section 3 (question 10).