

Introduction

Candidate A

Topic – To what extent is the low exchange rate of sterling impacting the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**.

The candidate gained 1 mark for the purpose of the assignment by expanding on the title of the assignment and 1 mark for the background on the topic.

Candidate B

Topic – The effect of minimum alcohol pricing on Scotland's economy

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**.

The candidate gained 1 mark for the purpose of the assignment by expanding on the title of the assignment and 1 mark for the background on the topic.

Candidate C

Topic – The effect of minimum alcohol pricing on Scotland's economy

The candidate was awarded **2/2 marks**.

The candidate gained 1 mark for the purpose of the assignment by expanding on the title of the assignment and 1 mark for the background on the topic.

Research

Candidate A

Topic – What is the effect of low wage growth on the main agents of the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **3/3 marks**.

The candidate has given explained values about three sources in this section. The candidate did not gain a mark for Source 1 as they did not explain why the source was up-to-date. (Each explanation can only be used once, therefore if the reason for being up-to-date in Source 1 had been given, then the up-to-date explanation would not have been credited for Source 2.)

Candidate B

Topic – Examining the impact on the UK economy of decreasing corporation tax

The candidate was awarded **3/3 marks**.

The candidate has given explained values about three sources in this section, although it is clear from the numbering system used that the candidate has researched more sources than those for which the explained value is given.

Candidate C

Topic – How does an ageing population affect the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **1/3 marks**.

The candidate has only given an explained value for their third source.

For the first source, the candidate gives the value as 'trusted' and explains that the source is trusted because it is 'well known'. This is not a suitable explanation as being well known is not a guarantee of trustworthiness.

For the second source the candidate gives 'reliable' as its value. However, the explanations of 'it is a known source' and 'it provides detailed, relevant information' are not a guarantee of reliability and are therefore not suitable explanations.

Application and understanding

Candidate A

Topic – The effect of minimum alcohol pricing on Scotland's economy

The candidate was awarded **5 marks** for this extract.

The candidate divided their Application and Understanding section into the impact on individuals, the impact on firms and the impact of governments. The 'firms' section is shown here.

In paragraph 1 the candidate gained no marks as they are just giving theoretical knowledge of a previous diagram.

In paragraph 2 the candidate gained 2 marks for comments on the negative effects on producers of alcohol. No marks were given for the definition of aggregate demand.

In paragraph 3 the candidate gained 2 marks for comments on the positive effects on producers of alcohol.

The candidate gained no marks for the inelastic diagram and subsequent description as they are just giving theoretical knowledge of elasticity.

In paragraph 4 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on the positive effect on revenue for producers of alcohol.

In paragraph 5 the candidate gained no marks as the theory about bars and restaurants is incorrect.

In paragraph 6 the candidate gained no marks for repeated information given previously.

Candidate B

Topic – What is the effect of low wage growth on the main agents of the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** for this extract.

The candidate divided their Application and Understanding section into the effects on individuals, the effects on firms and the effects on governments. The sections on 'individuals' and 'firms' are shown here.

In paragraph 1 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on reduced purchasing power.

In paragraph 2 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on income inequality. No marks were given for the definition of consumer confidence.

In paragraph 3 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on productivity.

In paragraph 4 the candidate gained 2 marks for comments on profitability and costs of production.

In paragraph 5 the candidate gained 2 marks for comments on international competitiveness and the relocation of firms.

Candidate C

Topic – Examining the impact on the UK economy of decreasing corporation tax

The candidate was awarded **5 marks** for this extract.

The candidate divided their Application and Understanding section into advantages and disadvantages. An extract from the 'advantages' section is shown here.

In paragraph 1 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on the multiplier effect.

In paragraph 2 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on changes to government spending.

In paragraph 3 the candidate gained 2 marks for comments on FDI and consumer choice.

In paragraph 4 the candidate gained 1 mark for comments on tax avoidance.

Analysis and evaluation

Candidate A

Topic – To what extent is the low exchange rate of sterling impacting the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **5 marks** in this extract.

The source referred to in paragraph 1 is the ONS from which the candidate gives one finding followed by two analysis points.

The sources referred to in paragraph 2 are the ONS and the gov.uk websites from which the candidate gives one finding and three analysis points.

Candidate B

Topic – Examining the impact on the UK economy of decreasing corporation tax

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** in this extract.

In each paragraph the candidate clearly states both the source and the finding before going on to analyse the point. This makes the Analysis and Evaluation section of the report very easy to read.

Candidate C

Topic – How does an ageing population affect the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** in this extract.

In paragraph one the candidate refers to a previous source. However, as this paragraph and the original reference to the source are widely separated this is not good practice and should be discouraged. The candidate made one point of analysis from the finding.

In paragraphs 2 and 3 the candidate gave no sources for their findings and therefore no marks were awarded for any resulting analysis.

Conclusions and recommendations

Candidate A

Topic – To what extent is the low exchange rate of sterling impacting the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this extract.

For each conclusion the candidate made a conclusion that is backed up by a couple of points of justification.

Candidate B

Topic – The effect of minimum alcohol pricing on Scotland's economy

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this extract.

For the conclusion the candidate gave a basic justification.

For the recommendation the candidate gave a 'string' of consequences all related to government finances.

Candidate C

Topic – What is the effect of low wage growth on the main agents of the UK economy?

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this extract.

For the first recommendation the candidate gave a 'string' of consequences leading to economic growth.

For the second recommendation the candidate gave a 'string' of consequences leading to the expansion of firms.

For the third recommendation the candidate gave a 'string' of consequences leading to foreign investment.