

## A-Level Economics (Year 12)

<b>Link to specification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/economics/specifications/AQA-7135-7136-SP-2015.PDF">https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/economics/specifications/AQA-7135-7136-SP-2015.PDF</a></li> </ul>
<b>Link to past papers and mark schemes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/economics/as-and-a-level/economics-7135-7136/assessment-resources">https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/economics/as-and-a-level/economics-7135-7136/assessment-resources</a></li> </ul>
<b>Links to YouTube videos of exemplars</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/EconplusDal">https://www.youtube.com/user/EconplusDal</a> (EconplusDal)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRP_AY93wvJN0XNIRjs9Qg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRP_AY93wvJN0XNIRjs9Qg</a> (Mr McBeth)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe83jLdZ3PuqVwAHe6B3U2A">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe83jLdZ3PuqVwAHe6B3U2A</a> (Revision)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP9nTeRyrkfsdBmTu1gvrgQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP9nTeRyrkfsdBmTu1gvrgQ</a> (Revision)</li> </ul>
<b>Any additional links</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/economics">https://www.tutor2u.net/economics</a> tutor2u (free) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The blog <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/blog">https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/blog</a></li> <li>○ Reference library <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference">https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference</a></li> <li>○ Collections <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/collections">https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/collections</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="https://www.economicsonline.co.uk/">https://www.economicsonline.co.uk/</a> economicsonline</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.senecalearning.com/blog/a-level-economics-revision/">https://www.senecalearning.com/blog/a-level-economics-revision/</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/collections/quizlet-economics-revision-activities">https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/collections/quizlet-economics-revision-activities</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.gojimo.com/a-level-economics-revision/">http://www.gojimo.com/a-level-economics-revision/</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/economics-revision/a-level-aqa/macroeconomics/">https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/economics-revision/a-level-aqa/macroeconomics/</a> Physics and Maths Tutor (free)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.economicshelp.org/">https://www.economicshelp.org/</a> Economics Help (free)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news</a> BBC News (free)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/uk">https://www.theguardian.com/uk</a> The Guardian (free)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.telegraph.co.uk/">https://www.telegraph.co.uk/</a> The Telegraph (need to set up an account but get limited free downloads)</li> </ul>

### Revision and study in preparation for exams

- Start off with self-assessing your knowledge and confidence with the specification.
- Go through each section of the specification and read over all of your class notes. Research shows that it is good practice to read over your notes and condense these down into smaller notes (maybe using flashcards).
- Use the YouTube videos to help supplement any further revision. There may be a topic that you are unsure of and are currently struggling with.
- Once you are confident with the theory, have a go at attempting a few past paper questions. It is good practice to use the mark scheme to help you prepare your answers. microeconomics and macroeconomics. The model answers are excellent and give you an indication of what you need to be writing to help you get those top marks. Even going through these model answers and noting down examples of evaluation quotes is good use of your study time.

- Practice as many multiple choice questions as possible. Mark your answers against the mark scheme and for those you got wrong sit down and study the answer again – ask yourself why you got it wrong and have a look at the other alternatives.
- Use Fronter for additional resources (PowerPoint slides etc.).

## **How to Get a Top Grade in A-Level Economics**

### **TIP 1**

**“Top students talk and write confidently about how the economic theory they are learning relates to the real world.”**

- Top students always use examples!
- Examples is an important way to support your arguments in longer answers, both for analysis and evaluation.
- You don’t necessarily need loads of data but having that extra context to hand as part of your revision notes can make a big difference.

### **TIP 2**

**“Show a genuine interest in the subject added to consistent hard work.”**

Always be on the look out for articles, tweets, TV news pieces that give you contextual examples to add to your class notes. Revision at A-level is a marathon not a sprint!

### **TIP 3**

"Spend time studying current developments in economics that are relevant to your specification. This not only enriches your understanding of key concepts but will enable you to **refer to an industry or a firm of your choice** if asked in an essay."

- It is important for students to make connections between different topics, and especially between the macro and micro aspects of the course for the synoptic paper.
- We really like the **Deloitte Monday Briefing** written by Ian Stewart – a superb, concise resource which covers some important ground.

### **TIP 4**

**“I’d say that it is their thirst to delve deeper and always question, question question - as well as really solid knowledge.”**

- Evaluation is a skill you can develop by doing as many essay plans / practice questions as you can. Download past paper mark schemes and examiner report for ideas.
- At A-level, examiners are looking for depth rather than breadth. An exam question might say “using an industry” or “using a country of your choice” That is a clear command and you are strongly advised to become a mini expert on a few industries and countries that really interest you!

#### TIP 5

**“Consistency in fully understanding the specific demands of the question.”**

- Be clear what command words in an exam question require! For example, the command word “examine” means that you must analyse **and** evaluate!
- Your evaluation should **immediately** follow your analytical point, and not be left until the end of the essay

#### TIP 6

**“Well structured, concise and well articulated which ultimately answers the question with everything you would have considered, sometimes more!”**

- Students who read, watch and listen more, have extra to say! This is helpful in the final reasoned judgements at the end which are key to getting top marks for evaluation.

#### TIP 7

**“They know how to manipulate and develop a diagram to help them answer the question!”**

- Economics diagrams feature throughout all of your exam papers. Evaluation questions may specifically ask you to draw them and adapt them to a scenario.
- Don’t just draw a basic diagram – look to develop it!
- When you include a diagram in an economics answer, it is important that you also write about it.
- Unless you do this, you are likely to only be awarded AO1 (knowledge) marks for your diagram.
- Writing about your diagram usually allows you to be awarded AO3 (analysis) marks as well.

#### TIP 8

**“Being consistent throughout each paper - no slip ups! The shorter mark questions are just as important.”**

**Please, please, please** do not over-write on the shorter questions. Often, they require a **short, focused, accurate answer** (showing workings) rather than long paragraphs.

#### TIP 9

**“Consistent well organised economics with clear chains of reasoning and a clear judgement that answers the question for 25 markers.”**

Exam reports are clear! For high analysis marks, you will need to practice writing answers with clear analytical **chains of reasoning** using relevant economic concepts.

#### TIP 10

**“Don't forget to relate your answer to the real world - either making use of the information provided in the figures and extracts or your own knowledge.”**

Many of the **application marks** in data response questions go un-awarded because students are not drawing from & using the data charts, tables and extracts provided.

#### **TIP 11**

**“They should be able to evaluate using different political and theoretical perspectives.”**

Being aware of different schools of thought in Economics adds to your understanding of the subject and is very useful for top grades!

#### **TIP 12**

**“They need to make it their mission to be economics experts. Deploy economics to thoroughly analyse either given extracts or their own examples garnered through constant reading about contemporary issues and historical data/events. This is compared to off-hand mentions of examples in mainly theoretical explanations. Finally, they should feel empowered to make judgments about the extent, impact and relative importance of issues.”**

We feel this is one of the best overviews of advice for students who are aiming for the high grades this summer! Become an economics expert! Make reasoned judgements.