

EDEXCEL A LEVEL ECONOMICS (A) – EXAM ADVICE

Paper 1 (Markets and Business Behaviour) and Paper 2 (National and Global Economy)

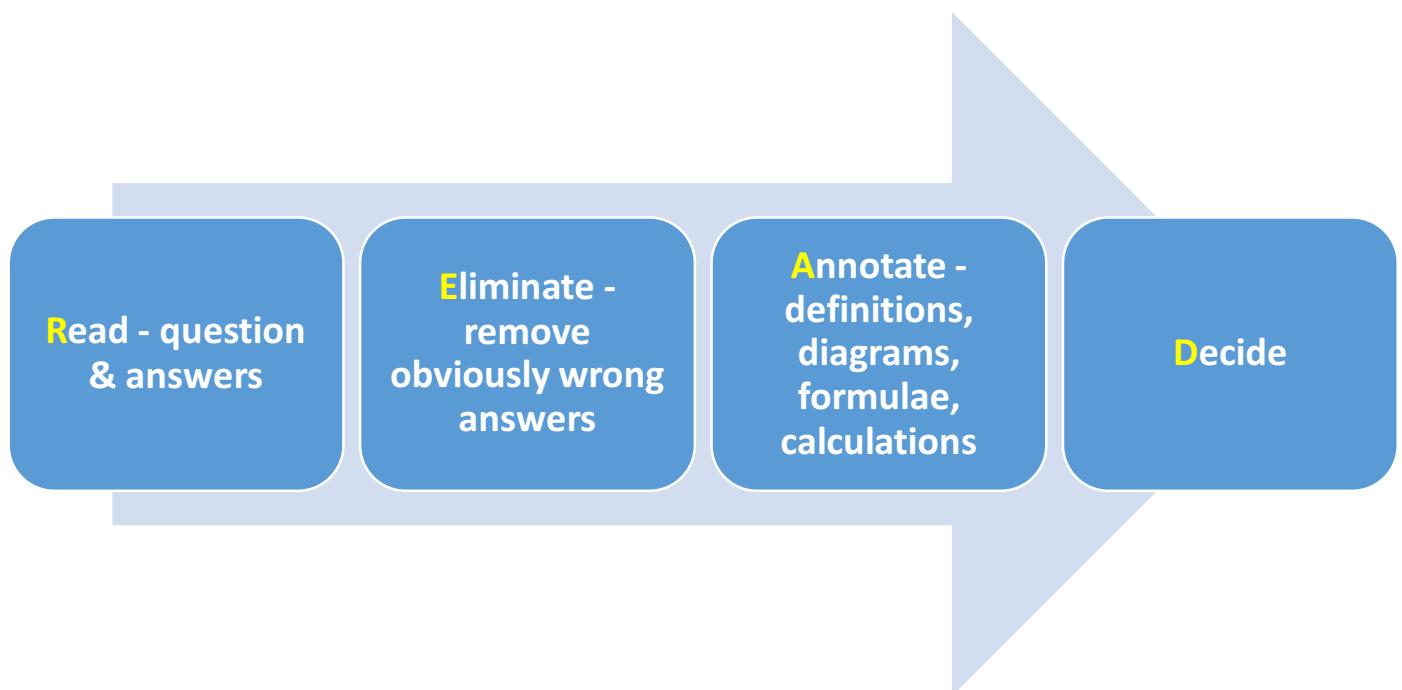
- 2 hours, 100 marks in total
- Section A – 25 marks – 5 themed short answer questions, including a multiple-choice question, for 5 marks each
- Section B – 50 mark data response (no choice)
- Section C – 25 essay (choice of 1 from 2)

Section A – 5 short-answer themed questions (25 minutes)

Each short-answer question is set around a certain theme or piece of data. Start by reading that data carefully.

Questions will typically ask you for definitions (be concise!), calculations (show your working!) or explanations (use chains of analysis!).

For the multiple-choice question, follow this technique:



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Section B – Data Response – (10 minutes reading then 50 minutes answering questions)

5 mark
diagram &
explain
question
5 minutes

- Start with a well-labelled accurate diagram
- Quote the necessary data that will cause a change on the diagram
- Adapt the diagram - if there are any numbers in the data that can be used as labels on the diagram then use them!
- Write no more than 2 sentences to explain what has happened to your diagram
- (5 KAA marks)

8 mark
examine
question
8 minutes

- Identify 2 points
- For each point include 1 piece of supporting data, 1 analytical chain, and 1 piece of evaluation - try to use a short 'chain' in your evaluation as well as your analysis
- (6 KAA and 2 EV marks)

12 mark
diagram
and discuss
question
12 minutes

- **ACE diagram** - accurate, comprehensive, equilibria labelled
- Define key terms in the question and quote as much relevant data from the case study as you can
- Identify 2 points and write a strong analytical chain for each - use economic terminology everywhere possible, & refer to your diagram!
- Write 2 evaluation points - use as much evidence/data as you can, and consider different perspectives - use analytical chains!
- (8 KAA and 4 EV marks)

10 mark
assess
question
10 minutes

- Define key terms and quote relevant data / evidence
- Try to include 2 analytical chains - use economic terminology everywhere possible
- Write 2 evaluation points - use as much evidence/data as you can, and consider different perspectives - use analytical chains!
- (6 KAA and 4 EV marks)

15 mark
discuss
question
15 minutes

- Define key terms and quote relevant data/evidence
- Try to include 3 analytical chains - use economic terminology everywhere possible
- Write 3 evaluation points - use as much evidence/data as you can and consider different perspectives - use analytical chains!
- (9 KAA marks and 6 EV marks)

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Section C – essay (30 minutes)

Introduction

- Briefly introduce the 3 (or 4) points that you will make in your essay
- Write one sentence that briefly summarises your conclusion - use the **specific words from the question** in your sentence to ensure that you are totally focused!

PECAN PIE and APE paragraph for each point!

- Make your **Point**, briefly **Explain** it, then give **Contextualised ANalysis** - this means writing an analytical chain (with diagram if possible) and using evidence from the case study
- State that your **Point** may not hold, because **In Evaluation**, the **Assumptions** underlying your analysis may not hold, there are different **Perspectives**, and there may be **Evidence** that negates or supports your view
- The final sentence must **LINK BACK** to the question - use the specific words from the question

Conclusion

- DO NOT introduce anything new
- You **MUST** reach a **judgement** based on the 3 or 4 points that you have made

Then check your work – 5 minutes

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Paper 3 (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics)

- 2 hours and 100 marks
- 2 compulsory 50m data response questions, each with a choice of synoptic 25m essay question (1 from 2)

Short-answer questions

5 mark
explain
question
5 minutes

- Quote the necessary evidence / data
- Write a detailed analytical chain linking cause and effect - aim for at least 5 steps in your chain
- Use a well-labelled diagram if it helps your analysis
- (5 KAA marks)

8 mark
examine
question
8 minutes

- Quote the necessary evidence / data
- Identify 2 points
- For each point include 1 piece of supporting data, 1 analytical chain, and 1 piece of evaluation - try to use a short 'chain' in your evaluation as well as your analysis
- (6 KAA and 2 EV marks)

12 mark
discuss
question
12 minutes

- Define key terms in the question and quote as much relevant data from the case study as you can
- Identify 2 points and write a strong analytical chain for each - use economic terminology everywhere possible
- Write 2 evaluation points - use as much evidence/data as you can, and consider different perspectives - use analytical chains!
- (8 KAA and 4 EV marks)

Synoptic Essay Question

You can follow the same 25m essay structure as you use for papers 1 and 2. However, you are specifically asked to consider the micro and macro consequences of a change. You can use these acronyms to help you:

POPSICLE (micro)

- Price, Output, Profits, Structure of the Market, Inefficiency, Competition, Labour Market, Externalities

DIGESTIF (macro)

- Development, Inflation, Growth, Employment, Structure of the Economy, Trade Balance, Inequality, Fiscal Balance