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KU ES

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0820/402

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2008

MONDAY, 12 MAY
10.20 AM – 11.35 AM

ECONOMICS
STANDARD GRADE
General Level

Fill in these boxes and read what is printed below.

Full name of centre

Town

Forename(s)

Surname

Date of birth

Day Month Year

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Scottish candidate number

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Number of seat

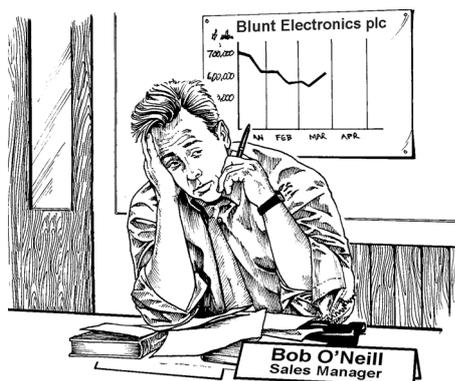
- 1 Read each question carefully.
- 2 Attempt **all** the questions.
- 3 All answers are to be written in this answer book.
- 4 Do **not** write in the margins.
- 5 Before leaving the examination room you must give this book to the invigilator. If you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



1. Study the pictures below and answer the questions which follow.

Marks

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Mr O'Neill
Sales Manager (Scotland)
Blunt Electronics plc



Mrs O'Neill
Call Centre Supervisor
Last Direct Bank

(a) (i) Which factor of production do Mr and Mrs O'Neill provide?

(ii) What return do Mr and Mrs O'Neill receive for providing this factor of production?

(b) In which sector of production is Mrs O'Neill currently employed?

(c) (i) Mr O'Neill earns £50,000 per year and increases his savings from 10% to 15% of this amount. How much more will he be saving per year?

Answer: £ _____

Show your working here.

(ii) Which factor of production is Mr O'Neill providing when he saves?

1. (c) (continued)

Marks

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(iii) Suggest **2** reasons why Mr O'Neill decided to save more of his income.

1 _____

 2 _____

(d) Firms are sometimes reluctant to invest in new capital.

(i) Suggest **one** action the UK Government could take to encourage firms to invest.

(ii) Explain how this action would be expected to work.

(e) (i) Blunt Electronics plc is to merge with Last Direct Bank plc. What type of integration is this?

(ii) Explain why both firms would benefit from this merger.

2. Study the newspaper article below and answer the questions which follow.

Marks

EXPANSION OF EUROPEAN UNION

During the last few years, the number of countries in the European Union has increased. Poland, for example, contributes to the EU budget and enjoys the benefits of free trade and the unrestricted movement of capital and labour between member states.

	KU	ES
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(a) Explain the following terms as used in the article.

(i) "The European Union"

(ii) "Free trade"

(b) Suggest **one** benefit to workers of being able to move freely between countries of the EU.

(c) (i) Name **one** barrier to free trade.

(ii) Suggest **2** ways in which countries, such as Japan, might respond to trade barriers used against them by the EU.

1 _____

2 _____

[Turn over for Question 3 on *Page six*

3. (b) (continued)

Marks

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(iii) Choose **one** of the actions suggested in (b)(ii) and describe **fully** how it would be expected to work.

(c) (i) Apart from spending on roads, identify **one** other area of government spending.

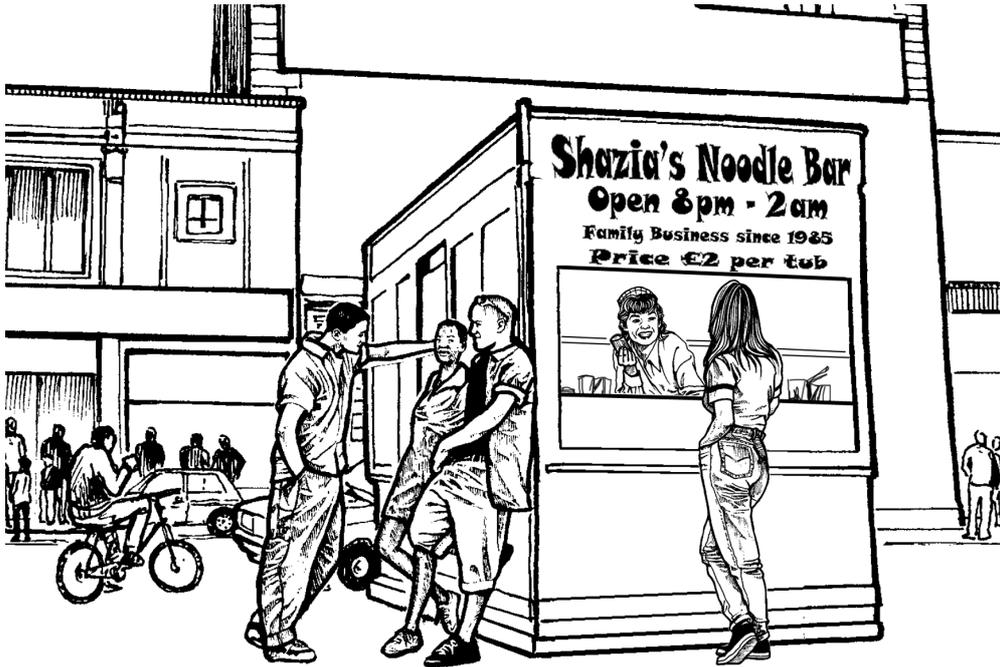
(ii) Why does the Government spend money this way?

(iii) Apart from taxation, how does the Government raise revenue to fund its spending?

[Turn over

4. Study the picture below and answer the questions which follow.

Marks



(a) State 2 fixed costs that Shazia's Noodle Bar may have to pay.

1 _____

2 _____

2

(b) Why do economists describe these costs as "fixed"?

2

(c) Suggest **one** variable cost that Shazia's Noodle Bar may have to pay.

1

4. (continued)

Marks

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(d) (i) In which sector of the economy is Shazia’s Noodle Bar?

Tick (✓) the correct box.

PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/>
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PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
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(ii) Explain your answer to (d)(i).

(e) Before opening the noodle bar, Shazia used to work as a hairdresser. What type of mobility of labour does this change demonstrate?

(f) (i) Shazia wants to increase the profit on each tub of noodles sold. Suggest **2** actions that Shazia could take to achieve this.

1

2

(ii) Choose **one** of the actions suggested in (f)(i) and explain how it would be expected to work.

[Turn over

5. Study the information below and answer the questions which follow.

Marks



(a) The Government spends money on the National Health Service (NHS). Give **one** example of:

1 Current expenditure on the NHS;

2 Capital expenditure on the NHS.

2

(b) Suggest **2** possible benefits to patients of some hospitals being privately owned.

1 _____

2 _____

2

5. (continued)

Marks

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2	

(c) Why are all hospital beds scarce?

(d) (i) There is a shortage of beds in Newtown. Suggest **2** actions the Government could take to reduce this shortage without building more hospitals.

1 _____

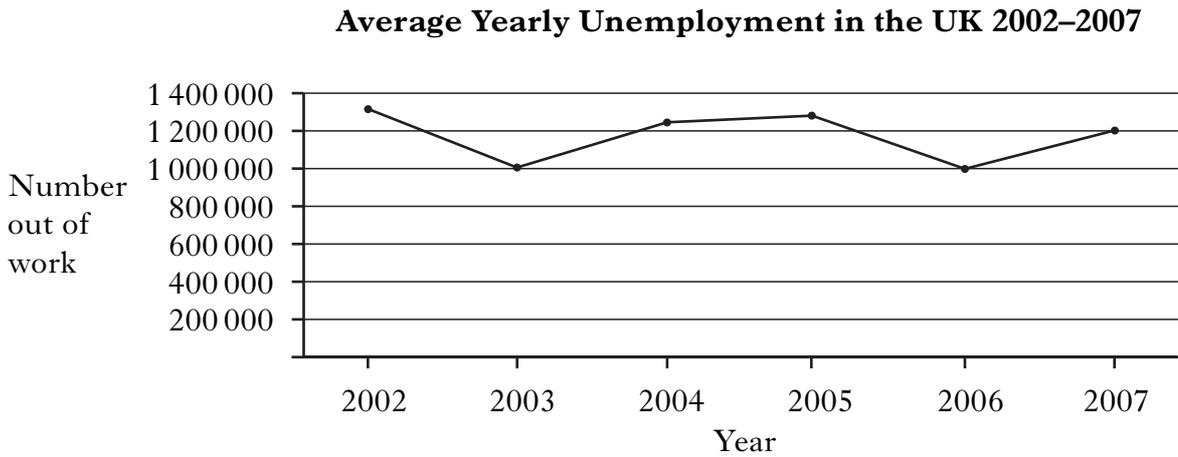
2 _____

(ii) Choose **one** of the actions in (d)(i) above and explain how it would be expected to work.

[Turn over

6. Study the graph below and answer the questions which follow.

Marks



(a) How does the UK Government calculate the number of people unemployed in the UK?

1

(b) Using the graph, describe **in detail** the pattern of unemployment during this period.

2

(c) (i) What is meant by the term “working population”?

1

(ii) The working population in the UK in 2006 was 25 million. Calculate the percentage rate of unemployment in that year.

Answer: _____%

Show your working here.

2

7. (continued)

Marks

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(c) Suggest **one** reason why dentists earn more than farm workers.

(d) (i) Does the chart show that every dentist earns more than every sales manager?

Tick (✓) the correct box.

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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(ii) Explain your answer to (d)(i).

(e) “Workers in service industries are paid more than workers in other industries.”

(i) Does the information in the chart support this statement?

Tick (✓) the correct box.

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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(ii) Justify your answer to (e)(i).

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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