

BVGS A-Level Economics: Summer Work

For A-level Economics, you are required to complete summer work to help get you into the correct mindset for the subject whether you have studied it before or not. You have a number of tasks to complete. You will be expected to bring all your notes and work along with you to your first classes in Economics in the autumn term.

If you need some support with this work you can email:

Mrs Brocklebank Head of Economics on c.brocklebank@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk

Introduction to Economics – Section 1

Task 1: Click on the link below to watch the video '60 Second Adventures in Economics'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCRNI04tnN8>

Please also watch the five TEDTalk videos below to introduce yourself to a range of themes you will explore during your study of Economics at A-Level.

Make a 5 bullet point summary of each talk selecting what you feel are the most important 5 points made by the speaker.

- The Happy Planet Index
https://www.ted.com/talks/nic_marks_the_happy_planet_index
- How economic inequality harms societies
https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_wilkinson_how_economic_inequality_harms_societies#t-471045
- The case for letting business solve social problems
https://www.ted.com/talks/michael_porter_the_case_for_letting_business_solve_social_problems

Economic Report – Section 2

Aim:

Using the data below from the BBC economy page, and your own economic knowledge, write a short report on the current state of the UK economy as we deal with the economic impact of Covid-19. In particular, discuss economic outlooks for the four key macro-economic objectives of: unemployment, growth, inflation and the balance of payments. Find definitions for each of these objectives and how they have been impacted.

Success Criteria:

Well-written and explained in your own words.

Using data and charts to support your report

Good sources to use:

www.bbc.co.uk/business

Office for national statistics - ONS

Any good broadsheet newspaper online e.g. The Times/Guardian

You must reference ALL sources you use

The allocation of scarce resources whilst having unlimited wants – Section 3

Watch the following video;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9IjktFC9Tg&list=PLWeicFreBUYCOFC2A0SIKrpEYgwaSF63t>

1. Explain the economic problem that all countries face.

Watch the following video on the economics of cigarette consumption;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpVpOMFL7fA>

2. What is the cost to the NHS of treating smoking-related illnesses?
3. Consider 3 policies that you would use that could possibly reduce cigarette smoking. For each policy, consider 2 advantages and 2 disadvantages.

How much should governments intervene in the economy? – Section 4

This is one of the questions that economists the world over disagree on, but influences people's lives on a day to day basis. How much if at all should the government intervene in the economy?

Your task is to **research** both sides of the argument for and against the government imposing a tax on sugary drinks and write an essay on it.

‘Should the UK government impose a tax on sugary drinks?’ – hint they have already but WHY?

1. Paragraph 1: **Introduction**: Explain what the problem is with the current consumption of sugary drinks
2. Paragraph 2: Explain the major arguments that people put forward **in favour** of taxing sugary drinks. Include the evidence from imposing this type of tax in Mexico
3. Paragraph 3: Explain the major arguments that people put forward **against** imposing the tax
4. Paragraph 4: Come to a **conclusion**: Based on the research you have done, do you think taxing sugary drinks is a good idea or not? Why?

Success Criteria:

Well-written and explained in your own words. Using the paragraph guide given above.

Using data and charts to support your report

Make a clear judgement (don't sit on the fence) and support your judgement with sound evidence

Good sources to use:

<https://www.diabetes.co.uk/nutrition/2018-uk-sugar-tax.html>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference/government-intervention-sugar-taxes>

<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/blog/resources-on-the-sugar-tax>

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/sep/20/britons-consuming-more-sugar-despite-tax-and-anti-obesity-drive>

Reminder source all of your research please.

Overview:

Section 1- Watch the video links and make a 5 bullet point summary on each one.

Section 2 – Write a short report on the current state of the UK economy as we deal with the economic impact of Covid-19

Section 3- Watch the video links and answer the 3 questions about them

Section 4 – Research and write an essay on the introduction of the sugar tax in the UK