



Economics Questions By Topic:

**Positive & Normative Statements
(1.1.2) Mark Scheme**

A-Level Edexcel Theme 1

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SECTION A

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1	<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledge 1</p> <p>The only correct answer is D</p> <p><i>A is not correct because Statement 1 and 2 are positive statements, they are not value judgements</i></p> <p><i>B is not correct Statement 1 is positive as it is an objective statement which can be tested</i></p> <p><i>C is not correct because Statement 2 is positive</i></p>	(1)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2	<p>The only correct answer is C</p> <p><i>A is not correct because Statement 1 is Positive, using testable data</i></p> <p><i>B is not correct because Statement 1 is Positive, using testable data</i></p> <p><i>D is not correct because 'ought' in Statement 2 is Normative</i></p>	(1)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
3	<p style="text-align: center;">C (1 mark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of a positive statement (assertion of a fact / it can be tested as true or false / a scientific approach to economics / objective). (1 mark) • Definition of a normative statement (one that is based on a value judgement / it cannot be tested as true or false / a non-scientific approach to economics / subjective). (1 mark) • Application: Statement 1 is positive as it can be tested by reference to government Budget report over the tax increase on tobacco. (1 mark) • Application: Statement 2 is normative as it includes the word 'unjustified'. (1 mark) 	(4)

Supported multiple choice

NB: candidates may achieve up to 3 explanation marks even if incorrect option is selected.

NB: candidates may achieve up to 3 marks for explaining three incorrect options (provided three different reasons are offered and each option key is clearly rejected).

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4	<p style="text-align: center;">Answer C (1 mark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Definition of a positive statement: (one that is based on fact / it can be tested as true or false / a scientific approach to economics / objective approach). (1 mark)• Definition of a normative statement: (one that is based on value judgement / it cannot be tested as true or false / a non-scientific approach to economics / subjective approach). (1 mark) <p style="text-align: center;">NB: Do not award for defining a normative statement as an opinion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application to statement 1: (it is positive since it can be tested or checked with her Majesty's Revenue and Customs to see if income earners above £150,000 pay a tax rate of 50 per cent.). (1 mark)• Application to statement 2: (it is normative since people may disagree with the 50 per cent tax rate being unfair / use of the word 'unfair' means it is a value judgement.). (1 mark)	(4)

NB candidates may achieve up to 3 explanation marks even if incorrect option is selected.

NB candidates may achieve up to 3 marks for explaining three incorrect options (provided three different reasons are offered and each option key is explicitly rejected).

Question Number	Answer	Mark
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer C • Definition of a positive statement is required (one that is based on fact / it can be tested as true or false / a scientific approach to economics / objective statement) (1 mark). • Definition of a normative statement (one that is based on value judgement / it cannot be tested as true or false / a non-scientific approach to economics / subjective statement) (1 mark). <p style="text-align: center;">NB Do not accept 'opinion' as an explanation of a normative statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application: statement 1 is positive since it can be tested to see whether financial sector workers did receive more than £13 billion in bonuses. (1 mark). • Application: statement 2 is normative since it contains the word 'fair' (1 mark). 	(4)

Candidates can be awarded up to 3 marks for explanation even if the incorrect key is used

Candidates can be awarded on maximum of 3 marks for identifying and explaining incorrect options

Question Number	Answer	Mark
6	<p>A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A positive statement is an assertion of a fact / can be proved or disproved / value free (1 mark).• Statement 1 is positive as it contains something (air quality) which can be tested. (1 mark).• A normative statement is a value judgement / cannot be tested as true or false (1 mark).• Statement 2 is normative as it contains the value judgement of 'unfair' (1 mark).	(1) (3)

SECTION B

Question Number	Answer	Mark
7	<p style="text-align: center;">Knowledge 1, Application 2, Analysis 2</p> <p>Knowledge and Analysis: (up to 3 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of a positive statement e.g. statement of fact that can be tested (1) • Understanding of a normative statement e.g. statement containing a value judgement (1) <p>Further analysis of the difference (1) e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a positive statement is not linked to political viewpoint • these normative statement represents the value judgement of the Prime Minister/current political party • objective v subjective • Scientific method <p>Application: up to 2 marks 1 for positive and 1 for normative for each example from the extract</p> <p>Normative example (up to 1 mark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the regulator 'should' limit the standard variable tariff (1) • offer fairer prices for customers who are paying too much (1) • 'a price cap will not be good for consumers' (1) • The market is broken (1) <p>Positive example (up to 1 mark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy bills of 11 million households will be capped (1) • Save households up to £100 (1) 	(5)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
8	<p>4 KAA marks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation of positive statement: factual statement / can be tested as true or false / based on scientific or objective approach to the subject. (1 mark) • Data reference to the title of Extract 1: a positive statement since possible to test whether London Crossrail is Europe's largest infrastructure project (1 mark). • Explanation of normative statement: value judgement / cannot be tested as true or false / based on a non-scientific or subjective approach to the subject. (1 mark) <p>NB do not accept use of term 'opinion'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data reference to title of Extract 2: a normative statement since it refers to the term 'unfair'. (1 mark). 	(4)

Question Number	Answer	Mark
9	<p>KAA = 4 marks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation of positive statement (1 mark): Factual statement / can be tested as true or false / based on scientific or objective approach to the subject. • Application: title of extract 1 is positive since possible to test whether the tuition fees will increase / up to £9000 (1 mark). • Explanation of normative statement (1 mark): Value judgement / cannot be tested as true or false / based on a non-scientific or subjective approach to the subject. <p>NB do not accept use of term 'opinion'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application: title of extract 2 is normative since the term 'unfair' is a value judgement (1 mark). 	(4)