

General Short Questions

2000

Students' fees at most third level colleges in Ireland are now paid for by the Irish government. Outline **TWO** economic advantages **and** **TWO** economic disadvantages of this policy for the Irish economy.

Advantages:

(i) .....

(ii) .....

Disadvantages:

(i) .....

(ii) .....

(17 marks)

2001

Define **SOCIAL COSTS**. Give **TWO** examples.

.....  
.....

Example (i) .....

Example (ii) .....

(16 marks)

2003

Define **social benefits** and state **TWO** examples of social benefits which may arise from the Irish Government's payment of student fees for most third level colleges in Ireland.

**Definition:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Example 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Example 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

(17 marks)

**2004**

Outline **TWO** private benefits and **TWO** social benefits of the possible decline in the consumption of tobacco products, which is being promoted by government policies.

Private benefits:

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

Social benefits:

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

(17 marks)

**2005**

The Irish Government is considering the introduction of water charges for households. Outline **three** possible economic arguments in favour of the introduction of water charges for households in Ireland.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**2006**

Savers who have **SSIAs** (Special Savings Investment Accounts) are being subsidised by the Irish government through the receipt of additional bonus payments.

Outline **TWO** economic advantages and **TWO** economic disadvantages of this scheme for the Irish economy.

**Advantages:**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**2007**

Energy costs (e.g. electricity) increased significantly in Ireland during 2006. Outline **TWO economic reasons** for the increase and **TWO economic consequences** of this specific development for the Irish economy.

**Reasons:**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**Consequences:**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**(17 marks)**

**2008**

Oil prices rose steadily during the last year. State **two** economic reasons for this development. State **one** social cost and **one** social benefit of the rising prices.

**Reasons:**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Cost:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Benefit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(17 marks)**

**2009 DEB**

State **four** possible economic effects of falling **interest rates** on the Irish economy.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) \_\_\_\_\_

(iv) \_\_\_\_\_

**(16 marks)**

Many multinational companies have established operations in Ireland in recent years. However, there has been a recent trend for some of these companies to relocate to Eastern Europe or Asia. Outline **four** reasons why some of these firms are relocating to other countries.

- (i) \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) \_\_\_\_\_
- (iv) \_\_\_\_\_

(17 marks)

**2010 DEB**

The Irish government may, in the future, consider reintroducing student fees at most third-level colleges in Ireland. State **two** economic advantages and **two** economic disadvantages of this policy for the Irish economy.

Advantage 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Advantage 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Disadvantage 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Disadvantage 2: \_\_\_\_\_

(16 marks)

**2013**

The fundamental economic problem is one of 'scarcity'. Explain this concept.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(16 marks)

Explain what is meant by the economic term 'Paradox of Thrift'.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(17 marks)

**2014**

Ireland recently emerged from the EU/IMF/ECB ‘**Troika Bailout Programme**’.  
(December 15<sup>th</sup> 2013)

Outline **two** possible economic implications for the Irish economy of having exited this programme.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**(17 marks)**

Outline **two** possible social costs and **two** possible social benefits of an investment by ‘EirGrid’ in upgrading Ireland's electricity network by erecting high-voltage power lines (pylons).

**Social Costs:**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Social Benefits:**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**(17 marks)**