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**FINAL** 

# NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

**GRADE 12** 

**ECONOMICS P2** 

**COMMON TEST** 

**JUNE 2024** 

**MARKING GUIDELINE** 

**MARKS: 150** 

TIME: 2 hours

This marking guideline consists of 20 pages.



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#### **SECTION A (COMPULSORY)**

#### **QUESTION 1**

#### **30 MARKS-20 MINUTES**

#### 1.1 MULTIPLE CHOICE

- 1.1.1. C √√ (industry)
- 1.1.2. B √√ (free)
- 1.1.3. B √√ (external)
- 1.1.4. A √√ (merit)
- 1.1.5. D √√ (unique)
- 1.1.6. A √√ (economic)
- 1.1.7. D √√ (implicit)
- 1.1.8. C √√ (social)

 $(8 \times 2)(16)$ 

#### 1.2 MATCHING ITEMS

- 1.2.1 D ✓
- 1.2.2 E √
- 1.2.3 A ✓
- 1.2.4 G √
- 1.2.5 I√
- 1.2.6 C ✓
- 1.2.7 B ✓
- 1.2.8 F ✓

 $(8 \times 1)(8)$ 



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#### 1.3. CONCEPTS

1.3.1. Economic profit ✓

1.3.2. Marginal cost ✓

1.3.3. Administered prices ✓

1.3.4. Cartel √

1.3.5. Patent √

1.3.6 Pareto efficiency√

 $(6 \times 1)$  (6)

TOTAL SECTION A: 30



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#### **SECTION B**

Answer any TWO of the three questions in this section in the ANSWER BOOK.

**QUESTION TWO** 

MICRO-ECONOMICS

**40 MARKS-30 MINUTES** 

- 2.1 Answer the following questions.
  - 2.1.1. Give any TWO examples of positive externalities.

(2x1) (2)

- Education √
- Health care √

(Accept any other relevant and correct response)

2.1.2. What is the benefit of being in the monopoly business?

(1x2) (2)

Monopoly faces no competition in the market as a single seller / supplier in the whole market. ✓✓

(Accept any other relevant and correct response)

- 2.2. DATA RESPONSE
  - 2.2.1. Identify the market structure in which the demand curve would be downwards sloping from the above information.

    Market B√

(1)

2.2.2. What is the nature of the product sold in a monopolistic competitive firm?

(1)

Homogeneous / Differentiated √

2.2.3. Describe the term average revenue.

(2)

Average revenue is the income earned from one unit of a product sold.  $\checkmark$  (Accept any other relevant and correct response)

2.2.4. Why do firms find it easy to enter the monopolistic competitive market?

(2)

- There are no barriers that limit / hinder / stop firms from entering the market. √√
- There is freedom to enter and exit the market. √/ (Accept any other relevant and correct response)



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2.2.5. Calculate the marginal revenue for market B

(4)

 $MR = \Delta TR$ 

 $\Delta Q$ 

 $= 40\sqrt{-25} \checkmark$ 

2-1

= R15

1

= R15√

[10]

(2)

#### 2.3. DATA RESPONSE

2.3.1 Identify the market structure under which ESKOM operate in the extract above.

Monopoly  $\checkmark$  (1)

2.3.2. What is the nature of a product such as electricity?

Unique  $\checkmark$  (1)

2.3.3. Briefly describe the term market.

Market is a situation where buyers and sellers meet to buy and sell goods and services. √√ (Accept any other correct relevant answer)

2.3.4. How can Eskom improve electricity supply in South Africa?

- Offer opportunity to sub-contractors to provide power to meet the demand. √√
- Eliminate corruption within the company to improve efficiency. 
   (Accept any other relevant correct answer)

## 2.3.5. How would competition against ESKOM benefit the economy of South Africa?

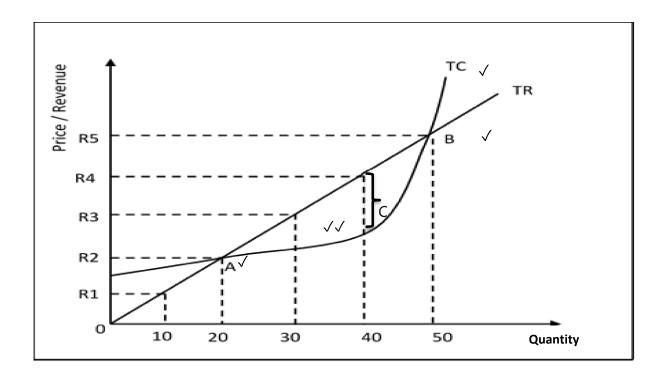
- Electricity will be cheaper and affordable for the consumers thus improve their living standards. √√
- Businesses would be able to increase production since the cost of production will be decreased due to decreased electricity prices. √√
- Government revenue would increase since more profits are earned by businesses. √√

(Accept any other relevant correct answer) (4)



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## 2.4. With an aid of a well labelled graph briefly discuss profit maximisation using the TR and TC curves.



#### **MARK ALLOCATION**

2 marks – profit maximisation 1 mark – curves (TR and TC) 1 mark – Any break-even point

#### **Explanation:**

- If TC >TR the business makes a loss. √/
- If TR > TC the business makes economic profit. √/
- Profit is maximized at a point where there is the biggest difference between TC and TR, where TR is greater than TC at R4 with 40 units sold.√✓
- The business will be making normal profits at points **A** and **B**. where TR = TC√/

(Accept any other relevant correct answer)



(8)

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#### 2.5 How do firms in an oligopoly market increase profits without causing price

Oligopolies may increase profits by using non-price competition strategies such as:

- branding their product to create an impression that the product is for a particular age group or income group.  $\checkmark\checkmark$
- aggressive advertising which inform customers about the business or product it provides. ✓✓
- using appealing packaging to bring out important features of their product. √√
- improving their customer service in order to ensure that they return to their businesses. </
- providing relevant and precise information which is crucial to the customers, since there are competitors in the market.  $\checkmark\checkmark$
- extending shopping hours to the convenience of customers. √√
- Offering loyalty rewards to customers which will encourage their return to spend accumulated rewards. </

(Accept any relevant correct response)

[40]

(8)

#### **QUESTION 3** MICRO-ECONOMICS **40 MARKS-30 MINUTES**

3.1 Answer the following questions.

#### 3.1.1. Name any TWO institutions that promote competition in South Africa.

- Competition Commission √
- Competition Tribunal √
- Competition Appeal Court √

(2x1) (2)

#### 3.1.2. Why is the MR curve the same as the demand curve in a perfect market?

MR curve is the same as the demand curve because each additional unit is sold at the same price because a firm is a price taker. ✓✓ (Accept any other relevant correct answer) (1x2) (2)

#### 3.2. **DATA RESPONSE.**

3.2.1. Name the market structure on the picture above.

Monopolistic competition ✓

(1)

3.2.2. What type of profits are made in a monopolistic competitive firm in a short run?

(1)

Economic profit v

Economics P2 June 2024 Common Test NSC-Grade 12 3.2.3. Briefly describe the term *long-run*. Long-run is the period of production where all factors of production may change. </ (Accept any other relevant correct answer) (2)3.2.4. Why is the monopolistic competition considered to be a hybrid structure? The monopolistic competition combines the characteristics of both perfect and monopoly markets.  $\checkmark\checkmark$ (Accept any other relevant correct answer) (2) 3.2.5. Why is product differentiation beneficial to the monopolistic competitor? • Product differentiation allows the monopolistic competitor's product to stand out from those of the competitors \sqrt{ Product differentiation increases brand loyalty and builds brand equity√√ (Accept any other relevant correct answer) (2x2) (4) [10] 3.3. DATA RESPONSE. 3.3.1. Give the market structure discussed in the extract above. Oligopoly √ (1) 3.3.2. What type of collusion are these insurance companies involved in? Tacit collusion / Implicit collusion (1) 3.3.3. Briefly explain the term duopoly. Duopoly is a market that is dominated by two large businesses. ✓✓ (Accept any other correct relevant answer) (2) 3.3.4 How could the government limit collusion? Impose heavy fines and penalties on businesses found guilty of collusion. </

 Regulate the prices / administer prices of particular goods that are essential to consumers. </ (1 X 2) (2)

(Accept any other relevant correct answer)



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## 3.3.5 What negative effect would limited competition of firms have on consumers?

- Consumers would not afford the high prices charged by firms and that would decrease their standard of living. ✓✓
- A variety of goods produced would be decreased which would limit consumer choice. √√
- Reduced quantities may lead to high prices which may not meet consumer needs. √√
- Quality of products supplied may be compromised which would not meet consumer needs. √√ (2x2) (4)

(Accept any relevant correct response)

[10]

## 3.4. Discuss immobility of the factors of production as a cause of market failure.

- Labour takes time to move from one area to another. ✓✓
- The supply of skilled labour cannot be increased suddenly because of the time it takes to be trained or educated. ✓✓
- Physical capital, like factory buildings or infrastructure such as telephone lines cannot be reallocated easily.
- Structural changes require a change in the labourers' skills, employment and work patterns. ✓✓

Accept any relevant and correct response)

#### 3.5 How beneficial is the cost benefit analysis to the government?

- Cost benefit analysis is used as a guide to decision making since government does not use market signals. ✓✓
- All relevant benefits and costs of a project are identified. ✓✓
- A wider social impact and externalities are included in decision making to estimate the extent of the investment. ✓✓
- Economic efficiency of economic resources is ensured. ✓✓
- Objectivity to decision making is used to avoid subjectivity. ✓✓
- Cost benefit analysis is applicable only to the government while businesses use feasibility study. ✓✓

(Accept any other relevant correct answer)

(8)

(8)

[40]



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#### **QUESTION 4 MICRO-ECONOMICS**

#### **40 MARKS-30 MINUTES**

#### **4.1**. Answer the following questions

#### 4.1.1. Give any TWO features of the public goods.

 $(2 \times 1)(2)$ 

- Non rival √
- Non excludable √
- Non reject-able √

#### 4.1.2. How does the decrease in producer tax affect consumers?

A decrease in producer tax will reduce prices for the consumers and they would buy more goods and services.  $\checkmark$  (Accept any other relevant correct answer) (1 x 2)(2)

#### 4.2. DATA RESPONSE

#### 4.2.1. Identify the curve that relates to allocative efficiency.

(1)

Indifference curve / Curve I ✓

## 4.2.2. What quantity of cabbages will be supplied if 800 units of carrots are produced?

(1)

400√

#### 4.2.3 Briefly describe the term *productive inefficiency*.

(2)

Productive inefficiency occurs when the business do not maximise output from given inputs. <

(Accept any other relevant and correct response)

#### 4.2.4 Why would production at point F be regarded as inefficient?

(2)

(4)

- Few goods would be produced due to the inefficient allocation of resources. √√
- Production will not be at an optimum level which would deprive consumers. √√

(Accept any other relevant and correct response)

## 4.2.5 How can the government discourage the consumption of demerit goods?

- The government would increase excise duties levied on demerit goods. √√
- Information (education) would be provided about the harmful effects of these goods. √/
- Banning and regulation of demerit goods would limit their

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availability / accessibility to consumers. <

#### 4.3 DATA RESPONSE

**4.3.1.** Identify the market price on the graph above.  $R10\sqrt{\phantom{0}}$ 

(1)

4.3.2 Which part of the demand curve is elastic? DE√

(1)

4.3.3 Briefly describe the term *pure oligopoly* 

(2)

Pure oligopoly is a market structure where few large firms produce homogeneous products. 
(Accept any other relevant correct answer)

4.3.4 Why would firms be reluctant to increase price in this market?

(2)

- Firms are reluctant to increase the price because it will create price wars.
- Increasing the price will lead to a decrease in revenue and profit of the firms. √√

(Accept any other relevant correct answer)

4.3.5 Calculate the total revenue earned by this firm. Show all calculations.

Total Revenue = Price x Quantity R10√ x 9√ R90 √√

(Accept any other relevant correct answer)

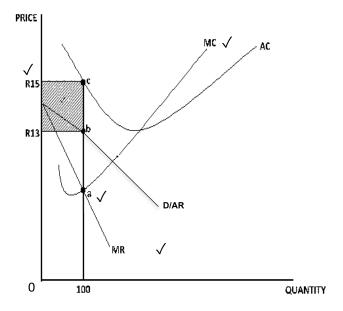
 $(2 \times 2) (4)$ 

[10]



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## 4.4 With an aid of a well labelled graph explain how a firm in a monopoly market make an economic loss. (8)



MARK ALLOCATION		
Labelling of and on axis Correct drawing and labelling of revenue curves	1 mark 1 mark	
Correct drawing, labelling and positioning of cost	Tillaik	
curves	1 mark	
Correct indication of LOSS minimizing point	1 mark	
Correct area of economic loss	1 mark	
I M	Max 4	

#### **Explanation**

- The monopoly will produce at the output level where MR=MC, because it can minimize losses at this level. √√
- Point b represents the average revenue at selling price R13 while point C represents the average cost at the cost price R15 √√
- The average cost is more than the average revenue, resulting in an economic loss for the business. √√
- The shaded area shows the economic loss. √√

(Accept any relevant and correct answer)

Max 4



#### 4.5 Evaluate competition policy on South African economy.

#### Competition policy is successful by:

- making provision for competition institutions to investigate any unfair competition in the country. √√
- functioning as an investigator and evaluator of restrictive business practices. √√
- making recommendations about penalties for businesses found guilty of abuse. √√
- curbing of economic power of big conglomerates to arrive at a more equitable distribution of income and wealth. √√

#### Competition policy is not successful because of:

- frequency of investigations into collusive behaviour. √√
- fines were too lenient and not acceptable to some parties. √√
- too many competitors still preventing young black businesses from entering into the market. √√

(Accept any relevant correct response)

(8)

[40]



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#### **SECTION C**

Answer **ONE** question from this section in the ANSWER BOOK

#### **QUESTION 5**

- Discuss in detail various equilibrium positions with an aid of graphs in a perfect market. (26)
- Why is a perfect market considered to be more efficient when compared to other market structures? (10)

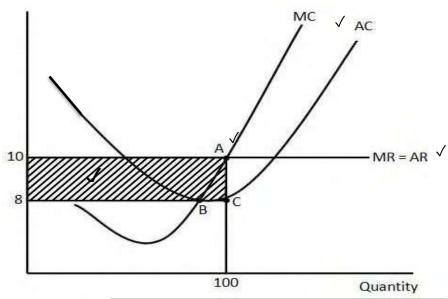
#### INTRODUCTION

A perfect competition is a market structure with a large number of buyers and sellers. < (Accept any other correct relevant response)

#### **MAIN PART**

#### **ECONOMIC PROFIT**✓

- It is the profit that is made in addition to the normal profit. <
- When average revenue is greater than average cost the firm makes economic profit. 🗸
- Economic profit is made by the perfect competitor in the short-run.



Mark Allocation	
Correct drawing and labelling of cost curves	1Mark
Correct drawing and labelling of revenue curves	1 Mark
Correct indication of profit maximisation point	1 Mark
Correct indication of area (Economic profit)	1 Mark
1000	Max 4 Marks



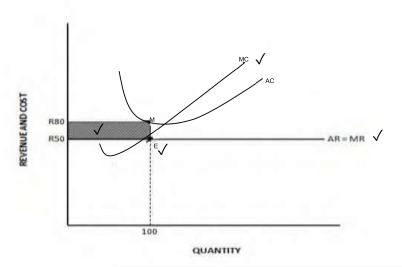
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#### **EXPLANATION**

- Given a market price of R10, profit is maximised at point A where MR=MC=R10. ✓✓
- This occurs at a quantity of one hundred units. ✓✓
- The firm's average revenue (AR) per unit of production is R10. ✓✓
- The firm's average cost (AC) per unit of production is R8, which is lesser that a price of R10. ✓✓
- Therefore the firm is making an economic profit of R10-R8 = R2 per unit of production. ✓✓
- The economic profit is represented by the shaded area in the graph above. ✓✓

#### **ECONOMIC LOSS ✓**

- is made when total costs are greater than the total revenue. ✓✓
- When average revenue is lower than average cost the firm makes an economic loss. ✓✓



# Mark Allocation Correct drawing and labelling of cost curves 1 Mark Correct drawing and labelling of revenue curves 1 Mark Correct indication of loss minimizing point 1 Mark Correct indication of area (Economic loss) 1 Mark Max 4 Marks



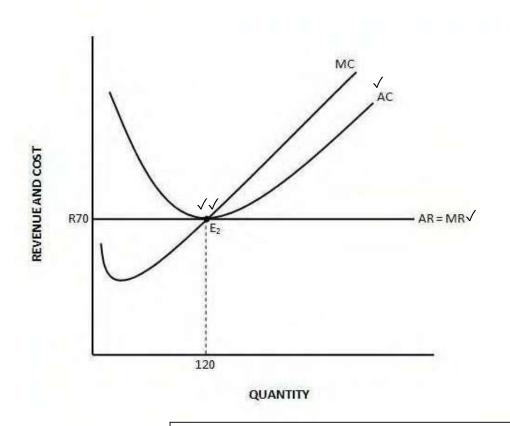
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**EXPLANATION** 

- Given a market price of R50, loss is minimized at point E where MR=MC=P√√
- This occurs at a quantity of 100 units. ✓✓
- The average revenue (AR) per unit of production is R50. ✓✓
- The average cost (AC) per unit of production is R80, which is less than the price of R50. ✓✓
- Therefore the firm is making an economic loss of R50-R80 = -R30 per unit of production. ✓✓
- Economic loss is represented by shaded area on the graph above.

#### NORMAL PROFIT✓

- is the minimum earnings required to prevent the entrepreneur from leaving the industry.  $\checkmark\checkmark$
- When average revenue equals average cost the firm makes normal profit. 🗸
- Normal profit is made by a firm in the long-run, if more firms enter the market.



#### Mark Allocation

Correct drawing and labelling of cost curves Correct drawing and labelling of revenue curves Correct indication of profit maximisation point /point E2

1Mark 1 Mark 2 Mark Max 4 Marks

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#### **EXPLANATION**

- Given a market price of R70 profit is maximised where MR=MC=P. ✓✓
- This occurs at a quantity of 120 units. ✓✓
- At the quantity of 120 the firm's average revenue (AR) per unit of production is R70 √√
- The firm average cost (AC) per unit of production is R70√√
- Since AR = AC, the firm earns a normal profit since all its costs are fully covered. ✓✓
- Point E₂ is usually called a break-even point. ✓

#### **ADDITIONAL PART**

## Why is a perfect market considered to be more efficient when compared to other market structures?

(10)

- There are no barriers to entry in the market, aspiring businesses can easily enter the marker. ✓√
- There is no limit to the number of businesses that can join the market; it increases competition which is more beneficial to the consumer. ✓✓
- A perfect competitor sells large quantities at smaller prices. ✓✓
- The nature of a product is homogeneous, product is already known in the market and costs of advertising are saved. ✓ ✓
- There is no exploitation of consumers since perfect competitors are price takers and sell at a market price. ✓✓
- Every individual business owns a small portion of the market share. ✓✓

(Accept any other relevant and correct response)

#### CONCLUSION

Businesses under perfect competition can only realise normal profits in the long-run due to the number of businesses entering in the market to share in the profits being made in the short-run.  $\checkmark$   $\checkmark$ 

(Accept any other relevant and higher order response)

[40]



#### **QUESTION 6**

 Discuss in detail government intervention as a consequence of market failure with an aid of relevant graphs:

• Why is it necessary to implement a national minimum wage in South Africa? (10)

#### INTRODUCTION

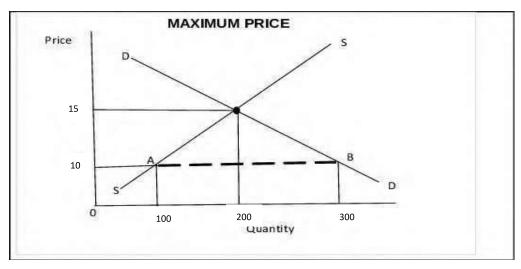
Market failure occurs when market forces of demand and supply do not ensure the correct quantity of goods and services are produced to meet demand at the right price.  $\checkmark\!\!\!/$ 

(Accept any other relevant and correct response)

#### **BODY / MAIN PART**

#### **Maximum Prices**

- Government may impose a maximum price on essential goods.
- The aim is to ensure that everyone including the poor is able to buy the product.
- The maximum price is always less than the market price.



#### **Mark Allocation**

Labelling of and on axis	1 Mark	
Equilibrium point	1 Mark	
Indication of maximum price	2 Mark	
	Max 4 Marks	



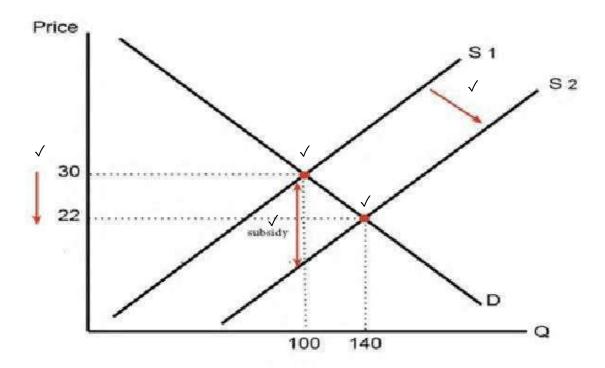
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#### **Explanation:**

- Initially the market equilibrium price is R15 and equilibrium quantity is 200. 🗸
- The government intervenes and passes a law that bread cannot be sold for more than price R10. √√
- The effect of this maximum price is that quantity supplied decreases to 100 and quantity demanded increases to 300.
- There is a shortage of bread equal to the difference between 100 and 300. √√
- A shortage creates problems of how to allocate bread to consumers.
- Black markets often develop where people can obtain bread. 🗸
- A black market is illegal markets in which either illegal goods are bought and sold and illegal prices are charged. ✓✓
- Maximum prices may cause a shortage of goods but they do improve the welfare of some consumers since goods can be purchased at lower prices.

#### Providing producer subsidy

- Producer subsidies are often given to suppliers of agricultural products such as milk, wheat and maize.
- Subsidies lower the cost of producing goods and thus the market price of these goods is lowered.



- The market price of R30 and corresponding quantity is 100.
- If the government subsidises the production of bread, the market price will decrease to R22, with corresponding quantity 140. √√
- The lower price R22, allows the producer to produce more bread.

EXAM (Max 26)

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#### **ADDTIONAL PART**

Why is it necessary to implement a national minimum wage in South Africa?

- Protect workers from being exploited by employers.
- It increases buying power enabling workers to afford more goods and services.
- It improves standard of living by being able to satisfy more wants.
- Improves the distribution of income to those people who received very low wage in the past. √√
- People become encouraged to find employment, which will reduce unemployment and poverty.
- It reduces dependency on government, such as issuing of social grants. 
   (Accept any relevant and correct answer)

#### CONCLUSION

 Market failures can have devastating effects on the economy which requires government to intervene to reduce their consequences.

(Accept any other relevant and higher order response)

[40]

**GRAND TOTAL: 150** 

