Peer Tutoring

Webnote 288

How to use an indirect tax and a subsidy to solve market failure?

3 Tasks: each student in the group must do the 3 tasks below-see page 2.

BOX A: Externalities diagrams

- 1. Negative externalities of production W 287
- 2. Negative externalities of consumption W 287
- 3. Positive externalities of production W 287
- 4. Positive externalities of consumption W 287
- 5. Taxes and subsidies to solve market failure W 289

Market Failure Solutions:

2 Diagrams for solving market failure (externalities):

1. indirect taxes + 2. Subsidies

(Students need to be able to apply an indirect tax or a subsidy to solve a market failure problem.)

B: 9 Key Concepts: connect to your chosen diagram

- 1. scarcity,
- 2. choice,
- 3. efficiency,
- 4. equity,
- 5. economic well-being,
- 6. sustainability,
- 7. change, (long run vs short run)
- 8. interdependence,
- 9. intervention

Tutor Instructions (read these before the peer tutoring):

Follow instructions step by step. Take time to answer each question in each of the 3 tasks.

Task 1: (15-20 minutes) Indirect tax + overproduction (Use diagram A) Over production

- Tutor asks which diagram can be used to solve a negative externality of production using an indirect tax?
 The negative externality is due to farm pollution e.g. factory chicken farming. (5 minutes)
- 2. Give students 5 minutes to review the **Four externalities** diagrams selecting which diagram they would use to answer the question in Task 1 above? Use Webnote 287 for this. (5 minutes)
- 3. Assign all students to draw a diagram to show the farm pollution problem. This where an indirect tax provides a solution to 'welfare loss' caused by <u>over-production</u> of chicken farms in the UK. Students should label diagram expertly. Draw the diagram from memory. Draw diagram large enough for all members of group to see and understand. (5 minutes)
- **4.** Now show the students webnote **289-A** diagram showing how an indirect tax reduces the welfare loss note that welfare loss is not completely removed. Make any corrections to their diagram.
- 5. Answer any Questions?

Task 2-Box A: (15-20 minutes) Indirect tax + overconsumption (Use diagram B) Overconsumption

- Tutor asks if an indirect tax can also be used to solve over-consumption of alcohol in the UK? (5 minutes)
- Assign each student to show how an indirect tax can also be used to solve the problem of alcohol in the UK. This diagram shows the reduction of over- consumption. This reduces the welfare loss of alcohol consumption. Draw the diagram from memory. Draw diagram large enough for all members of group to see and understand. (5 minutes)
- 3. Use the diagram 289-B provided to show that indirect tax can be used to solve negative externality of consumption (5 minutes).

Task 3-Box B: (20 minutes) (Use diagram C) Underproduction

- 1. Tutor asks each how a subsidy can be used to increase underproduction of green energy? (5 minutes).
- 2. Assign each student to show how a subsidy can be used to solve the problem of green energy?
- Use the diagram 289-C provided to show that a subsidy can be used to solve positive externality of production (under-production) (5 minutes).

Task 4: (10 minutes) Group work

- 1. Assign each student to make a connection between any of their diagrams and ONE key concept outlined in Box B (above). What key concept is worth mentioning in relation to the diagram you have drawn? (5 minutes).
- Group Question: If the market does not produce where MSB = MSC is this allocative efficiency? Yes or No? Then Why? (5 minutes).
- 3. Any questions?

How to use an indirect tax and a subsidy to solve market failure?

3 Tasks: each student in the group must do the 3 tasks below-see page 2.

Group Instructions:

Students need to be able to apply an

Task 1(Use diagram A): **Focus- Indirect + Negative Externality**

- 1. Ask students to draw an externality diagram to show damage caused to the river Wye in the UK as a result of farm pollution.
- 2. Tutor shows how an indirect tax can be used to solve this problem.
- 3. What is a relevant key concept here and briefly explain why? (see Box B above for key concepts)
- 4. Any questions?

Task 2. (Use diagram B): Focus-Indirect tax + Externality

- 1. Ask students to draw an externality diagram to show damage caused by consumption of too much alcohol in the UK.
- 2. Tutor shows how an indirect tax can be used to solve this problem.
- 3. What is a relevant key concept here and briefly explain why? (see Box B above for key concepts)
- 4. Any questions

Task 3. (Use diagram C): Focus-Subsidy + Externality

- 1. Ask students to draw a diagram to show how a shortage of green energy can be solved by government intervention.
- 2. Tutor shows how subsidy can be used to solve this problem.
- 3. What is a relevant key concept here and briefly explain why? (see Box B above for key concepts)
- 4. Any questions?

Task 4: (10 minutes) Group work

- 1. Assign each student to make a connection between any of their diagrams and ONE key concept outlined in Box B (above). What key concept is worth mentioning in relation to the diagram you have drawn? (5 minutes).
- 2. Group Question: If the market does not produce where MSB = MSC is this allocative efficiency? Yes or No? Then Why? (5 minutes).
- 3. Any questions?

B: 9 Key Concepts: connect to your chosen diagram

- scarcity,
- 2. choice,
- 3. efficiency,
- 4. equity,
- 5. economic well-being,
- 6. sustainability,
- change, (long run vs short run) **7.**
- 8. interdependence,
- intervention