

Checklist 1: Do and Don't for Economics IA

Updated February 28, 2018

Criteria Specific reminders

- (45 marks total)
- 14 per IA + 3 for rubric

Criterion A: Diagrams 3 marks (20%)
 Criterion B Terminology 2 marks (13%)
 Criterion C Application 2 marks (13%)
 Criterion D Analysis 3 marks (20%)
 Criterion E Evaluation 4 marks (27%)
 Criterion F: Rubric 3 marks (7%)

Economics

IB Internal Coursework

Economics
Coursework

IB Internal
HL + SL

HL + SL

Do.....



Don'T.....

- ✓ Each commentary must be no more than 750
- ✓ Label your diagram(s) expertly (labels can have 5 words excluded from the wordcount.
- ✓ Use clear titles for your diagrams/tables. 10 words excluded from wordcount for each diagram/table.
- ✓ Use numbers for your diagrams if you have more than one e.g. Fig 1....
- ✓ Insert page numbers into the commentary as this may help the reader to follow your work.
- ✓ Refer to your diagram(s) in the commentary. This is very important in order to gain top marks in criteria D and E.
- ✓ Footnoting: Put the title of the Extract, the source of the extract, the date and the page number of the extract. This is **NOT** in word count. See webnote 512.
- ✓ Do include all quotes and definitions in your word count
- ✓ Do use 5 words for diagram labels and 10 for diagram/table titles. Underline titles with bold print and larger font.
- ✓ Be sure to let the reader know where your analysis starts in your diagram. This is important if the diagram has multiple pieces of data e.g. This analysis commences at E1 on AD 2 which represents....
- ✓ Highlight with a suitable colour pen the exact area of the extract (parts of the article upon which you focus) if you are not using the whole article or simply BOX the parts of the article used. Highlight quotations and any paraphrases.
- ✓ It is a good idea to refer to the source of the article (e.g. for development where was the article published as this may influence your evaluation!
- ✓ Quote (or paraphrase) from the extract if necessary but do so briefly. Remember the quotation is included in the word count
- ✓ Complete the 3/CSE form (webnote 516) and the ISD Coverpage for each commentary (webnote 517).
- ✓ Diagrams are **NOT** included in the word count. (see wordcount restrictions above).
- ✓ Use a variety of sources for your coursework. 3 different sources is vital. Try and vary the geographical regions used.
- ✓ Presentation is important; use electronic diagrams that relate directly to the article.
- ✓ You must read and use assessment criteria A, B, C, D and E... and F. Review webnote 506.
- ✓ Title for each commentary = title of article.
- ✓ Number each page of each IA.
- ✓ 1.5 or double spacing -12 font point - no name or examination number should be on any document submitted. Use your 'gdp' number to identify your work!
- ✓ Take time to complete webnote 511 for each of your commentaries. This is the self assessment webnote we used in class and may help you to make one or two final improvements!
- ✓ After completing 511 then use webnote 502 'IA Matrix' to estimate your final grade...if you do this well you should be quite near to your actual IBO grade!

- ☒ Do not Make an error on the word count....
- ☒ Do not exclude quotes and definitions from your word count
- ☒ Do not put quotes and definitions in your footnotes
- ☒ Avoid theoretical errors e.g. incorrect use of a diagram
- ☒ Avoid spelling mistakes
- ☒ Do not forget to put a full title and label each diagram expertly using references to the article where possible
- ☒ Do not forget footnotes are not included in the word count
- ☒ Do NOT Put your examination number or your name on any Commentary or documentation. Use the 'gdp' number as indicated on the 3/CSE form.
- ☒ Do not forget to include the complete extract/article and the date and source should be visible. (See ISD Coverpage webnote 517)

2 sample structures for your IA

Model 1:

- A) Intro: 1 paragraph
- B) Link article/extract to the theory + Evaluate as you write 2-4 paragraphs
- C) Decision/Judgement 1 paragraph

Model 2:

- A) Intro: 1 paragraph
- B) Link article/extract to the theory 2-3 paras
- C) Evaluate + Decision/judgement 1-2 paragraphs

Some reminders:

1) Identical copies

- 1. You must submit 1 hardcopy of the IA:

2) Extracts:

- 'box' them
- quote from them- short quotations and/or paraphrase
- use the data in them (statistics, prices, etc) in your commentary/graphs

Graphs:

- Full and complete titles on graphs. Use larger font, bold print and increase the font size for titles.
- Use of graphs. Refer to x and y axes where possible or exact points inside the axes. Use relevant data/information from your article to label your graphs/tables.

Commentaries: key reminders

- Why you selected each particular extract
- Refer to key words in your commentary e.g. An evaluation of how economic theory applies to this story indicates....
- Use a simple Structure: Intro + links +evaluation Remember criteria A, B,C , and D require you to explain. Criterion E requires you to give your opinion as an 'economist'. Consider yourself a "referee" and you need to make an expert judgement on the article/extract. Make a comment on the article in terms of one or more of the following:
 1. how does theory work?
 2. what is the theoretical view of the story in the article
 3. comment on the story. Is the event well managed? Is there something for government or the regulator to do or something not done well?
 4. How are the key stakeholders affected? Prioritize those who are affected. E.g. The stakeholder most affected by the price control was
- 'E': does economic theory + concepts explain the story from an economic perspective. Can you make economic based comments on the article...focus on quotations here!
- look at top marks requirement for each of the criteria A-E. See the self-assessment form on the website (webnote 511)

Referencing/footnotes:

- Use MLA or footnotes
- Footnoting guidelines explained in Webnote 512:
- First time you footnote use Title + source + date + page (handwritten on extract)
- Use "ibid p #" after you footnote the first time. Thereafter use ibid and put in any change in page number

Final submission:

1. Submit separate pdf for each commentary as well as the 3/CSE form so you will submit 4 files in total. Be sure to use your personal code to identify your work. PDF files should include items 1-3 in Item 5 below.
2. use 1.5 *or* double spacing. Print single sided only.
3. In the CSE form be sure to enter the full source url for each of your articles.
4. For each IA submission: Heading on each = Title of news article (not in word count)
5. Each commentary should be presented/bound with front + back cover. Use following guidelines:
 - a. ISD Coverage
 - b. Article/extract
 - c. Commentary
 - d. 511 self assessment for each IA (hard copy only)
 - e. 502 (submit fully completed as last page in bound copy)

Electronic complete abc above. Hard copy complete abcde

Wordcount: what is not included

1. acknowledgements
2. contents page
3. diagrams
4. labels - of 5 words or fewer
5. headings on diagrams- of 10 words or fewer
6. tables of statistical data
7. equations. Formulae and calculations
8. references:footnotes or endnotes (out of text referencing)
9. citations: in text citations
10. see webnote 506

Checklist 3: Final Checklist

Economics Commentary Feedback

Checklist Reminders - Basics	Have done!
I have used the standard cover page available on the economics website	
I have completed all relevant details on the cover page	
I have highlighted the area of the extract that I am using for the commentary (if I'm not using the whole article)	
The article is from a different news source than my previous articles	
This commentary still allows me to meet the rule about focusing on 3 sections of the syllabus	
The word count is max 750 words, excluding footnotes (they are very strict about this!)	
My diagrams have a clear title that explains CLEARLY what the diagram is about	
If more than 1 diagram is used, I have given each diagram a number (eg Fig. 1)	
Diagrams are electronically drawn	
Diagrams are NOT included in the word count	
There are no spelling errors in my commentary	
I have checked the grammar and proofread my work	
I have included at least 4 relevant (and brief) quotes	
Quotations are included in the word count.	
My quotes are referenced- see referencing above	
I have included the original extract, with a clearly visible date	
I have used the assessment criteria to self-assess my work before submitting it- web 614	

Checklist focusing on the structure	Have done!
At least 2-3 key terms have been defined with examples that relate to the article (usually in the introduction)	
My commentary contains well used economic vocabulary	
I have made a direct reference to the article in the first paragraph	
My introduction contains a very brief overview of my approach (process)	
My examples give a clear impression of what the article is about	
Diagrams are fully explained with references to labels (x and y axis)	
Diagrams explanations connect to the article	
I have used the diagram(s) to model theory from the article	
I have used the diagram(s) to model solutions	
When relevant I have suggested strategies and solutions	
I have used evaluative language...however, therefore, although, but, nonetheless, furthermore, when evaluating economic theory	
My evaluation focuses on whether economic theory works in the real world	
My conclusion contains a decision/judgement about whether the economic theory is valid	
I have used a question in my conclusion to highlight an area of possible further inquiry (where relevant)	

Criteria Specific reminders (45 marks total for 3 commentaries)**A) Diagrams (3 marks) (9/45 marks = 20%)**

(see webnote 97 re 'best answers' please for some key reminders here!)

- Are your diagrams electronic?
- Underline all titles in diagrams (and article title), in bold print and in a larger font e.g. 14
- Are your diagrams explained effectively showing link between theory and article?
- Did you explain the diagram effectively? (watch out for spelling and grammar)
- I have referenced my quotes appropriately and counted the quotes in the word count
- Have you connected the article with the diagram e.g. using a price or some content on your labels/titles of your diagrams.
- Useful to use the words '...to show...' in your diagram to show exact purpose of diagram.

B) Terminology (2 marks) (6/45 marks = 13%)

- Does each commentary consistently show appropriate use of economic terminology/vocabulary?
- Have you used terms correctly?
- Have you defined the key 2-3 terms in your introduction?
- Define key terms or lose marks!

C) Application (2 marks) (6/45 marks = 13%)

- Does Economic theory links/connects with extract?
- Did you use the diagrams to make clear links with the theory and explain these links effectively to the reader?
- Did you quote (2-3 times) and/or use exact data from the extract to demonstrate the link?
- Does the commentary establish clear **links** with the syllabus and the study of economics?

D) Analysis (3 marks) (9/45 marks = 20%)**Application and analysis of economic concepts and theories (3 marks)**

- Theory links/connects with extract. Use quotes and/or paraphrasing to do this. Clear evidence of using the article as a resource is needed.
- Theory is used to explain issue in extract. Here make sure that there are direct links between the diagrams/tables and the commentary you have written. This will help to make your analysis coherent and effective.

E) Evaluation / judgement (4 marks) (12/45 marks = 27%)

- Does the article highlight some limitations of economic theory?
- Does the commentary provide **insights** into how economic theory can be used to analyse / understand events in the real world?
- Has economics allowed an effective investigation of the story in the extract?
- Does the evaluation use the appropriate techniques relevant to economics such as long run versus short run; stakeholders; prioritize the points you have made when assessing the theory or advantages and disadvantages?
- Have you used evaluative language? E.g. However, therefore, although, but, nonetheless, furthermore, **when evaluating economic theory**, "An economist would suggest that...."
- Did you quote or use appropriate evidence from the extract here?
- Be careful here that your evaluation does not turn out to be a conclusion!
- How would you "referee" the story? Is the protectionism justified? Does the indirect tax work? Etc..
- There is a new focus on "judgement".... This allows you to consider the story in the article. Use this question to guide you...does the story make sense from the point of view of the economist?
- If an economist was asked to referee on the story then what would he/she say?

F) Rubric (3 marks) (3/45 marks = 7%)

- Students must produce a portfolio of three commentaries. Each commentary must not exceed 750 words.
- Each article must be based on a different section of the syllabus.
- Students must use a different source for each commentary. Include the **access date** if from the Internet.
- Articles must be about current events and these must be published no earlier than **one year** before the writing of the commentary.
- Have you met the word limit on each of the commentaries?
- Does the portfolio cover 3 different sections of the economics syllabus?

Feedback/reflection/how to improve your work/reminders:

Notes: