

Webnote 995

How to answer + score higher marks on a Data Response paper in economics? (SL and HL paper 2)

Part G: (15 marks) (38%)

Discuss/Evaluate

Total Time: Answer time is 105 minutes: Timing is included in the Timing Box - **P**. You will also have 5 minutes reading time in this paper (no pen). Writing time approximately per mark is **2.5** minutes but this includes reading + planning time.

Parts A,B+C+D+E+F:(25 marks) (62 %)

Define/Explain/Calculate/Draw

No plan needed but read text carefully and highlight key phrases/data. **N.B. Calculator is allowed!**

Plan: See box P

Keep it simple! Use a system to plan your paragraphs. You must practice essay planning. 1st sentence in the paragraph is key as is the last sentence.

Make a careful Plan for part (g). This can be done during the 45 minutes explained in **Box P** opposite.

Answerability + TIMING PLAN

Part (G) (38%)

Asks you to write an Essay: Discuss/Evaluate (15 marks) (38%)

Make a paragraph plan (5 minutes). See **P** box opposite.
Time for writing answer = 45 minutes. (incl 5 minutes for planning).

- Paragraph 1 (P1) Define key terms and Show you can connect the key terms to the question
- In P2/3/4 evaluate (using diagrams where appropriate) these key terms in some detail and with examples
- P5 Conclusion (consider using words from the question in your conclusion).
- If you are making proposals for solutions to the problems in the data base be sure that the solutions you propose are realistic **e.g.** can government in poor countries afford to increase government fiscal spending in order to provide growth and subsequently development? Make a clear in final paragraph **DECISION** in relation to the question.

A,B+C+D+E+F (62%)

What do you need to do?

Part (A) Define 2 terms (4 marks) (10%)

- You may not need to use the full 8 minutes but be sure to explain the key terms when you define. Try and use economic vocabulary when defining economics. 4 marks available (2+2)

Part (B) Calculate 2 outcomes (5 marks) (12%)

- Use data to make simple calculations. You will need to use several of the sources to arrive to the answer. 5 marks available (3+2)

Parts (C + D+ E +F) ask you to:

Draw + Explain/Suggest (16 marks) (40%)

- 16 marks available for C-F answers. 4 for each component. C-F = 40% of marks for this paper.
- You should use the full 10 minutes per component and be sure to explain the key terms when you define. Try and use economic vocabulary when defining economics. Refer to the data provided. Use diagrams expertly. Draw diagrams fully and refer to exact points on your diagrams when explaining. Use, 'This analysis commences at'
- Use the data** provided where possible to support your answerability. **QUOTE**.
- Remember expert use of diagrams and paragraphs to separate different parts of your answer. This makes it easier for the examiner to follow your answer. This is important!

BOX P: PLAN: 105 minutes for exam paper

- 7 components: Read All Questions carefully in 5 minutes reading time (+ 5 minutes pre-exam start). Read and connect data carefully to each part of the question (A-G).
- A+B: 15 minutes**
- C + D + E + F: 40 minutes** (Draw and label your diagrams expertly + refer to exact points in the diagrams where needed).
- G: 45 minutes** (incl. 5 minutes for planning the answer. Remember this is effectively an evaluative essay, just like in SL1/HL1)

Discuss/Evaluation:

Economics uses these approaches most commonly:

- Advantages vs Disadvantages
- Stakeholders
- Long Run versus Short Run
- Prioritize + suggest best solution

Evaluation plan must contain the answer. Note for 'evaluation' make a clear judgement/decision. Which argument is most important? Use data provided in the question: **QUOTE** from the data/text noting the source.

Key Tips for Best Answers Data Response: SP2/HP2

- Define and/or explain key economic terms (use data to help you)
- Show full path in calculations
- Diagrams used expertly connecting text of answer to diagram
- Use examples. Diagrams provide examples but try and provide real world examples where appropriate. Collect examples over time in your note taking. Try and use your IA or even your extended essay if relevant. But most of all quote from the data given to you.
- Answer. Stay focused on the question.
- Paragraphs. Separate your answer into clear paragraphs. Each paragraph connects with the question.
- Remember: **QUOTE** from the data (text + graphs + tables) where relevant to support your answer.

N.B. Read the Plan for part G again while answering the question and make sure you follow your plan. Make changes to the plan if you remember something new during the exam.

Note:

Items below are relevant for the 2022 syllabus.
Remember in the SP2/HP2 paper you will be asked to do the following:

1. Define (4 marks/ 40)
2. Calculate/draw (slide will be added at a later date) (5 marks/40)
3. Explain + draw (16 marks)
4. Discuss / evaluate (15 marks)

note:

Comments are based on the Burundi data response:

N18 SP2 Q4

4. Study the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

Burundi

- ❶ Burundi is a small landlocked African country. Densely populated, it has a population of approximately 10.6 million inhabitants. The economy is dominated by subsistence agriculture, which employs 90 % of the population, though cultivatable land is extremely scarce. More than a decade of conflict led to the destruction of much of the country's physical, social and human capital. However, substantial improvements have occurred since the conflict ended in 2006, thanks largely to the success of measures implemented to reduce the excessive control of the military.
- ❷ Even though Burundi is enjoying its first decade of sustained economic growth, poverty remains widespread. Burundi's ranking on the Human Development Index (HDI) increased by 2.5 % per year between 2005 and 2013 as education and health outcomes have significantly improved over the period, yet the country still ranks low at 180th out of 187 countries in 2013. Per capita gross national income more than doubled between 2005 (US\$130) and 2013 (US\$280).
- ❸ Burundi is making the transition from a post-conflict economy to a stable and growing economy. Economic reforms and institution building are ongoing. After significant improvements to achieve peace and security, the country's development program is shifting gradually towards modernizing public finance. However, the government has limited "fiscal space" because tax collection is very hard to carry out and tax receipts are low.
- ❹ With its limited resources, the government is attempting to strengthen basic social services and upgrade infrastructure and institutions, particularly in the energy, mining, and agricultural sectors. This has been accompanied by increasing participation of the private sector. The goal now is to grow a more stable, competitive and diversified economy with enhanced opportunities for employment and improved standards of living.
- ❺ Over the last decade, annual economic growth in Burundi has been between 4 % and 5 %. Inflation continues to decline reaching 3.9 % in July 2016, down from 24 % in March 2012, reflecting a careful **monetary policy** helped by a recent decrease in the prices of imports, especially oil, which is an essential commodity.
- ❻ Burundi's main exports are agricultural; coffee and tea account for 90 % of foreign exchange earnings, and exports are a relatively small share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

[Source: adapted from "The World Bank in Burundi: Overview," The World Bank, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/burundi/overview>. Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported license. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>]

note:

Comments are based
on the Burundi data
response:

N18 SP2 Q4

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N18/3/ECONO/SP2/ENG/TZ0/XX

(Question 4 continued)

- (a) (i) List **two** components of the Human Development Index (HDI) (paragraph ②). [2]
- (ii) Define the term *monetary policy* indicated in bold in the text (paragraph ⑤). [2]
- (b) Using a production possibilities curve (PPC) diagram, explain the effect on economic growth of the “destruction of much of the country’s physical, social and human capital” (paragraph ①). [4]
- (c) Using an AD/AS diagram, explain why the “decrease in the prices of imports, especially oil” might reduce inflationary pressure (paragraph ⑤). [4]
- (d) Using information from the text/data and your knowledge of economics, evaluate the challenges to economic growth and economic development faced by Burundi. [8]

Webnote 995: Data Response: how to write best answers



Parts a, b and c-f+ G. Total marks available = 40

(a) i 2 marks
(a) ii 2 marks

define



8 minutes maximum
Possible in 4 (save 4 minutes for part (d).
Recommend: (4)

(b) i 2 or 3 marks
(b) ii 2 or 3 marks

Calculate + draw



10 minutes maximum
Possible in 5 (save 4 minutes for part (g).
Recommend: (4)

(b) + (c) + (d) +
(f) 4 marks
each. Total 16.

Explain + draw



8 minutes maximum
Explain and Draw (sometimes only explain)
Recommend: 8x4 (32)

(g) 15 marks

Discuss/evaluate/
or consider



30 minutes minimum
Evaluate (sometimes only explain)
Recommend: (30+)
Depends on time spent on a-f

Webnote 995: Data Response: how to write best answers



Parts a i + aii

(a) i 2 marks



- Life expectancy
- Adult literacy rate

(a) ii 2 marks



- Use of interest rates to manage the economy for growth, employment etc
- Control of money supply to manage the economy for growth etc

Example 1

Webnote 995: Data Response: how to write best answers



Part b



- Diagram:
- Draw PPC with 'best labels' e.g.

(b) 4 marks



- Use of interest rates to manage the economy for growth, employment etc
- Control of money supply to manage the economy for growth etc

Example 2

Webnote 995: Data Response: how to write best answers



Part c



- Diagram:
- Draw PPC with 'best labels' e.g.

(c) 4 marks



- Use of interest rates to manage the economy for growth, employment etc
- Control of money supply to manage the economy for growth etc

Example 3

Example 4

Part D Plan:

16 minutes minimum
Evaluate (sometimes only explain)

Recommend: 20

note:

Comments are based
on the Burundi data
response:

N18 SP2 Q4

P1: briefly address question
with some key definitions

P2: Draw short run AS/AD to
show a shift downwards of
SRAS as falling oil prices results
in lower costs for firms and
therefore downward pressure
on the price level

P2: Draw short run AS/AD to
show a shift downwards of
SRAS

HL2	+	SL 2	Mark allocation as % of total HL2/SL2 + Full IB exam
a)			4