

## Economics A Level

### Preparation work: Pre-course Reading, Research and Tasks

Pre-reading and research will help you to become more familiar with the topics you are going to study on your A Level. If you complete the tasks below they will also help you to become more confident when you start your course. Remember it is also a good idea to make sure you recap and consolidate your GCSE Maths knowledge of drawing graphs and calculating percentage change.

### Specification :

A good place to start to look at the A level specification and familiarise yourself with what you will be studying on the course:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/economics/specifications/AQA-7135-7136-SP-2015.PDF>

### Task 1:

Produce a summary between  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 1 side (A4) that explains what Economics is, and what's the difference between micro economics and macro economics?

What is Economics?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ez10ADR\\_gM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ez10ADR_gM)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CE5eJbaHL8s3>.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCRNI04tnN8>

What is the Economic problem?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9IjktFC9Tg&list=PLWeicFreBUYCOFC2A0SIKrpEYgwaSF63t>

What is the difference between Macro and Micro Economics?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8uTB5XorBw&list=PL8dPuualjXtPNZwz5\\_o\\_5uirJ8gQXnhEO&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8uTB5XorBw&list=PL8dPuualjXtPNZwz5_o_5uirJ8gQXnhEO&t=0s)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJG-liA19eY>

### Case Studies:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-51706225>

<https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/publications/the-economic-effects-of-coronavirus-in-the-uk>

<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/coronavirus-economic-impact>

### Task 2:

Using the information from the BBC report in the link above:-

1. There is universal agreement that one of the negative impacts on the UK economy of the policies to reduce the impact of the coronavirus, is that it will lead to a large increase in unemployment. Use the information in the links above to explain why this is likely to be the case.

2. Whilst some industries/businesses will return to normal quite quickly after the lockdown measures are lifted, many others will not. Why do you think this might be the case?

### Websites for Further Research and Reading:

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/economics>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/economy>

### Books to Read:

- **23 Things they don't tell you about Capitalism** by Ha Joon Chang
- **The Under Cover Economist** by Tim Hartford
- **Economics: A users guide** by Ha Joon Chang

### Podcasts:

Martin Wolf argues for a movement devoted to public engagement with Economics

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b0bbtbcs>

### Task 3:

Watch the film in the link below and write a short explanation of:

1. Why the increase in Chinese prosperity over recent decades has been beneficial to world economies (such as the UK and US).
2. Why the increase in Chinese prosperity over recent decades has been harmful to world economies (such as the UK and US).

(Hint: In your answers you might want to consider the impact of the rise of China on factors such as unemployment, prices that consumers pay, levels of imports and exports from western economies and levels of pollution)

### Films to Watch:

- **The rise of China:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JovtmKFxi3c>

### Progression Opportunities

**Why choose Economics A Level:**

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/economics>

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/jun/07/economics-and-medicine-graduates-are-top-earners-finds-report>

*We hope you enjoy completing these tasks and look forward to you joining the course.*

