

Edexcel A level Economics – Transition Work from Year 11 to Year 12

Please complete the following tasks which will help to create the correct mindset for entry into A-Level Economics. Alternatively, it may help you build on what you have learnt during your GCSE Economics course.

Whilst you are on your summer break you should be accessing Business and Economics news sites and following related social media feeds in order to enrich your economics knowledge:

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

<https://www.ft.com/uk-economy>

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics>

Read, watch, or listen to articles or topics of interest to you. This will introduce your “scrapbook” activities for next year — further details will be provided when we start in September.

If you do want to know what you have signed up for, please peruse the following Exam Board and Specification link for an overview of the curriculum:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/economics-a-2015.html>

Choose one of the following questions you would like to investigate:

1. To what extent does the COVID pandemic give economies the opportunity to change direction?
2. In the future, is national happiness going to be a better way to measure economies than GDP?
3. Should climate change be put at the heart of economic theory?
4. Who benefits most from online retailing, consumers or businesses?

Produce a report of between 250 and 350 words on your chosen topic, which can be submitted to our Y12 Economics classroom on MS Teams.

Other sources of knowledge:

Books by Tim Harford (*The Undercover Economist* / *Logic of Life* / *Fifty Things that Made the Modern Economy* / *Adapt*) — all Harford’s books are highly readable and introduce basic economic concepts into real-world scenarios.

Nudge — Thaler and Sunstein. This illustrates a number of key principles of behavioural economics, and then delves into a range of social issues that could benefit from nudges, such as our finances, the environment and health.

Freakonomics — Levitt and Dubner. This book became so popular that there is now some academic snobbery against it, but it is still an interesting and easy read.

Watch *The Big Short* — directed and co-written by Adam McKay and Charles Randolph — to gain an understanding of how and why the 2008 Financial Crisis occurred: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqqG3ITMv1Q>

You can email the Head of Business and Economics, Mr Ahmed , if you have any questions regarding the A-Level course or these transition tasks:
KAhmed@hammersmithacademy.org