

# Mark Scheme (Results)

October 2023

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level In Economics (WEC13) Unit 3: Business behaviour

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## **General Marking Guidance**

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

# Section A

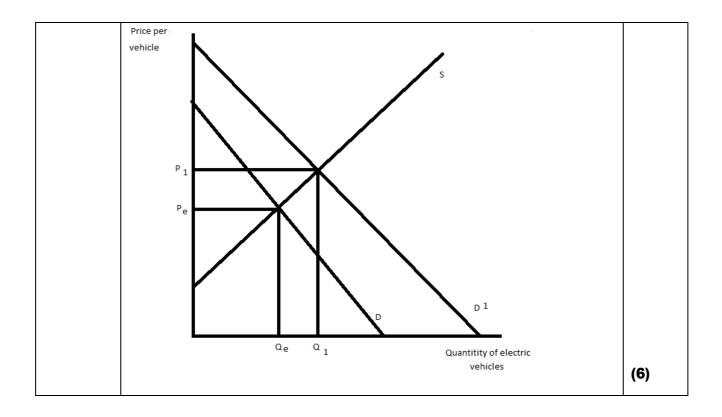
Question	Quantitative skills assessed	Answer	Mark
1	QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse	The only correct answer is D	(1)
	information in written, graphical,		
	tabular and numerical forms.	A is incorrect because this is	
		impacted by the demand for	
		labour	
		B is incorrect because the rate	
		of unemployment should fall	
		C is incorrect because an	
		increase in immigration would	
		increase the population	
2	QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse	The only correct answer is B	
	information in written, graphical,		(1)
	tabular and numerical forms	A is incorrect because high	
		legal costs reduce	
		contestability	
		C is incorrect because patent	
		protection would reduce	
		contestability	
		D is incorrect because	
		regulatory capture is a form of	
		government failure	
3	<b>QS4: Construct and interpret a</b>	The only correct answer is A	
	range of standard graphical forms	-	(1)
	QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse	B is incorrect because there	
	information in written, graphical,	can only be super-normal	
	tabular and numerical forms.	profits in the short-run	
		C is incorrect because it is not	
		operating at the MES	
		D is incorrect because price is	
		not equal to marginal cost	
4	QS4: Construct and interpret a	The only correct answer is C	(1)
	range of standard graphical forms	-	
	QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse	A is incorrect because higher	
	information in written, graphical,	rent would cause supernormal	
	tabular and numerical forms.	profits to decrease	
		B is incorrect because higher	
		rent would cause supernormal	
		profits to decrease but the	
		price remains constant	
		D is incorrect because the	
		supernormal profit would	
		decrease and the price	

QS4: Construct and interpret a	The only correct answer is C	
		(1)
QS6: Calculate cost revenue and	A is incorrect because this is	
profit (marginal, average, totals)	the AFC at 20 000 shirts	
<b>QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse</b>	B is incorrect because this is	
information in written, graphical,	the AFC at 15 000 shirts	
tabular and numerical forms.	D is incorrect because this is	
	the AFC at 5 000 shirts	
QS8: Make calculations of elasticity	The only correct answer is B	(1)
and interpret the result		
QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse	A is incorrect because the	
information in written, graphical,	demand is more price elastic	
tabular and numerical forms.	in the daytime than the	
	evening.	
	C is incorrect because the	
	supply of seats in a cinema	
	D is incorrect because the	
	•	
	range of standard graphical forms QS6: Calculate cost revenue and profit (marginal, average, totals) QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms. QS8: Make calculations of elasticity and interpret the result QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical,	<ul> <li>range of standard graphical forms QS6: Calculate cost revenue and profit (marginal, average, totals) QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> <li>QS8: Make calculations of elasticity and interpret the result QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> <li>QS8: Make calculations of elasticity and interpret the result QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> <li>Cis incorrect because the demand is more price elastic in the daytime than the evening.</li> <li>C is incorrect because the supply of seats in a cinema would be perfectly inelastic</li> </ul>

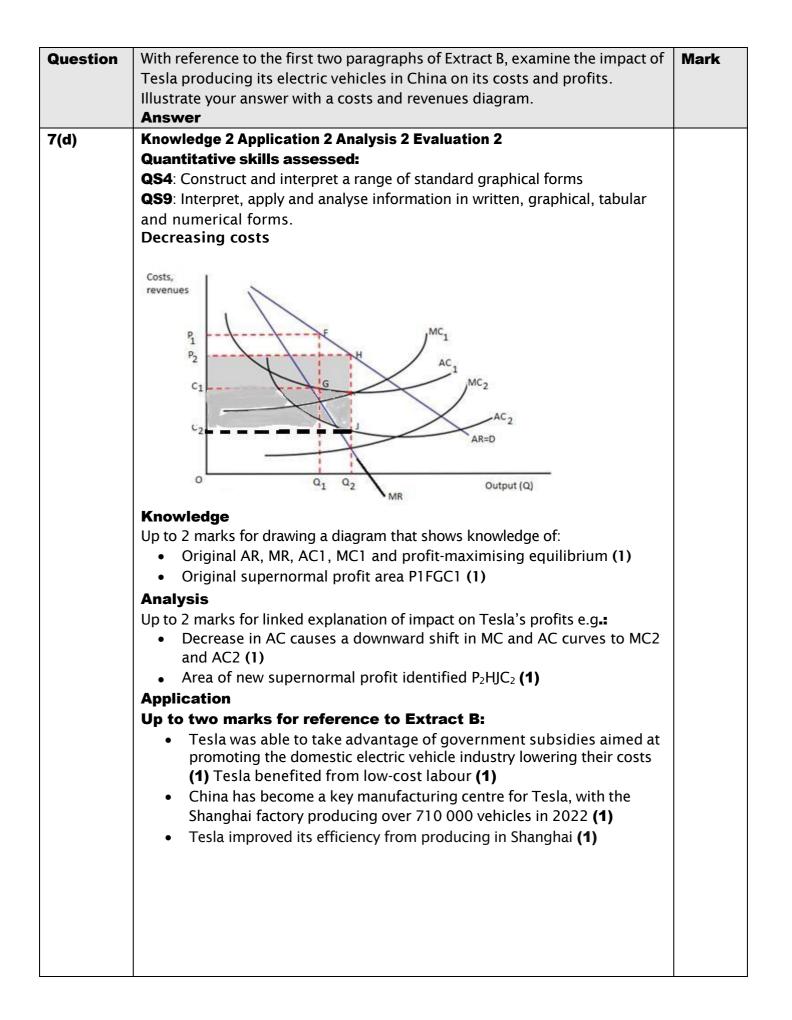
# Section B

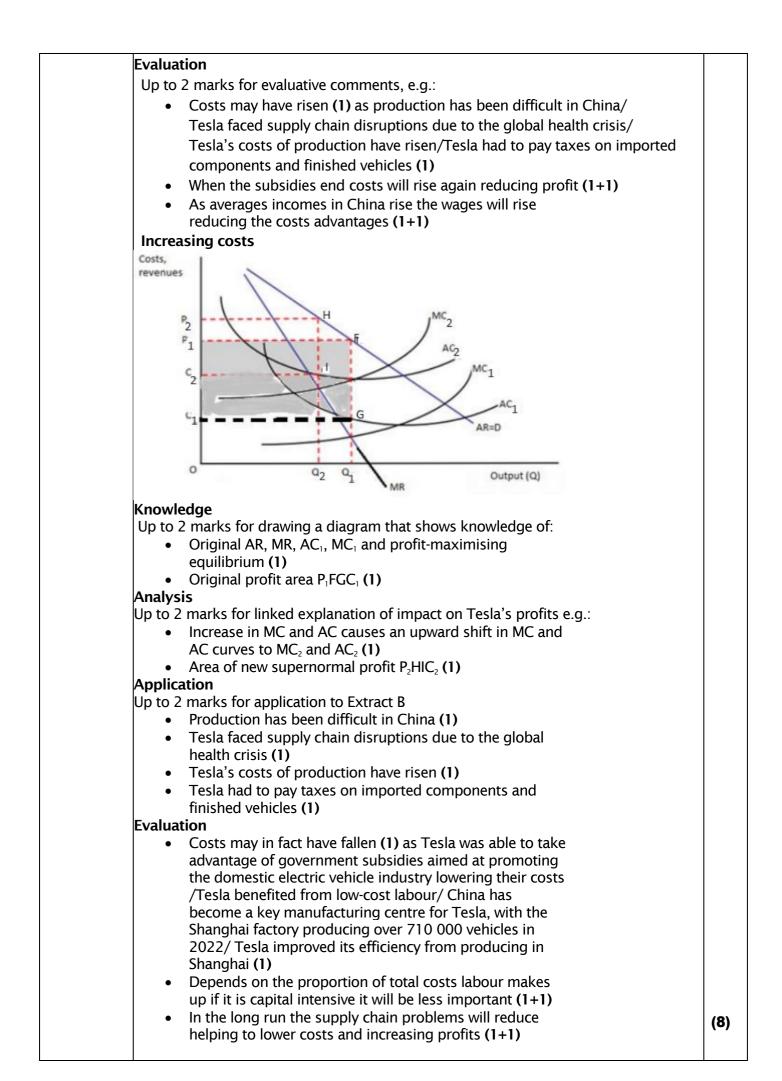
Question	With reference to Figure 2, calculate the percentage change in the price of the Model 3 Rear Wheel Drive vehicle between January and October 2022.	Mark
7(a)	Application 2	
	Quantitative skills assessed: QS2: Calculate, use and understand percentages, percentage changes and percentage point changes QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms. Up to 2 marks for calculation: (266-280) = -14 (1)/ (266-280)/ 280 X100 (1) (-14/280) x 100 = -5% (1)	
	NB: Award full marks for correct answer (5% or 5) regardless of working NB: Award full marks if negative sign is missing	(2)

Question	Reference to Extract A, analyse <b>two</b> reasons why sales of electric vehicles in China increased.	Mark
	Illustrate your answer with a supply and demand diagram. Answer	
7 (b)	<ul> <li>Knowledge 2, Application 2, Analysis 2</li> <li>Quantitative skills assessed:</li> <li>QS4: Construct and interpret a range of standard graphical forms</li> <li>QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Knowledge</li> <li>Up to 2 marks for the diagram showing: <ul> <li>Original supply, demand and equilibrium price and quantity (1)</li> <li>New equilibrium price and quantity having correctly shifted demand (1)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Analysis Up to two marks for reasons from Extract A, e.g.: <ul> <li>Measures to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in order to meet its climate change goals by 2030 (1)</li> <li>Increasing the number of charging points (1)</li> <li>Raising the tax on non-electric vehicles (1)</li> <li>The global increase in the price of fuel has also led to an increase in demand for electric vehicles (1)</li> </ul></li></ul>	
	<ul> <li>Application</li> <li>1 mark for correct shift of demand on diagram: <ul> <li>Shift demand to the right (1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>1 mark for reference to change in sales: <ul> <li>Between 2021 and 2022 the sales of electric vehicles in China increased by 83% to 5.92 million (1)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



Question	With reference to Figure 1 and Extract B, explain the market structure that best describes the electric vehicle market in China. <b>Answer</b>	Mark
7(c)	Knowledge 2 Application 2	
	Quantitative skills assessed:	
	QS2: Calculate, use and understand percentages,	
	percentage changes and percentage point changes	
	<b>QS9</b> : Interpret, apply and analyse information in	
	written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.	
	Knowledge:	
	1 mark for identification of oligopoly (1)	
	1 mark for identification of a characteristic of oligopoly	
	e.g.	
	<ul> <li>a few dominant firms/</li> </ul>	
	a high concentration ratio/	
	interdependence/	
	<ul> <li>high barriers to entry/</li> <li>imperfect information (</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li> imperfect information/</li><li> differentiated goods/</li></ul>	
	<ul> <li>non-price competition (1)</li> </ul>	
	Application up to 2 marks for application to Figure	
	1 or Extract B (1+1):	
	Figure 1	
	<ul> <li>The three-firm concentration ratio is 53%/</li> </ul>	
	The four-firm concentration ratio is 59%/	
	The five-firm concentration ratio is 64%/	
	The six-firm concentration ratio is 68% (1+1)	
	Extract B:	
	<ul> <li>The lower prices of Tesla's electric vehicles had a significant impact on its competitors/ Domestic and other international manufacturers responded by</li> </ul>	
	reducing their prices for electric vehicles as they	(4)
	competed for market share (1)	





idance ited by using the level descriptors (below) in line with uidance. The indicative content below exemplifies some didates may make but this does not imply that any of d. Other relevant points must also be credited. <b>sessed:</b> and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular <b>on, Analysis (8 marks) – indicative content</b> price competition on is a type of competition where businesses compete	
rice competition on is a type of competition where businesses compete	
her by offering lower prices for their goods or services to attract more customers and increase market share wer cost alternative to other electric car producers market share of 12% is below that of SAIC (25%) and o encouraged other electric car vehicle manufacturers to res a price war in the Chinese car market riate game theory matrix, supported with explanation curers may use non-price competition as means of r market shares e.g. advertising, branding, product sing limit pricing- the reduced prices are in place to s- this may reduce the likelihood of competitors arket to seek profit ng is where the firm prices below its AVC in order to n the competition to leave the market as they will be his may result in loss of competitors/competitors rket	
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Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-3	<ul> <li>Displays isolated, superficial or imprecise knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models.</li> <li>Use of generic material or irrelevant information or inappropriate examples.</li> <li>Descriptive approach which has no chains of reasoning.</li> </ul>
Level 2	4-6	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Ability to apply knowledge and understanding to some elements of the question. Some evidence and contextual references are evident in the answer. Chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence are evident but they may not be developed fully or some stages are omitted.
Level 3	7-8	Demonstrates accurate and precise knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using relevant examples which are fully integrated to address the broad elements of the question. Analysis is clear, coherent, relevant and focused. The answer demonstrates logical and multi-stage chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence.

Evaluation (6 marks) – indicative content
• If electric vehicle manufacturers are able to differentiate their vehicles from
Tesla they may not need to compete over price
<ul> <li>There may be little impact on other vehicle manufacturers if they have a strong reputation for reliability, safety and quality</li> </ul>
• Other vehicle manufacturers in China benefit from government subsidies and low wage costs. Therefore they can also lower prices and are not significantly impacted
• If Tesla/other vehicle manufacturers experience increase in costs in the long-run they may have to increase their prices
• Lower prices may decrease super-normal profits reducing the available capital to spend on non-price competition
• Firms are interdependent and therefore they will all copy each other's non-price competition strategy
• Vehicle manufacturers do not benefit if a price war starts as they may all lose revenue, reducing the incentive to continue to reduce prices
• SAIC is in a stronger position to withstand competition from Tesla given that its market share is more than double that of Tesla
<ul> <li>Predatory pricing is illegal and Tesla may be fined/ lose consumer confidence</li> </ul>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-2	Identification of generic evaluative comments. No supporting evidence/reference to context. No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	3-4	Evidence of evaluation of alternative approaches Some supporting evidence/reference to context. Evaluation is supported by a partially-developed chain of reasoning.
Level 3	5-6	Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and/or is critical of the evidence. Appropriate reference to evidence/context. Evaluation is supported by a logical chain of reasoning.

# Section C

Question	Evaluate policies that a government could use to control and regulate monopolies, such as PTCL. Illustrate your answer with an appropriate diagram(s). Indicative content
8	<ul> <li>Indicative content guidance</li> <li>Answers must be credited by using the level descriptors (below) in line with the general marking guidance. The indicative content below exemplifies some of the points that candidates may make, but this does not imply that any of these must be included. Other relevant points must also be credited.</li> <li>Quantitative skills assessed:</li> <li>QS4: Construct and interpret a range of standard graphical forms.</li> <li>QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> <li>Price regulation: prevents monopolies from charging a price much higher than the price set under competitive market conditions. The government will set a maximum price below the current price (PM to PC) to increase allocative efficiency and reduce supernormal profits</li> <li>Limiting the amount of profit monopolies such as PTCL are allowed to make. A maximum level of profit can be set equal to what the regulator thinks a firm would earn in a competitive market.</li> <li>PM</li></ul>

<ul> <li>Regulatory authorities can regulate against anti-competitive practices such as predatory pricing or price discrimination. These monopolies could be fined. This acts as a deterrent for monopolies and discourages them from acting in a way that is negative for consumers</li> <li>Control mergers and takeovers to avoid the creation of monopolies. These monopolies could distort the market by reducing quality and/or increase prices. This would maintain the level of competition in the market maximising consumer welfare</li> <li>Nationalisation: Government control of monopolies would change their objectives to work in the interest of the consumer as the business would not have a profit incentive</li> <li>Measures to reduce barriers to entry e.g. subsidies to new entrants; reducing patent protection would increase competition in the market</li> </ul>
NB if no diagram candidate can achieve a maximum of level 3

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-3	Displays isolated, superficial or imprecise knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Use of generic material or irrelevant information or inappropriate examples. Descriptive approach which has no chains of reasoning.
Level 2	4-6	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Limited application of knowledge and understanding to economic problems in context. A narrow response or superficial, only two-stage chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence.
Level 3	7-9	Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Ability to apply knowledge and understanding to some elements of the question. Some evidence and contextual references are evident in the answer. Analysis is clear and coherent. Chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence are evident but they may not be developed fully or some stages are omitted.

Level 4	10-12	Demonstrates accurate and precise knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using appropriate examples which are fully integrated to address the broad elements of the question. Analysis is clear, coherent, relevant and focused. The answer demonstrates logical and multi-stage chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence.

<ul> <li>Evaluation (8 marks) - indicative content</li> <li>Limiting profits can reduce dynamic efficiency. This might cause a lack of productive efficiency in the long-run the fine for not meeting the performance targets is too low, the monopoly would not have the incentive to change its production methods/services</li> <li>A lack of regulatory power may stop the regulator from effectively controlling the operations of the monopoly</li> <li>If price regulation is set too low, the monopoly may make a loss, reducing the opportunity for dynamic efficiency or causing the monopoly to close down</li> <li>Regulatory capture means the regulator may act in the interests of the monopolists rather than consumers</li> <li>Unintended consequences e.g. reduced quality of service to consumer</li> <li>Information gaps mean the regulator does not have the required information to effectively control and regulate monopolists</li> <li>Government failure may occur where government intervention results in</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Government failure may occur where government intervention results in a net welfare loss</li> </ul>

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Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-3	Identification of generic evaluative comments. No supporting evidence/reference to context. No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	4-6	Evidence of evaluation of alternative approaches. Some supporting evidence/reference to context. Evaluation is supported by a partially-developed chain of reasoning.
Level 3	7-8	Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and/or is critical of the evidence, leading to an informed judgement. Appropriate reference to evidence/context. Evaluation is supported by a logical chain of reasoning.

Evaluate policies that a government could use to reduce the geographical immobility of labour <b>and</b> the occupational immobility of labour. Refer to industries of your choice in your answer. <b>Indicative content</b>
<ul> <li>Indicative content</li> <li>Indicative content guidance</li> <li>Answers must be credited by using the level descriptors (below) in line with the general marking guidance. The indicative content below exemplifies some of the points that candidates may make, but this does not imply that any of these must be included. Other relevant points must also be credited.</li> <li>Quantitative skills assessed:</li> <li><b>QS9:</b> Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> <li>Occupational immobility of labour refers to the difficulty that workers face in switching between different occupations</li> <li>Belgium has a skills shortage as unemployed people are unable to fill the vacancies available. Policies to improve the occupational immobility of labour:</li> <li>Skills training programs: Governments may provide skills training programs to help workers acquire new skills and move to a different occupation</li> <li>Apprenticeship programs: Governments may offer apprenticeship programs e.g. in engineering or robotics, to provide training to increase vocational skills and fill gaps in the market</li> <li>Education and training subsidies: Governments may provide subsidies to support education and training programs for workers who are looking to move to a different occupation e.g. subsidies for workers training for medical professions</li> <li>Labour market information/support with job searches: Governments may provide up-to-date labour market information to help workers make informate decisions about their careers and the skills they need</li> <li>Support for small businesses: Governments may offer support to small businesses to create new job opportunities and reduce occupational immobility</li> <li>Tax incentives for employing workers: The government may offer tax incentives to employers who hire individuals who are facing difficulty finding work, such as those with disabilities</li> </ul>
Geographical immobility of labour is the difficulty of workers moving from one location to another Policies to overcome geographical immobility of labour:

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	<ul> <li>Relocation assistance: e.g. The Government provides financial support to low-income workers/the unemployed who need to move for work, helping them with the cost of moving</li> <li>Housing subsidies: providing housing subsidies to low-income workers/the unemployed to help them afford to move to areas with better job opportunities with high living costs</li> <li>Transportation infrastructure: Improving transportation infrastructure, such as roads, train links and public transport, can make it quicker/easier for workers to move to areas with job opportunities</li> <li>Labour market information: better provision of information about job opportunities in different regions, to help workers make informed decisions about moving</li> <li>Job creation in local areas: encourage job creation in areas with high unemployment by providing tax incentives and other subsidies to businesses that locate in these areas</li> <li>Regional/industrial policy e.g. freeports or joining a trading bloc/ common market to reduce national barriers to the mobility of labour</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Regional/industrial policy e.g. freeports or joining a trading bloc/</li> </ul>
	NB: award a maximum of level 3 for a response that does not refer to industries
	NB: award a maximum of level 3 for a response that does not consider both types of immobility of labour

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-3	Displays isolated, superficial or imprecise knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Use of generic material or irrelevant information or inappropriate examples. Descriptive approach which has no chains of reasoning.
Level 2	4-6	Displays elements of knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Limited application of knowledge and understanding to economic problems in context. A narrow response or superficial, only two-stage chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence.
Level 3	7-9	Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Ability to apply knowledge and understanding to some elements of the question. Some evidence and contextual references are evident in the answer. Analysis is clear and coherent. Chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence are evident but they may not be developed fully or some stages are omitted.
Level 4	10-12	Demonstrates accurate and precise knowledge and understanding of economic terms, principles, concepts, theories and models. Ability to link knowledge and understanding in context using appropriate examples which are fully integrated to address the broad elements of the question. Analysis is clear, coherent, relevant and focused. The answer demonstrates logical and multi-stage chains of reasoning in terms of cause and/or consequence.

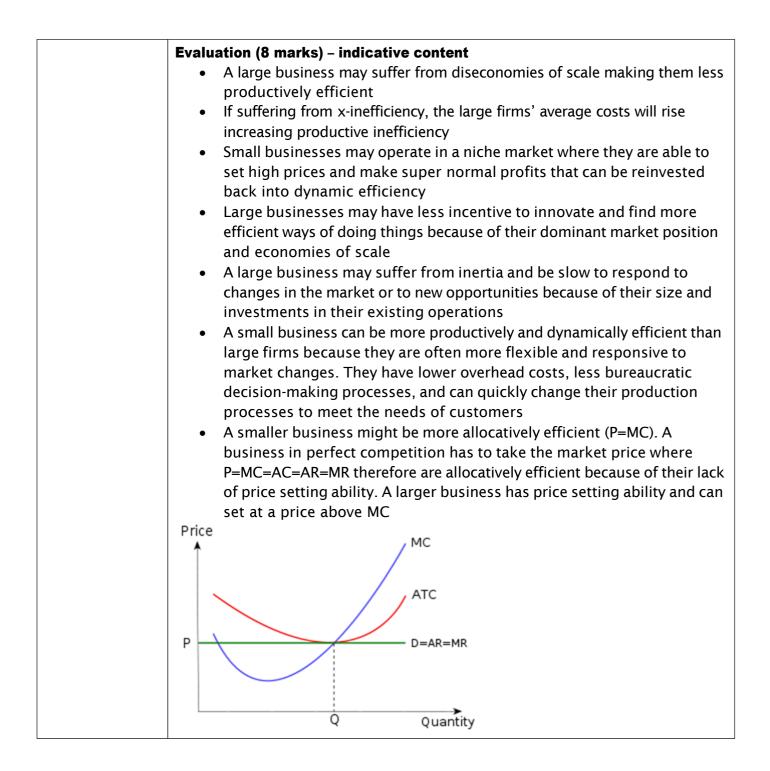
Evaluation (8 marks) – indicative content
Occupational immobility policies:
• There may be a lack of funding for policies to address immobility of labour. If there is a lack of government funding or political will to support these policies, they may not be implemented
• There could be structural barriers: factors such as discrimination or lack of access to education and training could be causing the immobility. Therefore, short-term policies are not likely to be effective
Workers might be resistant to changes in their occupations
<ul> <li>The market conditions could change, and policies aimed at overcoming occupational immobility may not keep pace with these changes, or may not be flexible enough to respond to shifting labour market demands</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Workers may not have the skill level to retrain to fill gaps in the market</li> </ul>
Geographical immobility policies:
<ul> <li>Individuals may have strong personal and family ties that prevent them from moving, such as caring for elderly relatives or having children in school</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Workers may resist moving, especially if they are familiar with their current community and have established social networks</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Policies are costly and require significant investment in infrastructure. if there is a lack of government funding they may not be implemented or be underfunded</li> </ul>
• Time lags in building infrastructure may occur and the problem will not be resolved in the short-run
<ul> <li>Workers may not have enough information about job opportunities and the conditions in different regions, making it difficult for them to make informed decisions about moving</li> </ul>

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	Eveloperate the improve the state of the first stat	
Question	Evaluate the impact that the size of a business has on its efficiency. Illustrate your answer with an appropriate diagram(s). Indicative content	
	Indicative content guidance	
10	<ul> <li>Answers must be credited by using the level descriptors (below) in line with the general marking guidance. The indicative content below exemplifies some of the points that candidates may make, but this does not imply that any of these must be included. Other relevant points must also be credited.</li> <li>Quantitative skills assessed:</li> <li>QS4: Construct and interpret a range of standard graphical forms.</li> <li>QS9: Interpret, apply and analyse information in written, graphical, tabular and numerical forms.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Larger businesses, such as Nestlé, might be more productively efficient than smaller businesses (producing at the MES)</li> <li>Nestlé has access to more resources and economies of scale, which can lead to increased efficiency compared to smaller food-producing businesses</li> <li>Large production runs in producing food and beverages will lower unit costs, and will enable fixed costs to be spread over a larger output. This may enable the business to produce at the productively efficient level of output</li> </ul>	
	output	
	Average Cost	
	<ul> <li>The large businesses produce at Q<sub>2</sub> compared to Q and is able to produce at a lower cost C<sub>1</sub></li> <li>Large businesses, such as Nestlé, have specialised division of labour or capital equipment e.g. specialist packaging machines. These might improve efficiency in production, lowering average cost when producing at a higher level of output</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Large businesses might be more dynamically efficient</li> <li>The large business likely to have more price setting ability in the market allowing them to set higher prices and make supernormal profits. The supernormal profits can be reinvested into improving production or better-quality capital, investing in research and development</li> </ul>	

<ul> <li>Small businesses in perfect competition/monopolistic competition are unable to make supernormal profits in the long-run and are therefore unable to invest in improving dynamic efficiency</li> <li>Large businesses that are cross-subsidising might be more allocatively efficient than smaller firms as they can reallocate profits to lower the prices of essential goods</li> </ul>
NB: award a maximum of level 3 if no appropriate diagram is drawn
Accept reverse argument as KAA

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Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No evaluative comments.
Level 1	1-3	Identification of generic evaluative comments.
		No supporting evidence/reference to context.
		No evidence of a logical chain of reasoning.
Level 2	4-6	Evidence of evaluation of alternative approaches.
		Some supporting evidence/reference to context.
		Evaluation is supported by a partially-developed chain of reasoning.
Level 3	7-8	Evaluation recognises different viewpoints and/or is critical of the evidence,
		leading to an informed judgement.
		Appropriate reference to evidence/context.
		Evaluation is supported by a logical chain of reasoning.

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