Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market

When you are revising use your folder and revision notes and text books, plus any class notes and any revision guides/videos to support you together with this PLC to ensure you have covered everything you need for the exam / this topic.

Key Idea from specification	Initial assessment of my confidence/ understanding of this topic (RAG).	I have read revision guides / PowerPoint s/viewed videos for this section.	I have written notes.	I have made mind maps / flash cards and tested myself (Seneca)	Assessment of my confidence/ understanding of this topic after completing (RAG).
3.1 Business growth					
3.1.1 Sizes and types of firms					
I can identify and explain reasons why some firms tend to remain small and why others grow					
I understand the significance of the divorce of ownership from control: the principal-agent problem					
I can distinguish between public and private sector organisations					
I can distinguish between profit and not- for-profit organisations					
3.1.2 Business growth					
I understand how businesses grow:					
o organic growth					
o forward and backward vertical integration					
o horizontal integration					
o conglomerate integration					
I can explain the advantages and disadvantages of:					
o organic growth					
o vertical integration					
o horizontal integration					
o conglomerate integration					
I understand the constraints on business growth:					
o size of the market					
o access to finance					
o owner objectives					

o regulation			
3.1.3 Demergers			
I understand the reasons for demergers			
I understand the impact of demergers on businesses, workers and consumers			
3.2 Business objectives			
3.2.1 Business objectives			
I can identify the different business objectives and the reasons for them: o profit maximisation o revenue maximisation o sales maximisation o satisficing			
I can use diagrams and formulae to illustrate the different business objectives: o profit maximisation o revenue maximisation			
o sales maximisation			
3.3 Revenues, costs and profits			
3.3.1 Revenue			
I can use formulae to calculate and understand the relationship between: o total revenue			
o average revenue o marginal revenue			
I understand price elasticity of demand and its relationship to revenue concepts (calculation required)			
3.3.2 Costs			
a) Formulae to calculate and understand the relationship between:			
o total cost			
o total fixed cost			
o total variable cost			
o average (total) cost			
o average fixed cost			

o average variable cost			
o marginal cost			
I understand the derivation of short-run cost curves from the assumption of diminishing marginal productivity			
I understand the relationship between short-run and long-run average cost curves			
3.3.3 Economies and diseconomies of scale			
I know the types of economies and diseconomies of scale			
I can explain the minimum efficient scale			
I can distinguish between internal and external economies of scale			
3.3.4 Normal profits, supernormal profits and losses			
I can identify the condition for profit maximisation			
I understand and can explain normal profit, supernormal profit and losses			
I can illustrate short-run and long-run shut-down points: annotate a diagrammatic analysis			
3.4 Market structures			
3.4.1 Efficiency			
I can understand and explain the difference between:			
 Allocative efficiency Productive efficiency Dynamic efficiency X-inefficiency 			
I can identify efficiency/inefficiency in different market structures			
3.4.2 Perfect competition			
I know the characteristics of perfect competition			
I understand and can explain the profit maximising equilibrium in the short run and long run			
I can explain using annotated diagrammatic analysis			
3.4.3 Monopolistic competition I know the characteristics of			
monopolistically competitive markets			

I understand and can explain profit maximising equilibrium in the short run and long run			
I can explain using annotated diagrammatic analysis			
3.4.4 Oligopoly			
I know the characteristics of oligopoly			
o high barriers to entry and exit			
o high concentration ratio			
o interdependence of firms			
o product differentiation			
I understand and can calculate n-firm concentration ratios and explain their significance			
I know the reasons for collusive and non-collusive behaviour			
I can distinguish between overt and tacit collusion; cartels and price leadership			
I understand simple game theory: the prisoner's dilemma in a simple two firm/two outcome model			
I understand the types of price competition:			
o price wars			
o predatory pricing			
o limit pricing			
I understand types of non-price competition			
3.4.5 Monopoly			
I know the characteristics of monopoly			
I can explain profit maximising equilibrium			
I can explain using annotated diagrammatic analysis			
I understand third degree price discrimination:			
o necessary conditions			
o diagrammatic analysis			
o costs and benefits to consumers and producers			
I can explain the costs and benefits of monopoly to firms, consumers,			

employees and suppliers			
I can explain a natural monopoly			
3.4.6 Monopsony			
I understand the characteristics and conditions for a monopsony to operate			
I can explain the costs and benefits of a monopsony to firms, consumers, employees and suppliers			
3.4.7 Contestability			
Characteristics of contestable markets			
b) Implications of contestable markets for the behaviour of firms			
I can identify types of barriers to entry and exit			
I understand sunk costs and the degree of contestability			
3.5 Labour market			
3.5.1 Demand for labour			
I know the factors that influence the demand for labour			
I understand how the demand for labour is derived demand			
3.5.2 Supply of labour			
I can identify factors that influence the supply of labour to a particular occupation			
I understand and can explain market failure in labour markets: including the geographical and occupational mobility and immobility of labour			
3.5.3 Wage determination in competitive and non-competitive markets			
I can carry out a diagrammatic analysis of labour market equilibrium			
I have an understanding of the current labour market issues			
I can explain the reasons for and impact of government intervention in the labour market:			
o maximum and minimum wages			
o public sector wage setting	 		

o policies to tackle labour market immobility			
I can explain the significance of the elasticity of demand for labour and the elasticity of supply of labour			
3.6 Government intervention			
3.6.1 Government intervention			
I can explain why there is government intervention to control mergers			
I can explain how the government intervenes to control monopolies: o price regulation o profit regulation o quality standards o performance targets			
I can explain why and how the government interventions to promote competition and contestability: o enhancing competition between firms through			
promotion of small business			
o deregulation o competitive tendering for government			
contracts			
o privatisation			
I can explain how the government			
intervenes to protect suppliers and			
employees by:			
o restrictions on monopsony			
power of firms			
 nationalisation 			
3.6.2 The impact of government			
intervention			
I understand the impact of government			
intervention on:			
o prices			
o profit			
o efficiency			
o quality			
o choice I understand there are limits to			
government intervention:			
o regulatory capture			
o asymmetric information			
o asymmetric information			
Targets / Next steps			
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