

ABOUT THIS BOOK

This is not a textbook. By the time you read this, you should already have covered the whole syllabus and have attempted some examination-style questions. This guide will give you a solid outline of all the material in the Higher Economics Syllabus, but it should be used in conjunction with your experiences in class, your own notes, your textbooks, and past papers.

In this guide the emphasis is on subject knowledge, the structure of that knowledge, and how to answer examination questions. The final exam is not only a test of knowledge, but also a test of how you use economic theories and concepts to solve economic questions and problems. A good candidate will therefore see the contents of this book more as a toolkit with which they can successfully tackle the questions with which they are faced and maximise their exam mark. At the end of each section there are sample IB-type questions for you to put this approach into practice. The answer/model plans for these questions are in the final section of the guide so that you can attempt the questions as you progress through each section and then check your efforts by turning to the back of the guide. All successful candidates will have attempted as many past papers and examination-style questions as possible. It is the most efficient and effective way to test the knowledge you are consolidating in your revision programme. Although your final examination does not include multiple choice questions I have included a few at the end of each section as they are a good test of your basic knowledge.

Key terms are printed in **bold type** and definitions are signalled by *italicised type*.

This guide contains a considerable number of diagrams, and I make no apologies for this! Whilst I might have had to be economical with the explanation of some ideas, diagrams could not be sacrificed. **They are central to all aspects of the examination.** You will be asked questions about diagrams, and any good candidate will be expected to use diagrams to illustrate their work.

Each page is printed with a wide margin. As I go through each area of the syllabus I have highlighted key exam skills and hints relevant to that particular area in this margin.

Please feel free to email me at OSC@OSC-IB.com with any feedback, so later editions of this guide may be revised to improve the help given to candidates.

Best of luck for your revision!

Stephen Holroyd