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**Level 3 GCE**

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# Economics A

**Advanced**

**Paper 2: The National and Global Economy**

Tuesday 13 June 2017 – Afternoon

**Time: 2 hours**

Paper Reference

**9EC0/02**

**You do not need any other materials.**

Total Marks

## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- There are three sections in this question paper. Answer **all** questions from Section A and Section B. Answer **one** question from Section C.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

## Information

- The total mark for this paper is 100.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets  
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Calculators may be used.

## Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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## SECTION A

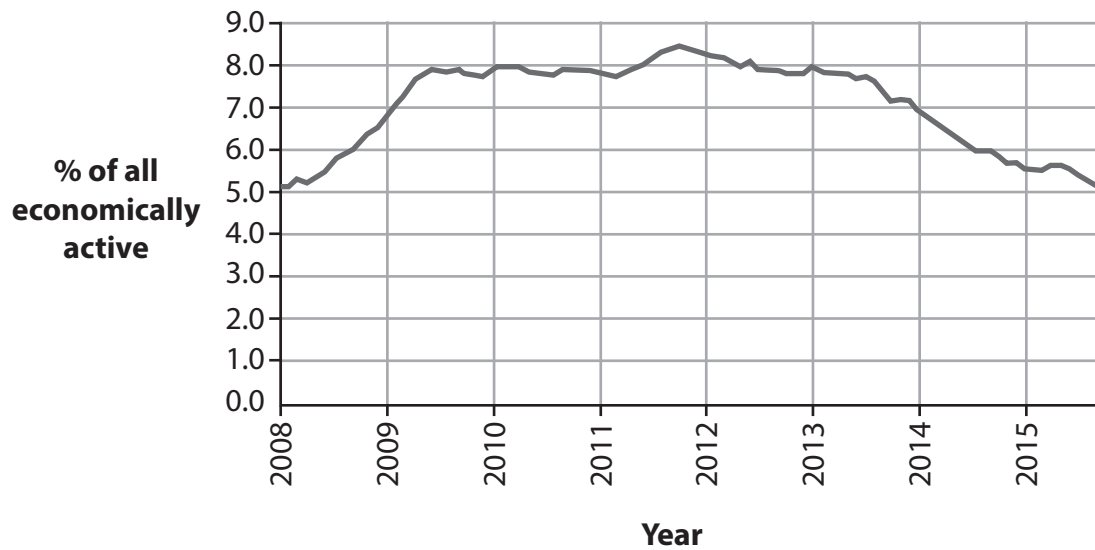
Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions must be answered with a cross in a box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

You are advised to spend 30 minutes on this section.

Use the data to support your answers where relevant. You may annotate and include diagrams in your answers.

- 1 The chart below shows the UK unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, from 2008 to 2015



(Source: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/december-2015/statistical-bulletin.html#tab-8--Unemployment>)

- (a) Which **one** of the following types of unemployment best explains the change in the data between 2008 and 2010?

(1)

- A Cyclical
- B Frictional
- C Seasonal
- D Voluntary



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(b) Explain the likely effects on the circular flow of income of the change in unemployment between 2013 and 2015.

(4)

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(Total for Question 1 = 5 marks)



2 The table below shows marginal propensity to save data for an economy.

| Year | Marginal propensity to save (mps) |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 2010 | 0.11                              |
| 2011 | 0.09                              |
| 2012 | 0.07                              |
| 2013 | 0.05                              |
| 2014 | 0.05                              |
| 2015 | 0.04                              |

(a) Explain **one** possible reason for the changes in the marginal propensity to save as shown in the table.

(2)

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(b) Explain the likely effect of a fall in the marginal propensity to save on the value of the multiplier if other things remain equal.

(2)

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An economy has marginal propensity to save of 0.1, marginal propensity to tax of 0.2 and marginal propensity to import of 0.1.

(c) Which **one** of the following is the correct size of the multiplier?

(1)

- A** 0.4
- B** 0.6
- C** 1.7
- D** 2.5

(Total for Question 2 = 5 marks)

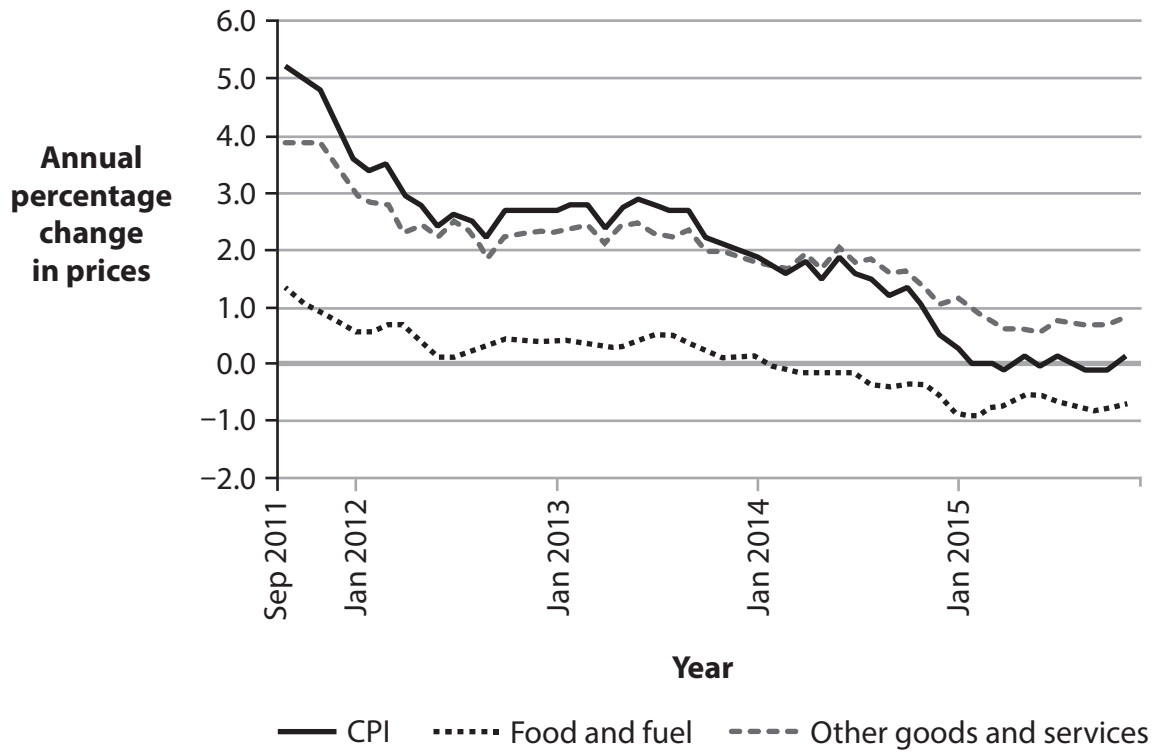
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3 The chart below shows UK inflation as measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI), 2011 to 2015.



(Source: [http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171780\\_427182.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171780_427182.pdf))

(a) Which **one** of the following statements is correct about the UK's inflation record between September 2011 and January 2013?

Based on the data shown, the UK experienced:

(1)

- A deflation
- B disinflation
- C falling average prices
- D falling money supply



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(b) With reference to the data provided, explain the process of calculating the rate of inflation in the UK using the Consumer Prices Index. Refer to the concept of weights in your answer.

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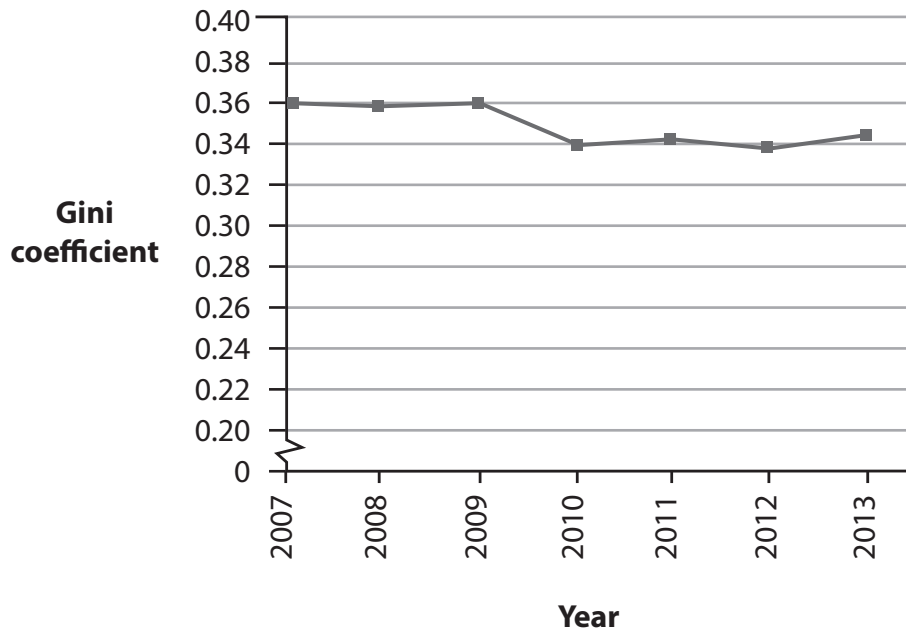
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**(Total for Question 3 = 5 marks)**



4 The chart below shows the UK Gini coefficient of incomes, 2007 to 2013.



(Source: adapted from <https://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/how-has-inequality-changed>)

(a) Explain **one** likely reason for the change in UK income inequality since 2007.

(4)

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(b) Which **one** of the following values for the Gini coefficient is correct if there is perfect income equality?

(1)

- A 0
- B 0.5
- C 1
- D 50:50

(Total for Question 4 = 5 marks)

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- 5 The table shows the selected economic data in 2014 for Vietnam and India.

|         | Gross National Income per capita (2011 PPPs) | Human Development Index (HDI) value |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Vietnam | 5 092  | 0.666                               |
| India   | 5 497  | 0.609                               |

(Source: [www.hdr.undp.org/en/composite/HDI](http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/composite/HDI))

- (a) Which **one** of the following statements can be deduced from the data in the table?

(1)

- A Average incomes are higher in India than in Vietnam.
- B Levels of absolute poverty are higher in Vietnam.
- C Life expectancy is higher in India than in Vietnam.
- D Provision of healthcare and education is less effective in Vietnam than in India.





SECTION B

Read Figures 1 and 2 and extract (A) before answering Question 6.

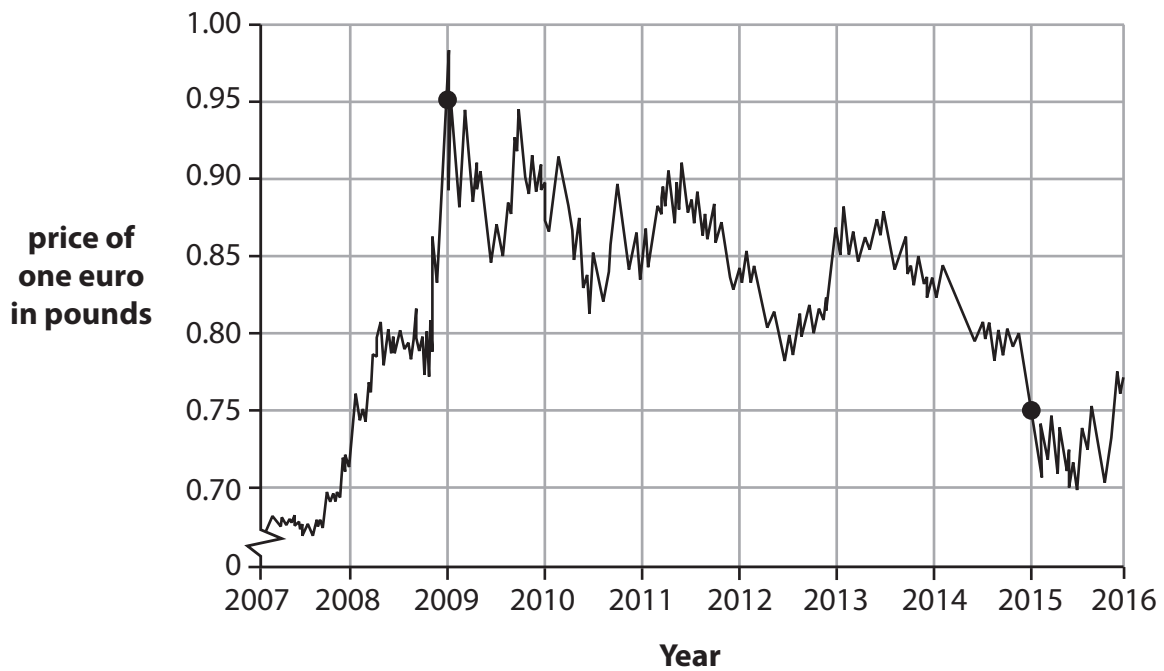
Write your answers in the spaces provided.

You are advised to spend 1 hour on this section.

Question 6

The Eurozone economy

Figure 1: Exchange rate of the euro (€) to the British pound (£)



(Source: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/eurofxref-graph-gbp.en.html#>)

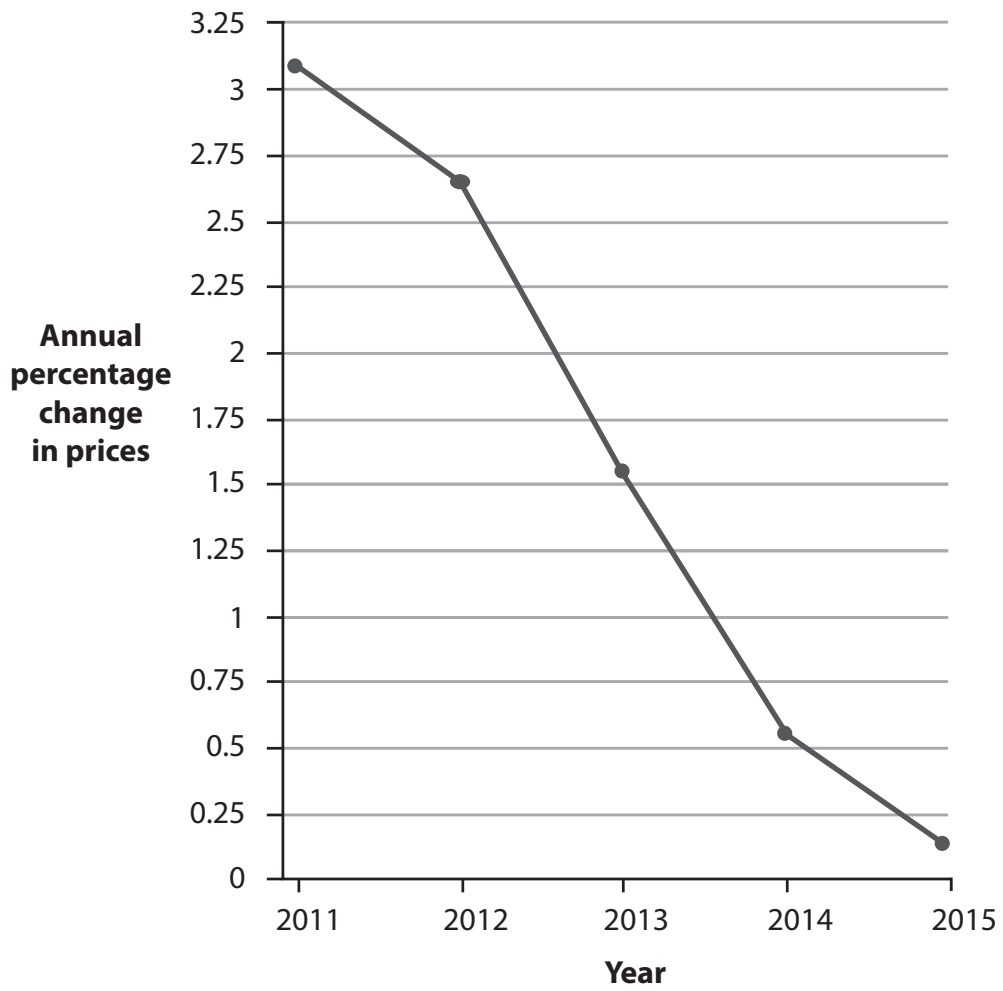
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**Figure 2: Eurozone inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI)**



(Source: adapted from <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/02/weodata/download.aspx>)

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## Extract A

### European Central Bank disappoints markets with weaker than expected stimulus

Mario Draghi, president of the European Central Bank (ECB), surprised financial markets in November 2015 with a less ambitious package of monetary stimulus than many had anticipated.

The ECB cut its base interest rate by 0.1% to minus 0.3% in order to encourage private banks to lend funds to companies and households rather than deposit them at the central bank. The central bank agreed to extend its €60 billion (£45 billion) monthly bond-buying quantitative easing (QE) programme for a further six months. The ECB's €1.1 trillion QE scheme had originally been due to end in September 2016. 5

"We are doing more because it works," Mr Draghi said. Yet the ECB did not increase the size of its monthly asset purchases and also disappointed those expecting that it would cut interest rates more aggressively. 10

The euro rose almost 3% against the dollar to \$1.08 after the announcement. Italian and Spanish bond yields both jumped by 0.27% to 1.62% and 1.72% respectively.

The ECB's economists reduced their inflation forecasts for the next two years. They now predict consumer prices in the Eurozone rising by just 1% in 2016 and 1.6% in 2017 – still below the central bank's ceiling of 2%. In November 2015, the inflation rate was just 0.1% and core inflation, excluding volatile items such as fuel and food, dropped to 0.9%. 15

Mr Draghi stressed again that monetary policy alone could not restore the Eurozone to economic health. He called for looser fiscal policy among member states to support aggregate demand and more rapid implementation of supply-side reforms. "In order to reap the full benefits from our monetary policy measures, other policy areas must contribute decisively," he said. 20

(Source: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/ecb-disappoints-traders-with-weaker-than-expected-stimulus-a6759786.html>, 4th December 2015)



- (a) With reference to Figure 1, calculate the percentage change in the value of the euro in pounds from the start of 2009 to the start of 2015. (5)
- (b) With reference to the information provided and your own knowledge, examine **two** factors which might explain the change in the rate of Eurozone inflation as shown in Figure 2. (8)
- (c) Since mid-2015 the euro has appreciated. Assess the likely impact of an appreciation of the euro on the current account of the balance of payments for Eurozone countries. (10)
- (d) Discuss the likely success of the ECB's quantitative easing programme in moving Eurozone inflation closer to 'the central bank's ceiling of 2%' (Extract A, line 17). (12)
- (e) Discuss 'looser fiscal policy' and 'supply-side reforms' (Extract A, lines 20 and 21) that may be used by governments of Eurozone countries to increase economic growth. (15)



(a) With reference to Figure 1, calculate the percentage change in the value of the euro in pounds from the start of 2009 to the start of 2015.

(5)

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(b) With reference to the information provided and your own knowledge, examine **two** factors which might explain the change in the rate of Eurozone inflation as shown in Figure 2.

(8)

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(c) Since mid-2015 the euro has appreciated. Assess the likely impact of an appreciation of the euro on the current account of the balance of payments for Eurozone countries.

(10)

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(d) Discuss the likely success of the ECB's quantitative easing programme in moving Eurozone inflation closer to 'the central bank's ceiling of 2%' (Extract A, line 17).

(12)

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(e) Discuss 'looser fiscal policy' and 'supply-side reforms' (Extract A, lines 20 and 21) that may be used by governments of Eurozone countries to increase economic growth.

(15)

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(Total for Question 6 = 50 marks)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 50 MARKS**



**SECTION C**

**Answer ONE question from this section.**

**Write your answer in the spaces provided.**

**You are advised to spend 30 minutes on this section.**

**EITHER**

- 7** Since the global financial crisis of 2008 there have been over 5 700 increases in tariffs, quotas and administrative controls on international trade.

Evaluate the likely effects of an increase in protectionism on the economy of a developing country of your choice.

**(Total for Question 7 = 25 marks)**

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**OR**

- 8** Global oil prices fell from a 2008 peak of \$147 a barrel to \$27 in 2016.

Evaluate the likely macroeconomic consequences of a significant fall in global oil prices.

**(Total for Question 8 = 25 marks)**

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 25 MARKS**  
**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 100 MARKS**



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