

## **IGCSE Economics (0455)**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What is the course book?**

There is no single course book for the IGCSE Economics syllabus. The resource list gives a number of alternative books designed for GCSE Economics.

#### **Do I need to teach the course in the order given in the syllabus?**

No, the order in which you teach the course is entirely up to you.

#### **Sometimes the questions start with a statement, e.g. about India or Kenya. Do the candidates have to know about these economies?**

No, they do not. The introductory quotation or statement is intended as stimulus material only. Sometimes, particularly in Paper 3 (Analysis and Critical Evaluation) or the multiple choice paper, candidates will have to work with data given, but they are not expected to have prior knowledge of a specific economy.

#### **Does this mean that there is no point in the candidates knowing about their own economy?**

No, it does not mean that. Candidates will receive credit for illustrating their answers, where relevant, with examples from their own economy or any economy that they have studied.

#### **Is the use of calculators allowed?**

Yes. For details of the restrictions on graphic display, data banks, etc, which apply to all CIE examinations, see the Handbook for Centres.

#### **Are the mark schemes published?**

Yes. They are available on the Teacher Support website or on the CIE Publications CD-ROM.

#### **Are marks deducted for wrong answers in the multiple choice?**

No. The candidate's mark is the total number of questions answered correctly.

#### **Are the multiple choice questions arranged in any particular order on the paper?**

They are broadly arranged in the same order as the topics appear in the syllabus booklet.

#### **How many marks are necessary to achieve the various grades?**

This varies from year to year in the light of the difficulty of the papers. The most recent 'grade thresholds' are published on the Teacher Support website.

#### **Where can I find the answer keys to the multiple choice questions?**

They are in the published 'Report on the Examination', which is on the Teacher Support website and the CIE Publications CD-ROM.

#### **Are there any changes to the syllabus for 2009?**

From 2009, the content has been updated and the scheme of assessment has been revised. The most notable changes are the removal of the coursework option and the tiered (core/extended) system. Please refer to the 2009 syllabus for further details.