

ECT1
ECONOMICS TRIPOS PART I

Monday 11 June 2018 9:00-12:00

Paper 5

BRITISH ECONOMIC HISTORY

Answer **FOUR** questions only.

Answer all parts to the question.

Each question carries equal weight.

Write your **candidate number** (not your name) on the cover of each booklet.

Candidates are asked to note that there may be a reduction in marks for scripts with illegible handwriting.

If you identify an error in this paper, please alert the **Invigilator**, who will notify the **Examiner**. A **general** announcement will be made if the error is validated.**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

20 Page booklet x 1

Rough work pads

Tags

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS
EXAMINATION**

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator.

1. It is often argued that the agricultural sector played an important role in British industrialisation.
 - (a) How might developments in the agricultural sector influence industrialisation?
 - (b) Which of these possible influences, if any, are supported by the evidence for Britain?
2. Did international trade make an important contribution to industrialisation in Britain?
3. How, if at all, does evidence on human heights alter our assessment of the effects of industrialisation on living standards in Britain between 1750 and 1850?
4. Assess the importance of any **two** of the following influences on technological innovation during the British Industrial Revolution:
 - (a) factor prices;
 - (b) the Enlightenment;
 - (c) institutions.
5. ‘Britain invested large amounts of her wealth overseas between 1850 and 1914, but the evidence that this was detrimental to the performance of the economy is weak.’ Discuss.
6. For the latter part of the nineteenth century, compare British and German provision of (a) formal scientific education and (b) other ways of acquiring human capital. Can deficiencies in human capital provision be causally linked to the relative decline of the UK economy in this period?
7. It has been argued that the long-term relative decline of the British economy had its roots in the late Victorian era. Does Broadberry’s work on the relative performance of manufacturing and services support this interpretation?
8. Describe British government policies with regard to unemployment benefits in the 1920s. Were these policies the main cause of unemployment in Britain during this period?
9. Why did Britain devalue the pound in 1931? Evaluate the mechanisms by which devaluation affected economic recovery during the 1930s.
10. Evaluate the effects of the policy of Imperial Preference introduced in 1932 on British trade during the 1930s.

END OF PAPER