

ECO101: Introduction to Microeconomics

Practice Sheet 2

1. Consider a market for electric cigarettes where the demand and supply functions are given by:

$$P_d = 2000 - 3Q_d \text{ and } P_s = 300 + 2Q_s$$

There is a lump-sum tax on sellers of \$6 per unit imposed by the government.

- a) What is the equilibrium price and quantity before tax was imposed on electric cigarettes?
- b) What would be the new supply function after tax is imposed of \$6 per unit on sellers?
- c) After the tax imposition, what is the new price paid by consumers and price received by sellers?
- d) What is the total tax revenue earned by the government?
- e) Calculate the change in total surplus as a result of the tax.

2. a) Complete the table below on a firm's costs.

Quantity	Total Cost	Marginal Cost	Variable Cost	Average Total Cost	Average Variable Cost
0	10				
1		20			
2		10			
3		8			
4		18			
5		24			

ProPainters hires students at \$250 per week to paint houses. It leases equipment at \$500 a week. The table below sets out its product schedule

Labor (hours per week)	Output (houses painted per week)
1	2
2	5
3	9
4	12
5	14
6	15

- b) If ProPainters paints 12 houses a week, calculate its total cost, average total cost and marginal cost.
- c) Explain why the gap between ProPainters' total cost and total variable cost is the same no matter how many houses are painted.
- d) If ProPainters leases twice the amount of equipment, what will happen to its Average Total Cost Curve?

3. Consider a perfectly competitive market in the short run. Assume that market demand and supply is given by

$$P = 100 - 4Q_d \text{ and } P = Q_s$$

Since all firms are identical in a perfectly competitive market setting, all firms will have identical cost structures. Denoting firm level quantity by q , assume

$$TC = 50 + 4q + 2q^2 \text{ and } MC = 4 + 4q$$

- a) What is the equilibrium price and quantity in the market?
 - b) How many firms will operate in the industry in the short run?
 - c) Calculate an individual firm's profit/loss in the short-run
 - d) Given your answer in part c, what will happen to the market in the long run?
4. Suppose the following equations represent the market for airpods

$$\text{Demand: } P = 150 - 2Q$$

$$\text{MC: } MC = 10 + 3Q$$

- a) Assuming the Monopolist MC is the market supply curve, find the market equilibrium price and quantity
- b) Suppose more firms start producing airpods and the market becomes perfectly competitive. What would be the new market equilibrium price and quantity?
- c) What is the total deadweight loss created as a result of the monopoly?