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**BARUCH COLLEGE**

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE**

**ECO 1110: CURRENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS**

**FALL 2019**

**MIDTERM EXAM**

1. Suppose the equilibrium price of a tube of toothpaste is $2, and the government imposes a price floor of $3 per tube. As a result of the price floor, the

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | demand curve for toothpaste shifts to the left. |
| b. | supply curve for toothpaste shifts to the right. |
| c. | quantity demanded of toothpaste decreases, and the quantity of toothpaste that firms want to supply increases. |
| d. | quantity supplied of toothpaste stays the same. |
|  |  |

2. Assume the market for pork is perfectly competitive. When one pork buyer exits the market,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the price of pork increases. |
| b. | the price of pork decreases. |
| c. | the price of pork does not change. |
| d. | there is no longer a market for pork. |

3. Jake and Sandra are two woodworkers who both make tables and chairs. In one month, Jake can make 4 tables or 20 chairs, while Sandra can make 6 tables or 18 chairs. Given this, we know that

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Jake has an absolute advantage in chairs. |
| b. | Jake has a comparative advantage in tables. |
| c. | Sandra has an absolute advantage in chairs. |
| d. | Sandra has a comparative advantage in chairs. |

4. Suppose that gasoline prices increase dramatically this month. Olivia commutes 100 miles to work each weekday. Over the next few months, Olivia drives less on the weekends to try to save money. Within the year, she sells her home and purchases one only 10 miles from her place of employment. These examples illustrate the importance of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the availability of substitutes in determining the price elasticity of demand. |
| b. | a necessity versus a luxury in determining the price elasticity of demand. |
| c. | the definition of a market in determining the price elasticity of demand. |
| d. | the time horizon in determining the price elasticity of demand. |

5. A decrease in the price of a good will

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | increase demand. |
| b. | decrease demand. |
| c. | increase quantity demanded. |
| d. | decrease quantity demanded. |

***Figure 1***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Panel (a)** | **Panel (b)** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

6. **Refer to Figure 1**. A nonbinding price floor is shown in

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | both panel (a) and panel (b). |
| b. | panel (a) only. |
| c. | panel (b) only. |
| d. | neither panel (a) nor panel (b). |

7. The value of the price elasticity of demand for a good will be relatively large when

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | there are no good substitutes available for the good. |
| b. | the time period in question is relatively short. |
| c. | the good is a luxury rather than a necessity. |
| d. | All of the above are correct. |

8. Which of the following is *not* a determinant of demand?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the price of a resource that is used to produce the good |
| b. | the price of a complementary good |
| c. | the price of the good next month |
| d. | the price of a substitute good |

***Figure 2***



9. **Refer to Figure 2.** If Consumer A and Consumer B are the only consumers in the market, then the market quantity demanded when the price is $6 is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 4 units. |
| b. | 6 units. |
| c. | 8 units. |
| d. | 12 units. |

10. Assume that Greece has a comparative advantage in fish and Germany has a comparative advantage in cars. Also assume that Germany has an absolute advantage in both fish and cars. If these two countries specialize and trade to maximize the benefits of specialization and trade, then

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the two countries’ combined output of both goods will be higher than it would be in the absence of trade. |
| b. | Greece will produce more fish than it would produce in the absence of trade. |
| c. | Germany will produce more cars than it would produce in the absence of trade. |
| d. | All of the above are correct. |

***Figure 3***

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11. **Refer to Figure 3**. Which of the following price controls would cause a surplus of 20 units of the good?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | a price ceiling set at $4 |
| b. | a price ceiling set at $5 |
| c. | a price floor set at $7 |
| d. | a price floor set at $8 |

12. Janeisha rescues dogs from her local animal shelter. When Janeisha’s income rises by 7 percent, her quantity demanded of dog biscuits increases by 12 percent. For Janeisha, the income elasticity of demand for dog biscuits is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | negative, and dog biscuits are a normal good. |
| b. | negative, and dog biscuits are an inferior good. |
| c. | positive, and dog biscuits are an inferior good. |
| d. | positive, and dog biscuits are a normal good. |

***Figure 4***



13. **Refer to Figure 4.** What is the amount of the tax per unit?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | $1 |
| b. | $2 |
| c. | $3 |
| d. | $4 |

14. You lose your job and, as a result, you buy fewer iTunes music downloads. This shows that you consider iTunes music downloads to be a(n)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | giffen good. |
| b. | inferior good. |
| c. | normal good. |
| d. | complementary good. |

***Figure 5***

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15. **Refer to Figure 5**. The price paid by buyers after the tax is imposed is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | $8. |
| b. | $10. |
| c. | $14. |
| d. | $18. |

16. **Refer to Figure 5**. The effective price received by sellers after the tax is imposed is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | $8. |
| b. | $10. |
| c. | $14. |
| d. | $18. |

***Table 1***

Assume that Zimbabwe and Portugal can switch between producing toothbrushes and producing hairbrushes at a constant rate.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Machine Minutes  Needed to Make 1 | |
| Toothbrush | Hairbrush |
| Zimbabwe | 3 | 10 |
| Portugal | 5 | 6 |

17. **Refer to Table 1.** Assume that Zimbabwe and Portugal each has 180 machine minutes available. If each country divides its time equally between the production of toothbrushes and hairbrushes, then total production is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 24 toothbrushes and 12 hairbrushes. |
| b. | 48 toothbrushes and 24 hairbrushes. |
| c. | 96 toothbrushes and 48 hairbrushes. |
| d. | 720 toothbrushes and 1440 hairbrushes. |

***Figure 6***



18. **Refer to Figure 6.** Which of the following movements would illustrate the effect in the market for paper napkins as a result of a “Go Green” advertising campaign encouraging people to use cloth napkins?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Point A to Point B |
| b. | Point C to Point B |
| c. | Point C to Point D |
| d. | Point A to Point D |

19. **Refer to Figure 6.** Which of the following movements would illustrate the effect in the market for bread of an increase in the price of flour?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Point A to Point B |
| b. | Point C to Point B |
| c. | Point C to Point D |
| d. | Point A to Point D |

20. Tax incidence

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | depends on the legislated burden. |
| b. | is entirely random. |
| c. | depends on the elasticities of supply and demand. |
| d. | falls entirely on buyers or entirely on sellers. |

21. Suppose the price of potato chips decreases from $1.45 to $1.25 and, as a result, the quantity of potato chips demanded increases from 2,000 to 2,200. Using the midpoint method, the price elasticity of demand for potato chips in the given price range is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 2.00. |
| b. | 1.55. |
| c. | 1.00. |
| d. | 0.64. |

22. If the demand for apples is elastic, then an increase in the price of apples will

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | increase total revenue of apple sellers. |
| b. | decrease total revenue of apple sellers. |
| c. | not change total revenue of apple sellers. |
| d. | There is not enough information to answer this question. |

***Table 2***

Assume that Brenda and William can switch between producing wheat and producing cloth at a constant rate.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Quantity Produced in 1 Hour | |
| Bushels of Wheat | Yards of Cloth |
| Brenda | 8 | 12 |
| William | 6 | 15 |

23. **Refer to Table 2.** Brenda’s opportunity cost of one bushel of wheat is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 2/3 yard of cloth and William’s opportunity cost of one bushel of wheat is 2/5 yard of cloth. |
| b. | 2/3 yard of cloth and William’s opportunity cost of one bushel of wheat is 5/2 yards of cloth. |
| c. | 3/2 yards of cloth and William’s opportunity cost of one bushel of wheat is 2/5 yard of cloth. |
| d. | 3/2 yards of cloth and William’s opportunity cost of one bushel of wheat is 5/2 yards of cloth. |

***Figure 7***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Panel (a)** | **Panel (b)** |
|  |  |

24. **Refer to Figure 7**. The graphs show the demand for cigarettes. In Panel (a), the arrows are consistent with which of the following events?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The price of marijuana, a complement to cigarettes, increased. |
| b. | Mandatory health warnings were placed on cigarette packages. |
| c. | Several foreign countries banned U.S. cigarettes in their countries. |
| d. | A tax was placed on cigarettes. |

25. **Refer to Figure 7**. The graphs show the demand for cigarettes. In Panel (b), the arrows are consistent with which of the following events?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | an increase in the price of cigarettes |
| b. | placing a tax on cigarettes |
| c. | the prohibition of cigarette advertisements on television |
| d. | decreasing the price of marijuana, given that tobacco and marijuana are complements |

26. Which of the following would cause price to increase?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | an increase in supply |
| b. | a decrease in demand |
| c. | a surplus of the good |
| d. | a shortage of the good |

***Figure 8***

The graph below pertains to the supply of paper to colleges and universities.



27. **Refer to Figure 8.** All else equal, buyers expecting paper to be more expensive in the future would cause a current move from

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | x to y. |
| b. | y to x. |
| c. | SA to SB. |
| d. | SB to SA. |

***Table 3***

The following table contains some production possibilities for an economy for a given month.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sweaters** | **Gloves** |
| 4 | 300 |
| 6 | ? |
| 8 | 100 |

28. **Refer to Table 3.** If the production possibilities frontier is bowed outward, then “?” could be

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 100. |
| b. | 150. |
| c. | 200. |
| d. | 250. |

***Figure 9***



29. **Refer to Figure 9**. Equilibrium price and quantity are, respectively,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | $15 and 200 units. |
| b. | $25 and 600 units. |
| c. | $25 and 400 units. |
| d. | $35 and 200 units. |

30. **Refer to Figure 9**. At a price of $35, there would be

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | a shortage, and the price would tend to rise from $35 to a higher price. |
| b. | a surplus, and the price would tend to rise from $35 to a higher price. |
| c. | excess demand, and the price would tend to fall from $35 to a lower price. |
| d. | excess supply, and the price would tend to fall from $35 to a lower price. |