

2018 AP® MACROECONOMICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

MACROECONOMICS

Section II

Total Time—1 hour

Reading Period—10 minutes

Writing Period—50 minutes

Directions: You are advised to spend the first 10 minutes reading all of the questions and planning your answers. You will then have 50 minutes to answer all three of the following questions. You may begin writing your responses before the reading period is over. It is suggested that you spend approximately half your time on the first question and divide the remaining time equally between the next two questions. Include correctly labeled diagrams, if useful or required, in explaining your answers. A correctly labeled diagram must have all axes and curves clearly labeled and must show directional changes. Use a pen with black or dark blue ink.

1. Assume the United States economy is in recession.
 - (a) Draw a correctly labeled graph of the long-run aggregate supply, short-run aggregate supply, and aggregate demand curves, and show each of the following.
 - (i) Current price level, labeled PL_1
 - (ii) Current output, labeled Y_1
 - (b) Now assume the euro zone, a major trading partner of the United States, enters into a recession.
 - (i) What will be the effect on United States exports to the euro zone? Explain.
 - (ii) On your graph in part (a), show the effect of the change identified in part (b)(i) on real output in the United States.
 - (iii) What will be the effect of the change identified in part (b)(ii) on unemployment in the United States?
 - (c) Assume the euro zone recession causes a decrease in the demand for United States dollars in the foreign exchange market.
 - (i) Will the euro appreciate, depreciate, or remain unchanged against the dollar? Explain.
 - (ii) Draw a correctly labeled graph of the foreign exchange market for dollars, and show the effect of the decrease in the demand for dollars on the exchange rate for dollars.
 - (d) Assume the United States implements a combination of expansionary fiscal and monetary policies. In the absence of complete crowding out, what will be the effect of these policies on each of the following?
 - (i) Aggregate demand in the United States
 - (ii) The price level in the United States
 - (iii) Interest rates in the United States. Explain.

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2. Assume the economy of Ucheland is currently at full employment. The government of Ucheland reduces the tax rate on household interest earnings.
- What will happen to private savings in Ucheland?
 - Draw a correctly labeled graph of the loanable funds market, and show the effect of the change in private savings identified in part (a) on the equilibrium real interest rate.
 - Given the real interest rate change identified in part (b), answer the following questions.
 - What is the short-run effect on aggregate demand? Explain.
 - What is the long-run effect on potential real gross domestic product in Ucheland? Explain.
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3. Countries face trade-offs between producing consumer goods and producing capital goods.

- Country X takes one hour to produce a unit of consumer goods and two hours to produce a unit of capital goods. Country Y takes two hours to produce a unit of consumer goods and four hours to produce a unit of capital goods. Which country has a comparative advantage in the production of consumer goods? Explain.

The following table shows labor-market data for Country X.

Employed	180,000
Frictionally unemployed	10,000
Structurally unemployed	5,000
Cyclically unemployed	5,000
Not in the labor force	100,000

- Calculate the unemployment rate in Country X. Show your work.
- Calculate the labor force participation rate in Country X. Show your work.
- Draw a correctly labeled graph of the production possibilities curve for Country X, with consumer goods on the horizontal axis and capital goods on the vertical axis. Indicate a point on your graph, labeled Z, that reflects the current level of unemployment.

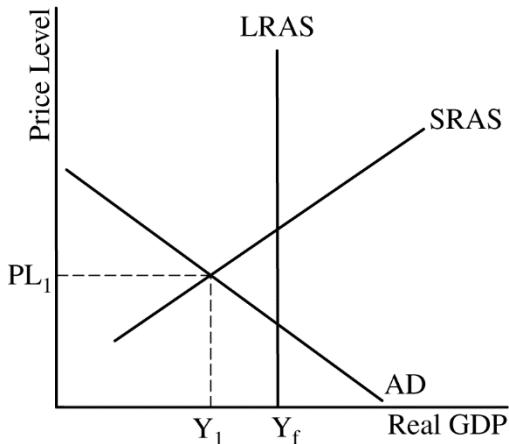
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END OF EXAM

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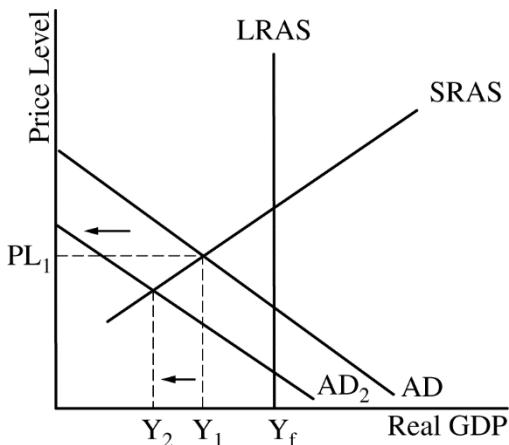
Question 1

10 points (2 + 3 + 2 + 3)



(a) 2 points:

- One point is earned for drawing a correctly labeled graph for aggregate demand (AD) and short-run aggregate supply (SRAS), showing PL_1 and Y_1 at the intersection of AD and SRAS.
- One point is earned for drawing a vertical LRAS curve to the right of Y_1 .

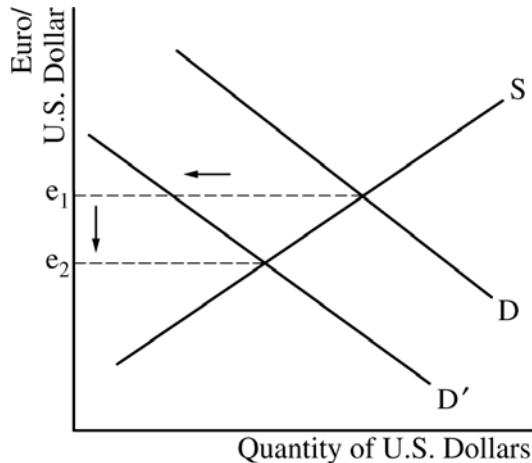


(b) 3 points:

- One point is earned for stating that United States exports will decrease and for explaining that the fall in income in the euro zone reduces the demand for United States goods.
- One point is earned for showing a leftward shift of the aggregate demand (AD) curve and showing lower United States real output on the graph.
- One point is earned for stating that unemployment in the U.S. will increase.

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Question 1 (continued)



(c) 2 points:

- One point is earned for stating that the euro will appreciate against the U.S. dollar because the supply of euros decreases OR because the dollar depreciates against the euro, the euro must appreciate.
- One point is earned for drawing a correctly labeled graph of the foreign exchange market for dollars and for showing a leftward shift in the demand curve for the dollar, which would result in a depreciation of the dollar.

(d) 3 points:

- One point is earned for stating that the U.S. aggregate demand will increase.
- One point is earned for stating that the U.S. price level will increase.
- One point is earned for stating that the change in the interest rate is indeterminate and for explaining that the combination of expansionary fiscal and monetary policies has opposite effects on interest rates (the expansionary fiscal policy will increase the interest rate, as government borrows to finance its spending, and the expansionary monetary policy will increase the money supply and decrease the interest rate).