

6.5 Policies to correct imbalances in the current account

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 23 marks

KEY WORDS expenditure-switching 支出转换 • expenditure-reducing 支出减少
 • supply-side 供给侧 • competitiveness 竞争力 • current account 经常账户

Objective

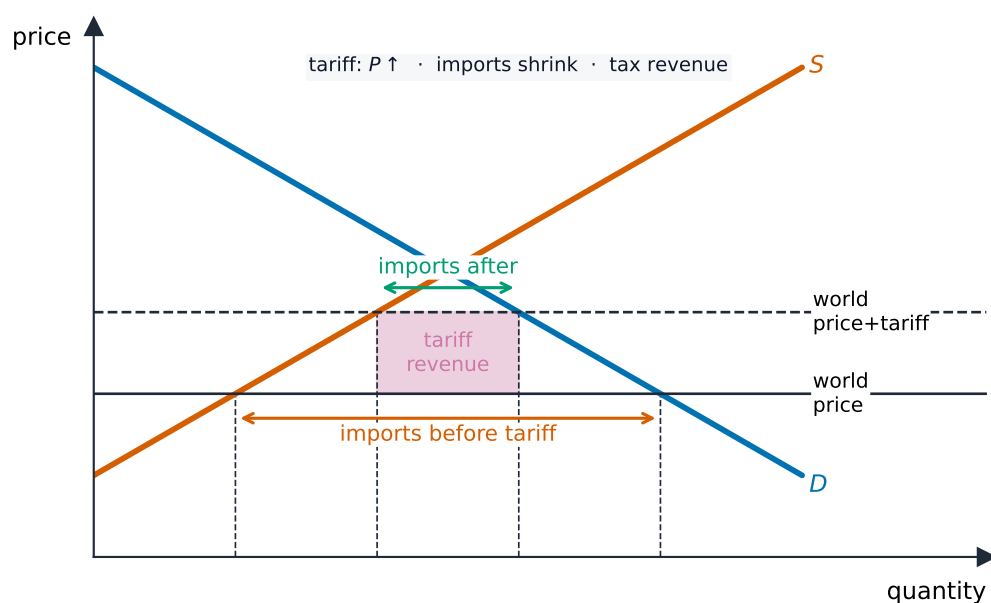
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **policies to correct a current account imbalance** 纠正经常账户失衡的政策 — **expenditure-reducing, expenditure-switching and supply-side** 支出减少、支出转换、供给侧 policies.

You must be able to:

- describe the three types of policy to correct a deficit
- explain how each one works and its side effects
- analyse and evaluate the best policy for a deficit

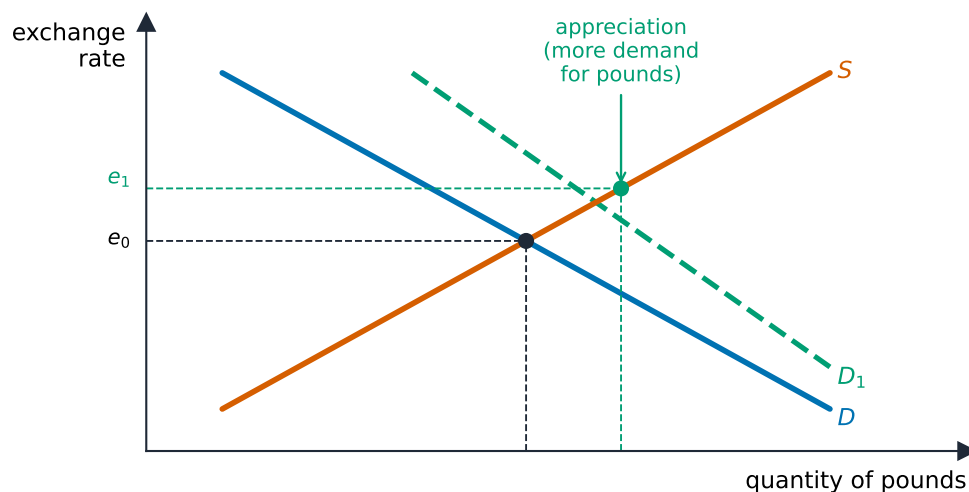
1 Worked examples

■ Correcting a deficit



Three routes to a smaller deficit, each with side effects

- **Expenditure-reducing** 支出减少: higher taxes/interest rates lower demand → fewer imports — **but** slows growth, raises unemployment.
- **Expenditure-switching** 支出转换: a tariff or lower exchange rate moves spending to home goods — **but** risks retaliation or inflation.



floating: D and S set e · $D \uparrow \Rightarrow$ appreciate

A lower exchange rate is the main expenditure-switching policy for a deficit

- **Supply-side** 供给侧: raise **competitiveness** 竞争力 (skills, technology) so exports rise — best long-run, but slow.

Answer shapes: AO1 + AO2 + AO3 (analysis) + AO4 (a supported judgement *in context*).

2 Practice

2.1 Define the term *expenditure-switching policy*.

[2]

2.2 State one expenditure-reducing policy.

[1]

2.3 State one drawback of using expenditure-reducing policy to cut a deficit.

[1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A **depreciation** of the currency to reduce a current account deficit is an example of: [1]

A	B
C	D

- A** an expenditure-reducing policy
- B** an expenditure-switching policy
- C** a supply-side policy
- D** a contractionary monetary policy

3.2 Explain how an expenditure-switching policy could reduce a current account deficit. [6]

3.3 Discuss the best way for a government to reduce a large current account deficit. [12]