Macroeconomic activity, objectives and policy (3.1-3.7)

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Economics · SL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
factors of production /ˈfæktəz ɒv prəˈdʌkʃn/	Land, workers and machines are **factors of production**.
leakages /ˈliːkɪdʒɪz/	Saving, taxes and imports are **leakages** from the flow of income.
injections /ɪnˈdʒekʃnz/	Investment, government spending and exports are **injections** into the flow of income.
gross domestic product /grəʊs dəˈmestɪk ˈprɒdʌkt/	**Gross domestic product** is the value of everything a country makes in a year.
gross national income /grəʊs ˈnæʃənl ˈɪŋkʌm/	**Gross national income** adds income from abroad to GDP.
nominal GDP /ˈnɒmɪnl ˌdʒiː diː ˈpiː/	**Nominal GDP** uses today's prices.
real GDP /rɪəl ˌdʒiː diː ˈpiː/	**Real GDP** removes the effect of rising prices.
GDP per capita /ˌdʒiː diː ˈpiː pɜː ˈkæpɪtə/	**GDP per capita** is GDP divided by the number of people.
purchasing power parity /ˈpɜːtʃɪsɪŋ ˈpaʊə ˈpærɪti/	**Purchasing power parity** says the same basket of goods should cost the same everywhere.
informal economy /ɪnˈfɔːml ɪˈkɒnəmi/	Cash jobs that are not recorded are part of the **informal economy**.

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Human Development Index /ˈhjuːmən dɪˈveləpmənt ˈɪndeks/	The **Human Development Index** combines health, education and income.
trend /trend/	The long-term **trend** in sales is upward.
business cycle /ˈbɪznəs ˈsaɪkl/	A **business cycle** includes expansions and contractions in economic activity.
boom /buːm/	A **boom** is a period of strong economic activity.
recession /rɪˈseʃn/	A **recession** is a long fall in economic activity.
recovery /rɪˈkʌvəri/	A **recovery** brings rising activity after a downturn.
output gap /ˈaʊtpʊt gæp/	An **output gap** is the difference between what the economy makes and what it could make.
aggregate demand /ˈægrɪgeɪt dɪˈmænd/	**Aggregate demand** is the total spending in the economy.
short-run aggregate supply /ʃɔːt rʌn ˈægrɪgeɪt səˈplaɪ/	**Short-run aggregate supply** shows how much firms will produce at each price level now.
monetarist	A **monetarist** believes the money supply is the key to inflation.
long-run aggregate supply /lɒŋ rʌn ˈægrɪgeɪt səˈplaɪ/	**Long-run aggregate supply** shows how much the economy can make at full capacity.
potential output /pəˈtenʃl ˈaʊtpʊt/	**Potential output** is what the economy can make when all resources are used normally.

Word	Example
Keynesian	A **Keynesian** believes the government should spend more in a recession.
recessionary gap /rɪˈseʃənəri gæp/	There is a **recessionary gap** when the economy makes less than it could.
inflationary gap /ɪnˈfleɪʃənəri gæp/	There is an **inflationary gap** when demand is greater than the economy can supply.
unemployed /ʌnemˈplɔɪd/	A person is **unemployed** if they want a job and are looking for one.
labour force /ˈleɪbə fɔːs/	The **labour force** is everyone who has a job or is looking for one.
discouraged workers /dɪˈskʌrɪdʒd ˈwɜːkəz/	**Discouraged workers** have stopped looking for work because they think there are no jobs.
natural rate of unemployment /ˈnætʃərəl reɪt ɒv ʌnemˈplɔɪmənt/	The **natural rate of unemployment** is the unemployment left when the economy is healthy.
inflation /ɪnˈfleɪʃn/	**Inflation** means prices in general are rising.
deflation /diːˈfleɪʃn/	During **deflation**, prices in general fall.
disinflation /ˌdɪsɪnˈfleɪʃn/	When inflation falls from 6% to 2%, that is **disinflation**: prices still rise, but more slowly. 6% 2%
consumer price index /kənˈsuːmə praɪs ˈɪndeks/	The **consumer price index** measures the price of a basket of household goods.
demand-pull inflation /dɪˈmænd pʊl ɪnˈfleɪʃn/	**Demand-pull inflation** happens when people want to buy more than firms can make.

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Word	Example
cost-push inflation /kɒst pʊʃ ɪnˈfleɪʃn/	**Cost-push inflation** happens when firms' costs rise.
economic growth /ˌiːkəˈnɒmɪk grəʊθ/	**Economic growth** means the economy makes more each year.
government debt	**Government debt** is all the money the government has borrowed.
credit rating agencies	**Credit rating agencies** judge how likely a borrower is to pay back.
income /ˈɪŋkʌm/	Wages are **income** received over time.
wealth /welθ/	A household's **wealth** is its assets minus debts.
Lorenz curve /ˈlɒrənts kɜːv/	A **Lorenz curve** shows how equally income is shared.
Gini coefficient /ˈdʒiːni ˌkəʊɪˈfɪʃənt/	A higher **Gini coefficient** means more inequality.
absolute poverty /ˈæbsəluːt ˈpɒvəti/	People in **absolute poverty** cannot pay for food and shelter.
relative poverty /ˈrelətɪv ˈpɒvəti/	People in **relative poverty** have much less than most people around them.
Multidimensional Poverty Index	The **Multidimensional Poverty Index** looks at health, education and living conditions.
progressive taxes /prəˈgresɪv ˈtæksɪz/	**Progressive taxes** take a higher income share as income rises.
regressive tax /rɪˈgresɪv tæks/	A **regressive tax** takes a bigger share from poorer people.

Word	Example
transfer payments /'trænsfɜ: 'peɪmənts/	Pensions are **transfer payments**.
average tax rate /'ævrɪdʒ tæks reɪt/	The **average tax rate** is total tax divided by income.
marginal tax rate /'mɑ:dʒɪnl tæks reɪt/	The **marginal tax rate** applies to the next unit of income.
equity /'ekwɪti/	Who pays the new tax is a question of **equity**.
efficiency /ɪ'fɪʃənsi/	A lamp with 20% **efficiency** turns only a fifth of its energy into light. 20%
monetary policy /'mʌnɪtəri 'pɒlɪsi/	The central bank uses **monetary policy** when it changes interest rates.
central bank /'sentrəl bæŋk/	The **central bank** sets interest rates.
inflation target /ɪn'fleɪʃn 'tɑ:gɪt/	The UK has an **inflation target** of 2%. UK 2%
policy interest rate	A central bank changes its **policy interest rate** to influence borrowing.
open market operations	In **open market operations**, the central bank buys or sells bonds.
minimum reserve requirements	**Minimum reserve requirements** set how much money banks must keep.
quantitative easing /'kwɒntɪteɪtɪv 'i:zɪŋ/	In **quantitative easing**, the central bank creates money to buy bonds.
money supply /'mʌni sə'plaɪ/	The **money supply** is the total amount of money in the economy.

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Word	Example
real interest rate /rɪəl 'ɪntrest reɪt/	The **real interest rate** is the interest rate minus inflation.
contractionary /kən'trækʃənəri/	A **contractionary** policy aims to reduce aggregate demand.
expansionary /ek'spænʃənəri/	An **expansionary** policy aims to raise aggregate demand.
fiscal policy /'fɪskl 'pɒlɪsi/	Changing taxes and government spending is **fiscal policy**.
direct taxes	Income taxes are **direct taxes** on people or organisations.
indirect taxes /ɪndaɪ'rekt 'tæksɪz/	Sales taxes are **indirect taxes** on spending.
current spending /'kʌrənt 'spendɪŋ/	Teachers' pay is **current spending**.
capital spending /'kæpɪtl 'spendɪŋ/	Building a new railway is **capital spending**.
budget deficit /'bʌdʒɪt 'defɪsɪt/	A **budget deficit** means the government spends more than it collects in tax.
budget surplus /'bʌdʒɪt 'sɜ:pləs/	A **budget surplus** occurs when government revenue exceeds spending.
automatic stabilisers	Unemployment benefits act as **automatic stabilisers** in a recession.
crowding out /'kraʊdɪŋ aʊt/	**Crowding out** happens when government borrowing leaves less money for firms.

Word	Example
supply-side policies /səˈplaɪ saɪd ˈpɒlɪsiz/	**Supply-side policies**, such as training, help the economy produce more.

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