

2.10 Mixed economic system

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 18 marks

KEY WORDS public sector 公共部门 • private sector 私营部门 • intervention 干预
 • maximum price 最高价格 • minimum price 最低价格

Objective

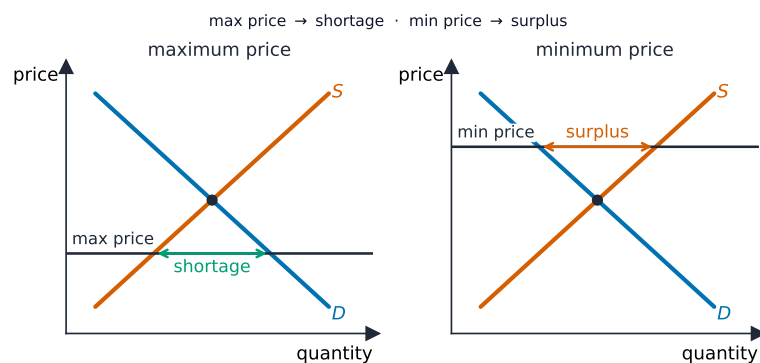
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **the mixed economic system** 混合经济体制 — the **private and public sectors** 私营与公共部门, and government **intervention** 干预 (**maximum and minimum prices** 最高与最低价格, taxes, subsidies, regulation, direct provision).

You must be able to:

- explain what a mixed economy is
- describe the methods of government intervention
- analyse and evaluate government intervention to correct market failure

1 Worked examples

■ Government intervention



A mixed economy has both a private and a public sector

- **Mixed economy** 混合经济: a **private sector** 私营部门 (price mechanism) + a **public sector** 公共部门 (government).

- **Maximum price** 最高价格 (below equilibrium) → a shortage. **Minimum price** 最低价格 (above equilibrium) → a surplus.
- **Indirect tax** 间接税 (cuts demerit goods), **subsidy** 补贴 (raises merit goods), **regulation** 监管, **direct provision** 直接提供.

Merit good

better for you than you realise → under-consumed (e.g. education, healthcare)

Demerit good

worse for you than you realise → over-consumed (e.g. cigarettes, alcohol)

Exam: merit → under-consumed (subsidise); demerit → over-consumed (tax / regulate)

The public sector steps in for merit and demerit goods the market gets wrong

Answer shapes: an **Analyse** [up to 6] answer may use a price-control diagram; **Discuss** [8] adds a judgement (Ev).

2 Practice

2.1 Define the term *mixed economy*. [2]

2.2 State the effect of a **maximum price** set below the equilibrium price. [1]

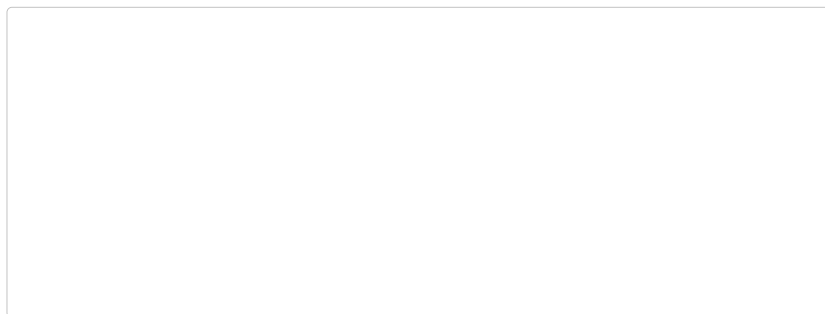
2.3 Identify two methods of government intervention. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A government sets a **minimum price** above the equilibrium. This will cause: [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A a shortage
 - B a surplus
 - C the market to clear
 - D demand to rise

3.2 Using a diagram, explain the effect of a maximum price set below the equilibrium price. [4]



3.3 Discuss whether a government should use an indirect tax to reduce consumption of a demerit good. [8]
