# 1.1 – The Nature of the Economic Problem

#### **Key Terms**

finite resources, unlimited wants, economic goods, free goods

#### **Think**

- What does the economic problem mean for consumers, workers, producers, and governments?
- Give examples of economic goods and free goods from your own life.
- Why can't we have everything we want?

#### Pair

- The economic problem is...
- An economic good is...
- A free good is...

#### Share

Share one example of a free good and one example of an economic good from your country.

# 1.2 - The Factors of Production

### **Key Terms**

land, labour, capital, enterprise, mobility, quality, quantity

#### Think

- List examples of each factor of production for a local business.
- What factors might affect the mobility of labour in your country?
- How can the quality of capital be improved?

#### Pair

- An example of land is...
- Labour means...
- Enterprise is important because...

#### Share

Share with the class an example of how technology has improved one factor of production.

# 1.3 – Opportunity Cost

# **Key Terms**

opportunity cost, trade-off, decision-making

#### **Think**

- Explain opportunity cost using a personal decision you have made.
- Why might opportunity cost influence a government's decision-making?
- How can producers use opportunity cost when choosing what to produce?

### Pair

- Opportunity cost is...
- An example of a trade-off is...
- When I choose..., I give up...

#### Share

Present a real-life example of opportunity cost using at least two key terms.

# 1.4 - Production Possibility Curve (PPC) Diagrams

# **Key Terms**

PPC, points under, on and beyond, movements along, shifts

#### **Think**

- Draw a PPC and mark a point that shows under-utilisation of resources.
- What does a shift of the PPC to the right mean?
- Explain how opportunity cost is shown on a PPC.

#### Pair

- A PPC shows...
- A shift in the PPC means...
- A movement along the PPC means...

#### Share

Draw a PPC with your partner, add two points, and explain what each point represents.

# 2.10 - Market Failure

### **Key Terms**

market failure, public goods, merit goods, demerit goods, externalities

#### Think

- Give an example of a public good and explain why the market will not provide it.
- Why might overconsumption of demerit goods occur?
- What is an external benefit? Give an example.

#### Pair

- Market failure is...
- A public good is...
- A demerit good is...

#### Share

Share an example of market failure in your country and explain the cause.

# 2.11 - Mixed Economic System

# **Key Terms**

mixed economy, government intervention, taxes, subsidies

#### **Think**

- How does a mixed economy differ from a market economy?
- Give an example of government intervention to correct market failure.
- What is the effect of a minimum price in a market?

#### Pair

- A mixed economy is...
- One form of intervention is...
- A minimum price can...

#### Share

Draw a diagram showing the effect of a subsidy on supply.

# 2.1 - Microeconomics and Macroeconomics

# **Key Terms**

microeconomics, macroeconomics

#### **Think**

- Give examples of a microeconomic and a macroeconomic issue.
- Why might a government be interested in both micro and macroeconomics?
- How does studying one market differ from studying the whole economy?

#### Pair

- Microeconomics is...
- Macroeconomics is...
- An example of macroeconomics is...

#### Share

Choose a news headline and decide if it is micro or macroeconomics. Explain why.

# 2.2 - The Role of Markets in Allocating Resources

### **Key Terms**

market system, resource allocation, price mechanism

#### **Think**

- What are the three key questions in resource allocation?
- How does the price mechanism answer these questions?
- Give an example of a market working efficiently.

#### Pair

- A market system is...
- The price mechanism means...
- An example of allocation is...

#### Share

Share an example of a price change and how it affected who could buy the product.

# 2.3 - Demand

### **Key Terms**

demand, individual demand, market demand, conditions of demand

#### Think

- Draw and label a demand curve.
- What causes a contraction in demand?
- Give two factors that shift the demand curve to the right.

#### Pair

- Demand is...
- A contraction in demand means...
- A shift in demand means...

#### Share

Draw a demand curve and show what happens if income increases.

# 2.4 - Supply

# **Key Terms**

supply, individual supply, market supply, conditions of supply

#### Think

- Draw and label a supply curve.
- What might cause an extension in supply?
- Give two factors that cause a shift of the supply curve.

#### Pair

- Supply is...
- An extension in supply means...
- A shift in supply means...

#### Share

Draw a supply curve and show the effect of improved technology.

# 2.5 - Price Determination

### **Key Terms**

market equilibrium, market disequilibrium

#### **Think**

- What is equilibrium price?
- What happens if price is above equilibrium?
- How can shortages affect price?

#### Pair

- Equilibrium price is...
- A surplus means...
- A shortage means...

#### Share

Draw a demand and supply diagram showing equilibrium and a shortage.

# 2.6 - Price Changes

### **Key Terms**

price change causes, price change consequences

#### **Think**

- What might cause the price of coffee to rise?
- How does a fall in supply affect equilibrium price?
- What happens to demand if the price falls?

#### Pair

- One cause of price change is...
- A fall in supply means...
- A fall in price can lead to...

#### Share

Draw a diagram to show the effect of an increase in demand on price.

# 2.7 - Price Elasticity of Demand (PED)

### **Key Terms**

PED, elastic, inelastic

#### **Think**

- Why might demand for petrol be inelastic?
- What happens to revenue when price rises for an elastic good?
- What factors influence PED?

#### Pair

- PED measures...
- A good is elastic if...
- A good is inelastic if...

#### Share

Choose a product and decide if demand is elastic or inelastic. Explain why.

# 2.8 - Price Elasticity of Supply (PES)

# **Key Terms**

PES, elastic, inelastic

#### **Think**

- Why is PES more elastic in the long run?
- How does spare capacity affect PES?
- Give an example of a product with inelastic supply.

#### Pair

- PES measures...
- Supply is elastic when...
- Supply is inelastic when...

#### Share

Draw a PES diagram and explain what makes supply more elastic.

# 2.9 - Market Economic System

# **Key Terms**

market economy, private sector, profit motive

#### **Think**

- How are resources allocated in a market economy?
- Give one advantage and one disadvantage of the market economy.
- Why might a government intervene in a market economy?

#### Pair

- In a market economy...
- An advantage is...
- A disadvantage is...

#### Share

Share one benefit and one drawback of the market economic system.

# 3.2 - Households

# **Key Terms**

spending, saving, borrowing, interest rates, income

#### Think

- What factors might influence a household's decision to save money?
- How do interest rates affect borrowing?
- Why might households spend more during certain times of the year?

#### Pair

- Households may save because...
- Borrowing is more attractive when...
- Spending increases when...

#### Share

Share with the class one factor that affects your family's spending habits.

# 3.3 - Workers

# **Key Terms**

wage determination, non-wage factors, labour market

#### **Think**

- Why do wages differ between occupations?
- What non-wage factors might influence job choice?
- How can a minimum wage affect workers and employers?

#### Pair

- One reason for wage differences is...
- A non-wage factor is...
- A minimum wage can...

#### Share

Share one reason why a particular job is attractive other than salary.

# 3.4 - Trade Unions

# **Key Terms**

trade union, collective bargaining, working conditions

#### Think

- What is the role of a trade union?
- How can trade unions benefit workers?
- What disadvantages might trade unions have for firms?

#### Pair

- A trade union is...
- Collective bargaining means...
- One advantage of a trade union is...

#### Share

With your partner, discuss if trade unions are more helpful or harmful to the economy.

# 3.5 – Firms

# **Key Terms**

classification, small firms, growth, mergers, economies of scale

#### Think

- Why might small firms survive in a competitive market?
- What are the benefits of mergers for firms?
- What is the difference between economies and diseconomies of scale?

#### Pair

- A small firm might survive because...
- One advantage of a merger is...
- Economies of scale mean...

#### Share

Share an example of a local business and how it has grown.

# 3.6 - Firms and Production

# **Key Terms**

labour-intensive, capital-intensive, productivity

#### **Think**

- Why might a firm choose labour-intensive production?
- What factors influence productivity?
- How does capital-intensive production benefit firms?

#### Pair

- Labour-intensive means...
- One factor affecting productivity is...
- Capital-intensive means...

#### Share

Give an example of a product made using labour-intensive methods.

# 3.7 - Firms' Costs, Revenue and Objectives

### **Key Terms**

total cost, average cost, total revenue, average revenue, objectives

#### **Think**

- What are fixed and variable costs?
- How can a firm increase revenue?
- What objectives might a firm have apart from making profit?

#### Pair

- Fixed costs are...
- Variable costs are...
- One firm objective is...

#### Share

Draw a simple diagram showing how costs change with output.

# 3.8 - Market Structure

# **Key Terms**

competitive markets, monopoly

#### Think

- What are the characteristics of competitive markets?
- What advantages and disadvantages do monopolies have?
- Why might governments regulate monopolies?

#### Pair

- A competitive market is...
- A monopoly is...
- One disadvantage of a monopoly is...

#### Share

Choose a real-life example of a monopoly and discuss its impact.

# 4.1 - The Role of Government

# **Key Terms**

local, national, international

#### **Think**

- What are the main roles of a government in the economy?
- Give an example of government activity at each level.
- Why is government intervention sometimes necessary?

#### Pair

- One role of government is...
- At a national level, government...
- At an international level, government...

#### Share

Share an example of a government policy that affects your community.

# 4.2 - The Macroeconomic Aims of Government

#### **Key Terms**

economic growth, full employment, price stability, balance of payments, income distribution

#### **Think**

- Why might governments have conflicting aims?
- How can full employment conflict with price stability?
- Why is balance of payments stability important?

#### Pair

- One macroeconomic aim is...
- A conflict between aims occurs when...
- Balance of payments stability means...

#### Share

Discuss with your partner which macroeconomic aim is most important and why.

# 4.3 – Fiscal Policy

# **Key Terms**

government spending, taxation, budget, deficit, surplus

#### **Think**

- Why does the government spend money on public services?
- What is the difference between direct and indirect taxes?
- How can fiscal policy reduce unemployment?

#### Pair

- Fiscal policy is...
- A budget deficit means...
- One reason for taxation is...

#### Share

Choose a recent government spending project and explain its purpose.

# 4.4 – Monetary Policy

# **Key Terms**

interest rates, money supply, exchange rates

#### **Think**

- How does changing interest rates affect inflation?
- Why might a government increase the money supply?
- How can monetary policy encourage investment?

#### Pair

- Monetary policy is...
- Raising interest rates can...
- Lowering interest rates can...

#### Share

Share an example of how interest rates have affected your country's economy.

# 4.5 - Supply-Side Policy

# **Key Terms**

education, training, deregulation, tax incentives

#### **Think**

- How can improving education increase economic growth?
- What is the effect of reducing business regulation?
- Why might governments cut taxes for firms?

#### Pair

- A supply-side policy is...
- Deregulation means...
- Lower taxes can...

#### Share

Choose a supply-side policy and explain how it could boost growth.

# 4.6 - Economic Growth

# **Key Terms**

GDP, recession, investment, technology

#### Think

- What does GDP measure?
- What are the causes of recession?
- How can investment lead to economic growth?

#### Pair

- GDP means...
- Recession is...
- Investment can...

#### Share

Draw a PPC showing economic growth and explain the shift.

# 4.7 - Employment and Unemployment

### **Key Terms**

unemployment rate, frictional unemployment, structural unemployment, cyclical unemployment

#### Think

- What is the difference between frictional and structural unemployment?
- How is the unemployment rate calculated?
- Why is unemployment a problem for the economy?

#### Pair

- Unemployment means...
- Frictional unemployment is...
- One effect of unemployment is...

#### Share

Discuss with your partner a policy to reduce unemployment.

# 4.8 - Inflation and Deflation

# **Key Terms**

inflation, deflation, CPI, demand-pull, cost-push

#### Think

- How is inflation measured?
- What causes cost-push inflation?
- Why can deflation be harmful?

#### Pair

- Inflation is...
- Deflation is...
- CPI measures...

#### Share

Share a recent example of rising prices in your country and discuss the cause.

# 5.1 – Living Standards

# **Key Terms**

GDP per head, HDI, income distribution

#### Think

- What indicators measure living standards?
- What are the advantages of using HDI over GDP?
- Why do living standards differ between countries?

#### Pair

- Living standards are...
- GDP per head means...
- HDI stands for...

#### Share

Compare living standards between two countries you know.

# 5.2 - Poverty

### **Key Terms**

absolute poverty, relative poverty, causes of poverty

#### Think

- What is the difference between absolute and relative poverty?
- How can unemployment cause poverty?
- What policies can reduce poverty?

#### Pair

- Absolute poverty means...
- Relative poverty means...
- One cause of poverty is...

#### Share

Share an idea to reduce poverty in your country.

# 5.3 – Population

### **Key Terms**

birth rate, death rate, net migration, optimum population

#### Think

- What factors affect population growth?
- Why might population growth rates differ between countries?
- What is the effect of an ageing population?

#### Pair

- Birth rate is...
- Net migration means...
- An ageing population can...

#### Share

Discuss with your partner how population change could affect the economy.

# 5.4 – Differences in Economic Development Between Countries

### **Key Terms**

developed country, developing country, productivity, investment

#### **Think**

- What factors cause differences in development levels?
- How does education affect development?
- Why is investment important for development?

#### Pair

- A developed country is...
- A developing country is...
- Investment can...

#### Share

Choose two countries and compare their development levels.

# 6.1 - International Specialisation

# **Key Terms**

specialisation, comparative advantage

#### **Think**

- Why do countries specialise in certain goods?
- What are the benefits of national specialisation?
- What are the disadvantages of national specialisation?

#### Pair

- Specialisation means...
- One advantage is...
- One disadvantage is...

#### Share

Give an example of a good your country specialises in producing.

# 6.2 - Globalisation, Free Trade and Protection

### **Key Terms**

globalisation, multinational companies, free trade, protectionism

#### **Think**

- How does globalisation benefit consumers?
- What are the methods of trade protection?
- Why might a country protect its industries?

#### Pair

- Globalisation means...
- Free trade is...
- A tariff is...

#### Share

Share a product you own made by a multinational company and its country of origin.

# 6.3 – Foreign Exchange Rates

# **Key Terms**

exchange rate, appreciation, depreciation, floating rate, fixed rate

#### Think

- How is the exchange rate determined?
- What causes a currency to appreciate?
- What are the advantages of a fixed exchange rate?

#### Pair

- An exchange rate is...
- Appreciation means...
- Depreciation means...

#### Share

Explain how a weaker currency might affect tourism in your country.

# 6.4 - Current Account of Balance of Payments

# **Key Terms**

current account, deficit, surplus

#### **Think**

- What are the components of the current account?
- What causes a current account deficit?
- How can a country reduce a deficit?

#### Pair

- The current account is...
- A deficit occurs when...
- A surplus occurs when...

#### Share

Discuss with your partner whether a current account deficit is always a problem.