

Original

~~International Accounting~~

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**Examiner:**

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**The following aids may be used: calculator, dictionary**

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**Examination questions:**

- 1) National Accountants distinguish between gross domestic product at market prices (GDP) and gross national product at market prices (GNP).
  - a) Explain the concepts of GDP and GNP.
  - b) Give two examples for activities that raise the GDP but not the GNP, and two examples for activities that raise the GNP but not the GDP.
  
- 2) The characteristics of the government sector's productive activities and products lead to four major problems in representing this sector adequately in a national accounting framework.
  - a) Explain these four problems briefly.
  - b) Which assumptions are made to cope with these difficulties?
  
- 3) We observe the following activities in an economy that consists of a productive sector, a household sector, a government sector and a 'rest of the world'.
  - Technological progress lowers the value of the capital stock of the economy (10€).
  - The household sector purchases cars, food and services (60€).
  - The productive sector exports goods (5€) and imports goods (15€).
  - The government sector receives revenues from a sales tax (20€).
  - The government sector spends 50€ on infrastructure and 20€ on public health.
  - Foreigners that live abroad but work on the economy's territory (foreign commuters) earn 5€.
  - The government sector supports the maritime industry and transfers subsidies (15 €).
  - The productive sector spends 40€ on new lorries.
  - The government transfers contributions to the EU (10€).
  - a) Set up a simplified Consolidated System of Accounts and fill in the names of the accounts' entries and the corresponding numbers given in the text.
  - b) Calculate and interpret the following aggregates: gross domestic product at market prices, disposable national income, net borrowing/net lending abroad.
  
- 4) In a discussion the following statement is made:

*"A current account surplus is always favourable and a current account deficit is always unfavourable."*

How can this statement be criticised?