AP Economics Unit 3B: Perfect Competition



PRICE EFFECT ON PROFIT/LOSS

Predict the effect profits and losses would have on firm's decision to enter or leave a market.

□ What would the outcome be in the LR? Illustrate.

Analyze the effect price has on profit and loss.

- □ Using MC and ATC, illustrate:
 - Profit max Q
 - Per Unit profit/loss
 - Break even
 - TC, TR and Total Profit

Using side by side graphs, illustrate how a market determines price for the PC seller.

 \Box Show that price (P) is the horizontal line that also identifies, MR, D and AR.

Understand that Market Price is 'Taken' by sellers.

□ Due to product uniformity. □ No incentive to take less than market price.

Retrieve/Recall Cost Categories

- □ Basics of Market Graphs, including how market price is determined.
- □ Characteristics of Perfect Competition
 - No product differentiation

Many Sellers

THE SHUTDOWN DECISON

Create a true to life scenario where a firm would shut down in the SR.

- \Box A daily scale.
- □ Weekly scale.
- □ Monthly scale.

Illustrate a firm earning an economic loss but choosing to operate in the short run.

- □ Differentiate this from a firm that chooses to shut down in the SR.
- □ All firms will shut down when earning losses in the LR. They will 'exit' the industry.

Analyze why a firm would operate at a loss in the short-run, ie. not shut down.

□ AR is covering AVC plus offsetting at least some of the AFC.

Identify that break even and shutdown points are the min ATC and AVC.

□ When price moves, output decisions change.

Retrieve/Recall:

- □ Price is dictated to the producer form the market.
- □ When it changes, profit or loss is affected.

VC AND FC EFFECT ON PROFIT/LOSS

Predict how changes in business taxes may effect MC.

□ Connect that a firm's S is the MC above AVC.

Illustrate how changes in lump sum and per-unit costs shift the cost curve set.

- □ Increases in cost shift up
- Decreased in cost shift down
- □ Lump Sum change ATC only.
- □ Per unit change them all.

Differentiate per-unit cost changes from lump sum and analyze their effects on VC and MC.

- □ Review the MC formula.
- □ Identify how this changes output decisions.
- □ Identify how lump sum (FC) costs do not change output decisions.

Identify lump sum costs as FC.

- □ Identify that lump sum changes drive a change in FC and have an effect on TC.
- □ These changes effect AFC and therefore ATC.

Retrieve/Recall:

- □ Lump sum v per unit analysis □ Per unit changes output
 - decisions.

