

Unit 2 Fundamental Economic Concepts

SSEF1-SSEF6

What is Economics? \_\_\_\_\_

A social scientist \_\_\_\_\_

Allocate- \_\_\_\_\_

SSEF1

**The student will explain why limited productive resources and unlimited wants result in scarcity, opportunity costs, and tradeoffs for individuals, businesses, and governments.**

SSEF1: Element A

Define scarcity as a basic condition that exists when unlimited wants exceed limited productive resources.

1. Scarcity and Choice

A “need” is \_\_\_\_\_

A “want” is s \_\_\_\_\_

Wants are unlimited while the resources (i.e. Money) are not!

Scarce: Short in supply

Scarcity \_\_\_\_\_

Unlimited wants \_\_\_\_\_

**Economics attempts to solve the problem of scarcity.**

Shortage vs. Scarcity

A “shortage occurs” \_\_\_\_\_

Shortages \_\_\_\_\_

“Scarcity” **always** \_\_\_\_\_ because our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are always greater than our resource supply.

SSEF1: Element B

Define and give examples of productive resources (factors of production) (e.g., land (natural), labor (human), capital (capital goods), entrepreneurship).

What resources

were used to produce the fruits and vegetables shown here?

1. Natural Resources: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Resources: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Productive Resources

Resources need to be \_\_\_\_\_

4. Factors of Production

Economists call the resources that are used to make all goods and service the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Four basic Factors of production: land, labor, entrepreneurship and capital (human and physical).**

i. Resource/Factors of Production

The inputs \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ -used by society to produce outputs which are often finished products...

Factors of Production (cont.)

*Capital* is any \_\_\_\_\_

Land \_\_\_\_\_

It is more than the land we stand on it is \_\_\_\_\_, water, iron ore, crude oil, natural gas, coal, fish, uranium.

*Labor* \_\_\_\_\_

Labor Includes: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ efforts, \_\_\_\_\_ skilled, and un skilled.

Capital

*Physical capital* includes buildings, machinery, tools, all structures and equipment used in the manufacturing process. etc.

*Human capital* is the knowledge and skills a worker gains through education and experience.

It \_\_\_\_\_

Entrepreneurship

A specific form of labor. \_\_\_\_\_

Goods vs. Services

Goods are \_\_\_\_\_ objects such as shoes and shirts.

Services are \_\_\_\_\_ or activities that one person performs for another.

Thoughts: \_\_\_\_\_

### SSEF1: Element C

**List a variety of strategies for allocating scarce resources.**

1. Scarcity: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Strategies for allocations

a. \_\_\_\_\_. By raising prices, companies limit the number of consumers who can actually buy the product. This allows the producers to still make money while making sure the limited supply of a product lasts longer than it normally would have

b. Government Regulation: Government establishes price ceiling or price floor

i. **Price ceiling:** means that the price of a certain good or service is not allowed to rise above a certain level.

ii. **Price floor:** means that a certain good or service is not allowed to drop below a certain price

iii. **Rationing:** \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Lotteries: ex. Ga Pre-K

vi. Redistribution of Income: \_\_\_\_\_

### SSEF1: Element D

**Define opportunity cost as the next best alternative given up when individuals, businesses, and governments confront scarcity by making choices.**

1. Trade-off: Every time people make a choice about how to use their resources, they must make a trade-off! People gain something, but also give up something!

2. Opportunity Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

You face an opportunity cost every time you decide how to use your scarce productive resource!

Making Choices... \_\_\_\_\_

**SSEF2: SSEF2 The student will give examples of how rational decision making entails comparing the marginal benefits and the marginal costs of an action.**

**a. Illustrate by means of a production possibilities curve the trade offs between two options.**

Choices: \_\_\_\_\_

Remember:

Trade Offs are \_\_\_\_\_

whenever we choose one course of action over another.

Types of Trade-Offs: \_\_\_\_\_

Remember: Opportunity Costs

The \_\_\_\_\_ as the result of a decision is called the opportunity cost.

The Items we give up \_\_\_\_\_

If you choose to use your savings to pay off a credit card bill instead of going on the senior trip, what is your opportunity cost? \_\_\_\_\_

Opportunity Cost is associated with scarcity. Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

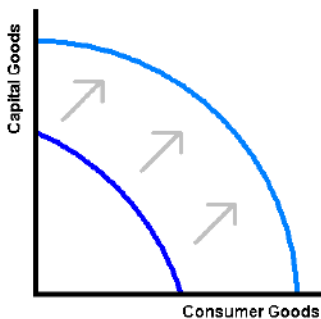
Every economic decision must determine which tradeoffs are most beneficial. Trade-offs involves giving up one option for another.

- Production Possibilities Curve:

Depicts how much of \_\_\_\_\_

Productions Possibilities Curve (PPC)

Graphical representation of how an economy makes decisions



Shows the choices an economy can make with respect to its available resources

Interpreting the PPC

**All points on the curve represent the efficient production of goods and services (you are using your resources well)**

**Any point inside the curve represents an underutilization of resources (you're wasting resources – could be producing more)**

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Interpreting the PPC/PPF

**Points on the curve – \_\_\_\_\_**

**Points inside (under) the curve – \_\_\_\_\_**

**Points outside the curve – \_\_\_\_\_**

Why are PPCs/PPFs valuable to decision-makers?

Graphical illustration of opportunity cost to produce more or one good (or service)

Shows how efficient (or inefficient) an economy is working

Shows growth or reduction

Why would the PPC/PPF move?

When the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ of land, labor, capital, or \_\_\_\_\_, the ENTIRE PPC will *shift to* \_\_\_\_\_

When the quantity or quality of land, labor, and capital \_\_\_\_\_, the ENTIRE PPC will \_\_\_\_\_ *to the* \_\_\_\_\_

#### SSEF2: Element B

Explain that rational decisions occur when the marginal benefits of an action equal or exceed the marginal costs.

1. Marginal Cost:

2. Marginal Benefits:

Refers to the amount of Benefit a person, business, \_\_\_\_\_

Marginal Costs vs. Marginal Benefits

The additional \_\_\_\_\_

The additional \_\_\_\_\_

3. Thinking at the Margin

When you're trying to decide, "\_\_\_\_\_ " you are \_\_\_\_\_

**Rational Decisions are made when the marginal benefits equal or exceed marginal costs**