

Economics 11; Weekly Assignment Sheet for Week 1 -- The Market Economy.

Assignments are due -- that is, discussed -- on Thursday or Friday of the week assigned. This week is the only exception; this week's assignment will be discussed during Week 2. We will not review all parts of the assignment; rather I will call on students to answer selected questions. It is most important that you do the work for the text and workbook, and the readings; after you complete those, do the puzzles.

A. Text and workbook

The syllabus indicates text and workbook chapters week by week; these assignments also appear on weekly problem sets in order to: state any omissions with respect to required reading and workbook questions; indicate any problems in, or instructor's reservations about, the material.

1. Text: Chapter 1; omit nothing.
2. Study guide: Chapter 1; omit nothing.

Important notes about **all** Study Guide Assignments:

1. In many of the chapters, the "Application" questions are rather problematic. Accordingly, for all application questions in all chapters, the weekly assignment is simply to read the questions in conjunction with reading the answers; if you find seeming errors (such as information required to answer a question being given AFTER the question should have been answered by you), just move on!
2. Additionally, in virtually all chapters, the answers given in the back of the Study Guide to many other questions are wrong either in whole or in part. Known (from previous years) wrong answers are indicated on Weekly Assignment Sheets, but the right answers are not given. It is left to you to determine the right answer.

There are no known wrong answers in Chapter 1.

B. Reading(s)

Question(s) appear for each reading; questions are not identified by reading, which matters only in weeks where more than a single reading (including optional reading) is assigned; you should readily be able to determine which question(s) go with which reading(s). The questions are to help guide your reading and give you and your fellow students something to discuss. The midterm exams will include one or more of these questions.

1. What is economics all about? What are the functions of an economic system? From whence do the benefits of organized economic activity derive? What are the costs of organized activity?

C. Puzzles

Weekly puzzles are independent of, but typically assume completion of, the other assignments in order for you to be able to answer them.

1. What is a “market;” that is, what fundamentally characterizes a “market?”

For each of the following, indicate whether the number of markets is one, two, or many; explain in each case.

- a.** Bic pens at our book store and Bic pens in Stanford's book store.
- b.** Big Macs in New York and Big Macs in Paris.
- c.** Pizzas in Swarthmore and pizzas in Center City Philly.
- d.** TVs in the Philadelphia area and TVs in the Los Angeles area.
- e.** Lawn mowing services in Swarthmore and lawn mowing services in your home town.