

AP Microeconomics Exam Strategies

Format -- Two sections

- * 60 multiple choice questions with 5 choices, 70 minutes
- * 3 free response questions in 60 minutes. 10 minute reading period followed by one long free response (spend 25 minutes on it) followed by 2 shorter free response questions (spend about 12 minutes a piece on these.)
- * Multiple choice are worth 2/3rd's of your grade. Free response are worth 1/3.
- * The Goal: learning what you would be expected to know in a college level microeconomics course and then demonstrating that knowledge.

Multiple Choice Questions

- * Five choices for each question.
- * Many will have graphs, charts or tables.
- * See topic area outline for exam coverage.
- * Should I guess? It depends. You are dinged a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a point if you guess wrong. But, the feeling of those in the know is that if you can narrow it down to two or three possible choices, go for it.
- * There will be some math, **BUT NO CALCULATORS ALLOWED.**

Free Response Questions

- * **USE THE TEN MINUTES OF PLANNING TIME. READ THE QUESTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU START. BRAINSTORM, JOT NOTES!**
- * Questions are direct and specific. Many come with sub-points.
- * The first question will require you to make connections between units. The two shorter questions will cover one particular topic. Some will have graphs.
- * Some questions will require you to draw a graph. No rulers or straight edges allowed. **LABEL ALL GRAPHS COMPLETELY AND CORRECTLY.**
- * You must write in blue or black pen consistently. You may not use color coding of any kind.
- * Get to the point. Vagueness is bad, very bad.

WARNING!!!

Having said all this, please be aware that you will need a great depth of knowledge about microeconomics to have any hope of achieving a 3, 4 or the magic 5. **YOU MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE.** You must do the assigned readings and homework problems. You must ask if you are not clear about a concept.

My door is always open...