

Economics extended essay checklist for students

Criterion	Questions to ask yourself:
A – Research Question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you stated the RQ in the intro? • Is the RQ clearly stated (in bold)? • Is the RQ sharply focused, and appropriate for an EE?
B – Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there an introduction? • Have you made the link between the RQ and appropriate, relevant economic theory? • Have you outlined how the RQ is appropriate for economic analysis and why it is worthy of investigation?
C - Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you used an appropriate range of resources and/or gathered primary and secondary data? • Has your primary research generated appropriate information that is relevant to the question? • Is there evidence of good planning? • Have you only included material in support of the reasoned argument?
D – Knowledge and understanding of topic covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the EE shows an understanding of the economic theory relevant to the topic? • Have you made good use of the economic theory, i.e. is the theory integrated with the case study meaningfully (and not presented in separate sections)? • Are the diagrams well-labelled, appropriate to the case study, and do they indicate accurate relationships between variables?
E – Reasoned argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there evidence that you have developed an argument in relation to the RQ? • Have you used relevant economic concepts and theory, data and information to answer the RQ? • Have you presented ideas in a logical and coherent manner?
F – Application of analytical and evaluative skills appropriate to the subject	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you shown critical awareness of the validity of the information and possible limitations of the argument? • Are your diagrams relevant and supported by the information in the case study? • If you have used diagrams without any specific evidence from the case study, have you shown awareness of the limitations of the model? • Have you analysed your data in the context of the RQ? • Have you indicated any of the assumptions inherent in the theories and suggested how these assumptions may limit the validity of the conclusions? <p>(If your essay is mostly descriptive, the essay will score poorly here)</p>

G – Use of language appropriate to the subject	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you used appropriate economic terminology? • Have you included definitions of relevant terms? • Have you used economic terminology accurately?
H – Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a clear conclusion? • Is it consistent with the RQ and the argument? • Have you summarised the obvious limitations to the argument/analysis? • Have you referred to any obvious unresolved questions (if applicable)?
I – Formal Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the layout, organisation, appearance and formal elements of the essay consistently follow a standard layout? • Is the essay 4000 words or less? • Have you included: title page, table of contents, page numbers, references/citations, bibliography (and appendices if relevant) • Have you provided a reference for every idea and every piece of information/data that you have 'borrowed' from someone else? • Are the diagrams neatly presented, with all axes and curves accurately labelled?
J – Abstract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the abstract clearly include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the RQ? ▪ an explanation of how the research was conducted (scope)? ▪ the conclusion(s)? • Is the Abstract 300 words or less?
K – Holistic judgment	<p>This is a hard one to self-check! Hopefully you can answer yes to several of the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the RQ original? • Is the approach innovative? • Is there is some indication that there was personal engagement with the topic? • Have you carried out effective primary research? • Have you drawn balanced conclusions and shown awareness of alternative viewpoints? • Have you made a real effort to organise and present your essay? • Will your supervisor be able to make positive comments about the way that you cooperated, undertook the research, met all deadlines, and completed your essay?