



Economics

Guidance on topics for the Advanced Higher question paper for session 2025–26

October 2025

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Overview

The topic areas listed below will be covered in the 2026 Advanced Higher Economics question paper.

This information is useful when delivering some topic areas of the course and preparing candidates for assessment of sections 1 and 3 of the question paper. You can find the full course content in the [Advanced Higher Economics course specification](#) on our subject page.

Candidates must complete a coursework project as well as the question paper. Grades are awarded based on candidate performance in both of the externally assessed components.

If you have any queries, please contact jillian.hendry@sqa.org.uk.

Course specification topic areas for session 2025–26

Topic area	Sub topic area	Additional information
National economic issues	Current UK economic issues	Labour market
		Economic growth
		Unemployment
		Inflation
		Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR)
		Heathrow airport
		Scottish independence
		Health spending
		Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT)
		AI and/or new technologies
		Productivity
		‘Gig’ economy
		National Living Wage

Topic area	Sub topic area	Additional information
	Transmission and effectiveness of economic policies	Monetary policy
		R-star (R^*) rate of interest
		Fiscal policy
		Budget deficit and national debt
Global economic issues	Developing and emerging economies	Global migration
	Developed economies	German economy (2023 onwards)
		Tariffs
		International Monetary Fund (IMF)