

EXAMINATION QUESTION BANK

Programs: Economics (First Cycle)

Language of Instruction: English

MODULE A: DIGITAL ECONOMY

1. Define the digital economy and explain how it differs from the traditional industrial economy in terms of value creation, distribution channels, and competitive dynamics.
2. Discuss the role of platform business models (e.g., Uber, Airbnb, Amazon Marketplace) in the digital economy and explain why they tend toward natural monopoly.
3. Explain the concept of network effects and describe how they create winner-take-all dynamics in digital markets.
4. Characterize the sharing economy and discuss both its economic benefits and the regulatory challenges it presents.
5. Describe the concept of digital transformation in business and explain the key stages a traditional enterprise undergoes during this process.
6. Discuss the economic significance of big data and explain how data-driven decision-making creates competitive advantages for firms.
7. Explain the concept of fintech and describe how financial technology companies disrupt traditional banking and financial services.
8. Characterize the gig economy and discuss its implications for labor markets, worker protections, and income inequality.
9. Discuss the concept of digital currencies (including Central Bank Digital Currencies) and explain how they differ from traditional fiat money and cryptocurrencies.
10. Explain the role of artificial intelligence in the modern economy and discuss both the productivity gains and the labor market displacement risks it creates.
11. Describe the concept of e-commerce and discuss the factors that determine success in online retail markets, including logistics, user experience, and trust.

12. Explain the economic rationale behind data privacy regulation (e.g., GDPR, CCPA) and discuss the trade-offs between consumer protection and innovation.

13. Characterize the concept of digital marketplaces and discuss how they reduce transaction costs and information asymmetry compared to traditional markets.

14. Discuss the concept of the attention economy and explain how digital platforms monetize user engagement through advertising-based revenue models.

15. Explain the concept of open banking and discuss how API-based financial services are reshaping competition in the banking sector.

MODULE B: VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDS

16. Define venture capital and explain its role in funding innovation, describing the typical stages of VC investment (seed, Series A, B, C, and exit).

17. Discuss the structure of a venture capital fund, including the roles of General Partners (GPs) and Limited Partners (LPs), and explain the '2 and 20' fee model.

18. Explain the concept of due diligence in venture capital and describe the key financial, legal, and market factors investors evaluate before committing capital.

19. Characterize the concept of a startup valuation and discuss the main methods used (comparable transactions, discounted cash flow, venture capital method).

20. Discuss the role of crowdfunding platforms (e.g., Kickstarter) as a tool for market validation and explain how successful campaigns can attract subsequent venture capital investment.

21. Explain the concept of an exit strategy in venture capital and compare the main exit routes: Initial Public Offering (IPO), acquisition, and secondary sale.

22. Describe the concept of a term sheet in venture capital and discuss the key provisions (valuation, liquidation preference, anti-dilution, board composition).

23. Discuss the relationship between risk and return in venture capital, explaining why VC portfolios follow a power-law distribution where few investments generate most returns.

24. Explain the concept of equity dilution and describe how successive funding rounds affect the ownership stakes of founders and early investors.

25. Characterize the role of angel investors and explain how they differ from venture capital funds in terms of investment size, involvement, and risk appetite.
26. Discuss the concept of a unicorn (startup valued at \$1 billion or more) and explain the economic and market conditions that have driven the proliferation of unicorns since 2010.
27. Explain the concept of convertible notes and SAFE agreements in early-stage financing and discuss why they prefer overpriced equity rounds at the seed stage.
28. Describe the venture capital ecosystem in the United States, including the roles of Silicon Valley, accelerators (Y Combinator, Techstars), and corporate venture capital.
29. Discuss how prediction markets and crowdfunding campaigns (e.g., Polymarket, Kickstarter) can serve as alternative signals of market demand for venture capital investors.
30. Explain the concept of a cap table and describe why accurate capitalization table management is critical for founders throughout the fundraising lifecycle.

MODULE C: INVESTING IN THE STOCK MARKET

31. Explain the fundamental principles of stock market investing, including the concepts of risk, return, diversification, and the time value of money.
32. Describe the difference between fundamental analysis and technical analysis and discuss the assumptions underlying each approach to stock valuation.
33. Explain the Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) in its three forms (weak, semi-strong, strong) and discuss its implications for active versus passive investment strategies.
34. Characterize the concept of portfolio diversification and explain how Modern Portfolio Theory (Markowitz) demonstrates the benefits of combining uncorrelated assets.
35. Discuss the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), explaining the concepts of beta, systematic risk, and the security market line.
36. Explain the concept of dividend investing and discuss the factors that make a company a reliable dividend payer (payout ratio, earnings stability, free cash flow).
37. Describe the role of stock exchanges (e.g., NYSE, NASDAQ, Warsaw Stock Exchange) in the economy and explain the listing and trading processes.

- 38.** Discuss the concept of market capitalization and explain how large-cap, mid-cap, and small-cap stocks differ in terms of risk, growth potential, and liquidity.
- 39.** Explain the concept of an Initial Public Offering (IPO) and describe the process, participants, and risks involved for both the issuing company and investors.
- 40.** Characterize the main types of investment orders (market, limit, stop-loss, trailing stop) and explain when each is most appropriate.
- 41.** Discuss the role of Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) in modern investing and explain their advantages over traditional mutual funds in terms of cost, liquidity, and transparency.
- 42.** Explain the concept of value investing as articulated by Benjamin Graham and Warren Buffett, and describe the key metrics used to identify undervalued stocks (P/E, P/B, DCF).
- 43.** Describe the behavioral finance perspective on stock market investing, discussing common cognitive biases (overconfidence, herd behavior, loss aversion, anchoring).
- 44.** Discuss the concept of short selling and explain both its legitimate economic function (price discovery, hedging) and its risks (unlimited loss potential, short squeeze).
- 45.** Explain the role of stock market indices (S&P 500, DJIA, WIG20) as benchmarks and discuss how they are constructed and weighed.