



Economics Essay Guide

1. Understand the Question

The first step to writing a Band 6 Economics essay is to carefully analyze the essay question. Break it into components:

- Identify the **directive terms** (e.g., “evaluate,” “discuss,” “assess”).
- Highlight the key **economic concepts or syllabus points**.
- Determine the **timeframe** and any specific focus areas.

Example: For the question, “*Assess the impact of fiscal policy on sustainable economic growth,*” focus on fiscal measures like government spending and taxation.

2. Develop a Thesis

Your thesis provides a direct answer to the question and outlines your argument. It should be clear and concise.

Example Thesis: “Fiscal policy has been instrumental in stabilizing Australia’s economic growth, but challenges remain in addressing long-term sustainability.”

3. Plan Your Structure

An effective essay structure includes:

- **Introduction:** Define terms, state your thesis, and outline key points.
- **Body Paragraphs:**
 - Start with a **topic sentence**.
 - Provide **evidence** (e.g., statistics, policies, case studies).
 - Offer **analysis** linking evidence to the question.
 - End with a linking sentence.
- **Conclusion:** Summarize arguments, restate the thesis, and suggest implications.

4. Use Evidence Strategically

Support your arguments with accurate and relevant evidence:

- **Statistics:** Highlight trends and outcomes.
- **Case Studies:** Refer to specific policies like JobKeeper.
- **Graphs and Diagrams:** Use tools like AD-AS models to strengthen your analysis.

Example Evidence: “The 2020 fiscal stimulus preserved 700,000 jobs, reducing the unemployment rate to 7.5% (RBA, 2020).”

5. Write Clearly and Concisely

Use precise economic terminology to communicate your arguments effectively.

Example: Instead of "The policy was good," say, "The policy improved aggregate demand by increasing disposable income."

6. Address Counterarguments

Acknowledging counterarguments shows depth in your understanding.

Example: "While fiscal policy has supported short-term growth, rising debt levels raise concerns about long-term fiscal sustainability."

7. Practice and Refine

Consistent practice is essential for success:

- Write timed practice essays.
- Seek feedback from peers or teachers.
- Analyze high-scoring essays to learn effective techniques.

8. Summary Structure

Introduction: Define the key terms, outline the essay's structure, and state your thesis.

Body Paragraphs: Present 3-4 arguments:

- Start each with a topic sentence.
- Include relevant evidence.
- Provide detailed analysis and explain its significance.

Conclusion: Summarize the main points, restate the thesis, and suggest broader implications.