

Unit 1: Basic Economic Concepts

The Circular Flow Model

The Product Market-

•The “place” where goods and services produced by businesses are sold to households.

The Resource (Factor) Market-

•The “place” where resources (land, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship) are sold to businesses.



Circular Flow Model Vocab

Private Sector- Part of the economy that is run by individuals and businesses

Public Sector- Part of the economy that is controlled by the government

Factor Payments- Payment for the factors of production, namely rent, wages, interest, and profit

Transfer Payments- When the government redistributes income (ex: welfare, social security)

Subsidies- Government payments to businesses

13. For an economy consisting of households and businesses only, which of the following is consistent with the circular flow of income and production?
- (A) Households are producers of goods and services and consumers of resources.
 - (B) Households are users of resources, and businesses are sources of saving.
 - (C) Households are suppliers of resources and consumers of goods and services.
 - (D) Businesses are users of taxes, and households are sources of taxes.
 - (E) Businesses are suppliers of resources and consumers of goods and services.

Circular Flow Model Review

1. Do individuals supply or demand?

Both, they demand products and supply resources

2. Do business supply or demand?

Both, they supply products and demand resources

3. Who demands in the product market?

Individuals and the government

4. Who supplies in the product market?

Businesses

Free Response Questions

When you do a FRQ don't forget to R.O.L.L.:

READ the entire question first

ORAGANIZE your answer

LIST your answers like the question

LABEL everything

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3. Country A and Country B produce the same two products, hammocks and looms. Country A can produce a maximum of 60 hammocks or 40 looms, while Country B can produce a maximum of 40 hammocks or 20 looms.
- (a) What is the opportunity cost to produce a loom in terms of hammocks in Country A?
 - (b) Which country, if either, has a comparative advantage in producing looms? Explain.
 - (c) Internationally, if 1 loom is traded for 1.75 hammocks, who will benefit from trading: Country A only, Country B only, both countries, or neither country?
 - (d) Assume there is international trade.
 - (i) Can a country produce beyond its production possibilities curve (PPC) ?
 - (ii) Can a country consume beyond its PPC?

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5 points (1+1+1+2)

(a) 1 point:

- One point is earned for calculating the opportunity cost:

$$1L = (60/40) = 1.5 H$$

(b) 1 point:

- One point is earned for stating that Country A has a comparative advantage in producing looms because it has a lower opportunity cost than Country B.

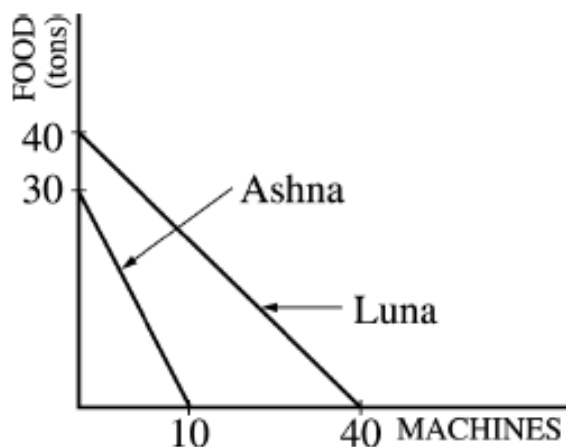
(c) 1 point:

- One point is earned for stating that both countries will benefit from trade

(d) 2 points:

- One point is earned for stating no.
- One point is earned for stating yes.

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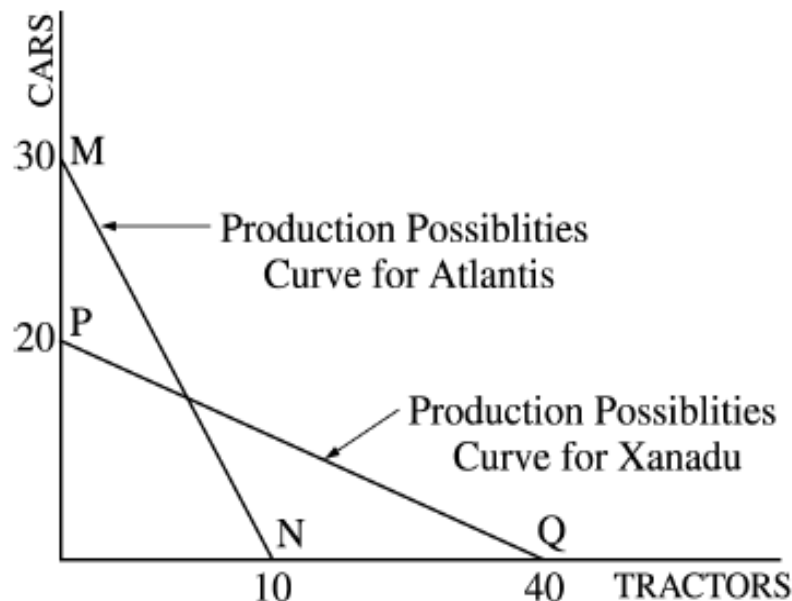


2. Using equal amounts of resources, the countries of Ashna and Luna can each produce any combination of food and machines described by their production possibilities curves above.
- Which country has an absolute advantage in the production of machines? Explain.
 - Which country has an absolute advantage in the production of food? Explain.
 - Which country has a comparative advantage in the production of machines? Explain.
 - With trade between these two countries, which country will import food? Explain.
 - Give an example of terms of trade acceptable to both countries.

Question 2

Correct Answers:

- (a) Luna had an absolute advantage in the production of machines because it can produce more machines using the same amount of resources. That is, with the same resources, it can produce 40 machines while Ashna can only produce 10.
- (b) Luna had an absolute advantage in the production of food because it can produce more machines using the same amount of resources. That is, it can produce 40 units of food while Ashna can produce 30 using the same resources.
- (c) Luna has a comparative advantage in producing machines because it can produce them at a lower opportunity cost than Ashna. Luna forgoes 1 unit of food for each machine, while Ashna forgoes 3 units of food for each machine.
- (d) Luna should import food because it has a higher opportunity cost of producing food than Ashna. Ashna can produce food at a cost of $\frac{1}{3}$ machine per unit of food, while it costs Luna 1 machine per unit of food. Thus, Ashna has a comparative advantage in producing food.
- (e) If Luna paid $\frac{1}{2}$ machine per unit of food, it would receive food for half the number of machines that it must pay without trade, and Ashna would receive $\frac{1}{2}$ machine per unit of food rather than $\frac{1}{3}$ of a machine per unit of food as it would receive without trade.



3. Assume that two countries, Atlantis and Xanadu, have equal amounts of resources. Atlantis can produce 30 cars or 10 tractors or any combination, as shown by the line MN in the figure above. Xanadu can produce 20 cars or 40 tractors or any combination, as shown by the line PQ in the figure above.
- Which country has an absolute advantage in the production of tractors? Explain how you determined your answer.
 - Which country has a comparative advantage in the production of cars? Using the concept of opportunity cost, explain how you determined your answer.
 - If the two countries specialize and trade with each other, which country will import cars? Explain why.

Question 3 (cont'd)

Grading Rubric:

Point allocations: (7 points: 2+ 2 + 2 +1)

a) 2 points: (1 for identification and 1 for explanation.)

1 point - Xanadu has an absolute advantage in tractors.

1 point - Xanadu can produce more (40) tractors than Atlantis (10).

b) 2 points: (1 for identification and 1 for explanation.)

1 point - Atlantis has a comparative advantage in the production of cars.

1 point - Atlantis produces cars at lower opportunity cost than Xanadu. It costs Atlantis $1/3$ tractor for each car, but it costs Xanadu 2 tractors for each car.

c) 2 points: (1 for identification and 1 for explanation.)

1 point - Xanadu will import cars.

1 point - Because Xanadu has higher opportunity cost of producing cars.

- Atlantis has lower opportunity cost in cars.
- Cheaper for Xanadu to import cars than to produce domestically.
- Cheaper for Xanadu to import cars than to produce cars.
- Xanadu has a comparative advantage in tractors.
- Atlantis has comparative advantage in cars.

d) 1 point - Any quantity traded on one-for-one basis will permit Atlantis to consume beyond its PPF. Or, it becomes cheaper for Atlantis to import trucks than to produce them domestically, or a correct discussion of gains from trade using numbers.

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5 Problem Set Hints:

1. **NEVER** use your computer to create graphs
2. Answer in the same **FORMAT** as the questions. (A, B, C i, C ii. etc.)
3. Fully **EXPLAIN** or give examples when asked to do so. It is better to over explain.
4. Answer the **ENTIRE** question explicitly.
5. **NEVER** straight copy your book or my notes. Use your own words and examples.

Take out your Problem Set