

The Study of Economics

1.2 - Chapter Focus Questions - 30 PTS



In an effort to increase your benefit from class discussion, it is important that you have an idea of what I am talking about before we talk about it. To encourage this I will assign Chapter Focus questions prior to our discussion of the Chapter discussion. These Assignments will concentrate on specifics terms and ideas we will base our study on. Do the assigned reading it will help you to understand the terms below. Provide answers in your own words. The Economic terms will be posted on the front white board. For further clarification on Terms check the blog for podcasts.

Chapter One - What is Economics

Section II - Opportunity Cost (8 to 12)

I - Terms to Study: (10 pts)

Do the assigned reading. For each of the following terms please provide the definition of the said term in your own words. Do not copy the definition listed in the text - read around it - think about it. I want to hear your voice. I want depth in the definition. If you need to provide an example please do so. At least five sentences for each term. Do not write on this page.

1 - Trade Off

2 - Guns or Butter

3 - Opportunity Cost

4 - Thinking at the Margins

II - Questions for Study: (20 pts)

For each of the following three questions provide 100 to 150 word answers.

1 - Trade Offs

Let's talk about your life. Since you now know what a trade off is...provide me a real life example of a decision that you've had to make in your life that required trade offs. Explain the decision and what you traded off to make it. If you cannot think of one then make it up.

2 - Opportunity Costs

Go back to Answer #1 - Now take the same story and explain to me what the opportunity cost was in that decision. Then tell me why the opportunity cost was so difficult to make.

3 - The War in Afghanistan

Let's talk about guns and butter and trade offs. When the USA goes to war - like in Afghanistan or Iraq what are some of the things that are given up because of that war. In your opinion is the Afghan war worth the cost?

4 - Thinking on the Margins

Take a look at the chart on page 11 where Karen is trying to figure out what to do with her time. What does thinking at the margins have to do with all of this? Explain.