

2002 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
Economics

Section II (continued)

Marks

Question 22 (10 marks)

The table shows labour force and population information for a nation.

<i>Labour force data</i>	<i>Number of persons (million)</i>
Employed persons	9
Unemployed persons	1
Population of working age	16
Total population	20

- (a) Calculate the labour force unemployment rate for this nation.

$$\frac{\text{unemployed pop}}{\text{labour force}} = \frac{1\,000\,000}{10\,000\,000} = 10\%$$

1

- (b) Calculate the labour force participation rate for this nation.

$$\text{Participation} = \frac{\text{labour force}}{\text{total pop 15+}} = \frac{10\,000\,000}{16\,000\,000} = 62.5\%$$

1

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Question 22 (continued)

- (c) Explain ONE economic and ONE social cost created by unemployment.

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An economic cost of unemployment is not all resources are being fully used so the highest possible level of economic growth cannot be reached.

A social cost of unemployment is ^{relative} poverty. ~~Poverty~~ Relative Poverty develops because the unemployed do not have the same access to funds that the employed people have.

- (d) Explain how TWO economic policies could be used by the Australian Government to reduce the level of unemployment.

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A policy the government could ~~use~~ use to reduce unemployment is retraining. By retraining structural and hard core unemployed they would become employable and therefore reduce the unemployment ^{levels} ~~level~~. The government could also make it easier for ~~p~~ employers to employ more employees ~~etc~~ through possible tax incentives and even through removing legislation that may make employers consider not employing people.

End of Question 22