IB Economics Internal Assessment guide - Student planning sheets

Article link:

- ☐ **Prep:** Did you check that the article you have chosen was published no more than one year before the due date of the final draft of the assignment and from a different source than previously completed commentaries?

Introduction:
Three-sentence introduction to the article content – what is the key focus of the article?

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What IB economics concept will you use as a lens to examine this article?
(SCARCITY, CHOICE, EFFICIENCY, ECONOMIC WELL-BEING, EQUITY, SUSTAINABILITY, CHANGE, INTERDEPENDENCE, INTERVENTION)

- ☐ Have you checked that it is different from one used in another of your commentaries?

Answer the following question: The key concept that applies for this article is ___________ because

____.

Diagrams
Sketch below the diagram(s) you will use (this can be hand drawn and then scanned or created using online digital tools and pasted in). Note that you do not need to explain every element of your diagram – stick to those points which are most important for understanding the topics raised in your chosen article. More than two diagrams may be possible but not recommended.

- Full title for the diagram, e.g. 'The market for peas in India'

- All lines and curves on the diagram should be clearly labelled according to the case you are using (e.g. appropriate currency)
- All intersections and connections to the axes on the diagram should be labelled to make later reference easier
- Important areas on the diagram can be shaded (e.g. excess supply – shortage) if you will reference them in your explanation
- If the exact numbers are included in the article and are able to be used, those can be used as labels on the diagram. If not, the commonly used labels P1, P2, Q1, Q2, etc. can be used.

Analysis / Evaluation

Outline below what are the key elements of the article that you've chosen that you will analyze in your commentary? Remember that you want to stick to topics discussed in your article and cover all the key topics in your article. (if the article discusses an aspect you will not cover, make sure to highlight those parts of the article that you will analyze).

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Outline below what key judgements you will make in your commentary (these will likely link to the points you make above). What is good or bad about what the article is describing (ie, pros vs. cons)? Is there a long term vs. short term implication to be considered? Are there any economic theory assumptions that may or may not apply in this particular case (like whether a good is PED elastic vs. inelastic)? How might there be conflict of interest for different stakeholders? Where there are trade offs for the government to make, is there evidence that one priority should take preference over another (like tradeoff between inflation vs. employment, for example). It is important for all your evaluation points / judgments that you answer the question – “why do you say that” or “how do you know”?

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