

THE NEED FOR SPORT AND EXERCISE

Study **Extracts D and E**, and then answer **all** parts of the question which follows.

**Extract D: Percentages of men and women participating in selected physical activities
In the UK, 2002**

Activity	Men	Women
Badminton	2	1
Bowls	2	1
Cycling	12	6
Football	10	1
Golf	9	1
Keep fit and yoga	7	16
Running and jogging	7	3
Snooker, pool and billiards	15	4
Swimming	12	15
Tennis	2	2
Tenpin bowling and skittles	4	3
Walking	36	34
Weight training	9	3

Source: General Household Survey 2003

Extract E: The decline of exercise among schoolchildren

Access to good facilities, including playing-fields, is the key to inspiring more young people to take up sport. Some people argue that the government should subsidise the provision of sports facilities such as swimming pools, or even provide them for free, because they generate the positive externality arising from a fitter and healthier population.	1
However, figures show there has been a steady loss of land on which children can play, despite government promises to protect playing-fields. All over England, school playing-fields have been sold off to help pay for the costs of education. Supermarkets, petrol stations, office buildings, houses and blocks of flats now stand where children used to play.	5
The sale of playing-fields and the closing of swimming pools have both contributed to the fact that the youth of Britain has never been so unfit. Everywhere, teachers have been giving up the struggle to coach games in cramped, inadequate and, in some cases, virtually non-existent facilities.	10
Government health advisers are calling on local councils to use 'non-traditional settings' to raise children's activity levels. For example, youngsters are being encouraged to play in office car parks outside work hours in an effort to encourage more exercise.	15
Parents could also be paid to get their children to cycle to school. However, parents' groups have raised concerns over children's safety when cycling on the road. They have also criticised the plan for 'sending the wrong message' by offering a cash incentive, rather than explaining to the young the health dangers of a lack of exercise. Liverpool Council said it was considering giving free bikes to children. Currently, only around one in fifty children cycles to school.	20
Margaret Morrissey, spokeswoman for the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations, said: "Taxpayers will probably be a little uncomfortable with paying parents to get children to school. What we should be teaching them is that they need to exercise	

Economics Summer project

Source: news reports, 2006-8

- o 1. Define the term 'positive externality' (**Extract E**, line 4). (3 marks)
- o 2. Using **Extract D**, identify **two** significant points of comparison between the percentages of men and women participating in selected physical activities in the UK in 2002. (4 marks)
- o 3. 'Supermarkets, petrol stations, office buildings, houses and blocks of flats now stand where children used to play' (**Extract E**, lines 8-10).

With the help of a supply and demand diagram, explain how the sale of school playing fields may affect house prices. (10 marks)

- o 4. Using the data and your economic knowledge, evaluate different economic policies that could be used to encourage schoolchildren to undertake more exercise. (25 marks)

Guidance:

You will need to research various key terms and concepts, there is lots of information on a variety of websites. Try the Tutor2U website as a start point.

The length of your answers should be as follows:

- 01. A few lines, with maybe an example
- 02. Again two sentences, you do not need to explain why.
- 03. A side of A4 plus a diagram- you need to make at least 3 points and explain them
- 04. At least two sides of A4 – structure the essay like any other essay, start with an introduction, three or four pieces of analysis and a conclusion which evaluates the different pieces of analysis and comes to an overall justified recommendation.