

Exercise walk-through

Definition, Measurement, and Functions of Money ■ 4.3

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the three **functions of money** 货币的职能: medium of exchange, store of value, unit of account
- compare the money-supply measures **M1** and **M2** by liquidity
- distinguish **commodity money** 商品货币 from **fiat money** 法定货币

Method — Three functions of money

- **Medium of exchange** — accepted in trade.
- **Store of value** — holds worth over time.
- **Unit of account** — a common measure of prices.

Method — M1 and M2

M1 is the most liquid (cash and chequing deposits); **M2** adds slightly less liquid savings and small time deposits.

Method — Commodity vs fiat

Commodity money has intrinsic value (e.g. gold); **fiat money** has value because the government declares it legal tender.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State the three functions of money.

Solution 2.1

Method: Three functions of money

Worked steps

medium of exchange, store of value, unit of account **B1** **B1** *for any two; for all three.*

Practice 2.2 ■ 1 mark

State which is more liquid, M1 or M2.

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

M1 **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

State the difference between commodity money and fiat money.

Solution 2.3

Method: Commodity vs fiat

Worked steps

commodity money has intrinsic value of its own; fiat money has value only because the government declares it legal tender **B1** **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Using money as a “unit of account” means it is used to

- A** store wealth over time
- B** measure and compare prices
- C** earn interest
- D** back the currency with gold

Solution 3.1

Method: Three functions of money

- A store wealth over time
- B measure and compare prices**
- C earn interest
- D back the currency with gold



Worked steps

B.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Fiat money has value because

- A** it is made of gold
- B** the government declares it legal tender
- C** it is naturally rare
- D** it earns interest

Solution 3.2

Method: Commodity vs fiat

- A it is made of gold
- B the government declares it legal tender 
- C it is naturally rare
- D it earns interest

Worked steps

B.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A shopkeeper prices goods, accepts cash for them, and keeps takings in a savings account.

- (a) Name the money function used in **pricing** goods.
- (b) Name the function used in **accepting cash**.
- (c) Name the function used in **saving**.

Solution 3.3

Method: Three functions of money

Worked steps

(a) unit of account **B1**. (b) medium of exchange **B1**. (c) store of value **B1**.