

Question 2 (Answer: **A**)

- Opportunity cost is the benefit of the next best alternative that is given up.
- It is a *loss of potential benefit*, which is exactly the wording here.
- Scarcity is the underlying condition; a shortage is a market situation.

2(a)	Define <i>multinational company</i>. A firm that is based / has its headquarters in one country (1). Operates / produces / sets up / works (1) in another country or countries (1).
2(b)	Explain <u>two</u> reasons why a firm may charge a different price for the same product in two different countries. Logical explanation which might include: • demand may be higher / lower in one country (1) resulting in higher / lower prices (1) • supply maybe higher / lower in one country (1) resulting in lower prices (1) • higher income / GNP per head in one country (1) means more able to afford to pay higher price (1) • price elasticity of demand may vary (1) more power to raise price where demand is inelastic (1) • greater competition in one country / more substitutes (1) leads to lower prices to be competitive (1) • indirect tax rates may vary e.g. higher GST / VAT / import tariffs (1) will lead to higher price (1) • government subsidies may be given in some countries (1) lowering price (1) • local material costs / wages may be lower in one country (1) lowering costs of production mean lower prices (1) • different transport costs (1) may be cheaper to transport to countries close by (1) • quality of good may be higher (1) enable firm to charge a higher price (1).

2(c)

Analyse how opportunity cost influences the decisions made by consumers, workers and producers.

Coherent analysis which might include:

- opportunity cost is the (next) best alternative (1) forgone / given up (1)
- example of consumers e.g. must decide between buying different products (1) due to limited income (1)
- example of workers e.g. must decide between different jobs or between work and leisure (1) as time is limited (1)
- example of producers / firms e.g. must decide what to make / how to make it / where to locate (1) as they have limited (financial) resources (1).

2(d)

Discuss whether or not consumers would benefit from an increase in the number of small firms in an industry.

In assessing each answer, use the table opposite.

Why they might:

- more competition, lower price, higher quality
- small firms may provide a more personal service
- may produce niche products
- may be more flexible / react quickly to consumer needs
- may introduce new ideas / new varieties of products
- may be easier access – consumers may not have to travel so far.

Why they might not:

- may be wasteful duplication
- may waste consumers time with too much information to process
- may have higher costs as unable to take advantage of economies of scale
- may reduce profits of larger firms, reducing their spending on research and development
- may not stay in business for long.

2(d)

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Question 9 (Answer: B)

- An external cost falls on a *third party* – someone who is neither buyer nor seller.
- The building cost is a private cost, paid by the government.
- The loss suffered by people who valued the forest is external, since nobody compensates them.

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Question 3 (Answer: B)

- Moving between two points on the PPC means giving up one good to get more of the other.
- So read off how much of one axis is lost and how much of the other is gained.
- That sacrifice is the opportunity cost of the move.

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Question 3 (Answer: C)

- The line shows the trade-off between leisure and earnings.
- Every extra hour of leisure means an hour not worked, so earnings fall.
- The slope therefore measures the opportunity cost of leisure – the wage given up.