A Level Bridging Work

Economics

**“A carbon tax is insufficient to deal with the challenge of climate change and instead we should invest in new technologies”. Do you agree?**

Globally, more attention is being brought to the state of our environment, the threat of climate change and the actions (or inaction) of different nations in response to this. Climate change activists such as Extinction Rebellion have made news headlines all over the world for their approach to protesting, and both politicians and businesses alike have come under fire for their attitudes towards climate change.

Traditionally, governments have issued a carbon tax on businesses to discourage high levels of emissions and limit environmental impact. Some critics argue that this is an outdated approach and that the development of new, clean energy technologies would bring far greater benefits to individual countries and our planet.

In preparation for your A Level Economics studies, you need to choose one of the ability level questions overleaf to answer and submit in September. Your word count is 500 words +/- 10%. You must reference any sources used as “(AUTHOR NAME, YEAR)” in text after a quote/point being made, and then give a full list of your references in a bibliography at the end of your work, e.g.   
*Name of Article/Resource (Author(s)), Year (Full Link). Last Accessed  
[A Level Bridging Work (J Sinfield, M Shafto) 2019. Last Accessed 10/06/2019]*

**RESOURCES**

<https://www.economist.com/>  
<https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/topics>  
<https://rebellion.earth/>  
<https://www.carbontax.org/>  
<https://www.energy-uk.org.uk/energy-industry/renewable-generation.html>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-national-energy-and-climate-plan-necp>  
<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/d2hhdC1pcy>

**ESSENTIAL**Find out what a carbon tax is and how it is intended to deal with climate change.  
- What are the impacts on businesses, the economy and the population?  
Find out about three clean energy technologies and how they are intended to deal with climate change.  
- What are the impacts on businesses, the economy and the population?  
Which of these do you think has a greater impact on dealing with climate change? Why do you think this?

**CHALLENGE**Analyse the impacts of both a carbon tax and the development of new, clean energy technologies on businesses, the economy and the population.  
- What additional benefits do either bring in terms of employment, productivity and cost efficiency?   
- How might either contribute to a greater level of economic growth?  
Which of these do you think has a greater impact on dealing with climate change? Why do you think this?

**EXTEND**To what extent do you agree with the following statement?  
 *“A carbon tax is insufficient to deal with the challenge of climate change and instead we should invest in new technologies”*You must consider the impacts on businesses, the economy and the population, as well as additional benefits in terms of employment, productivity, cost efficiency and economic growth.