

### THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW FROM ECONOMICS 1

1. GDP is simultaneously a measure of aggregate output and aggregate income.
2. The unemployment rate is not a perfect indicator of the "unemployment problem."
3. In the Keynesian model, Planned Expenditures (or, Aggregate Demand) is equal to  
$$\text{Aggregate Demand} = C + I + G + NX$$
4. Macroeconomic equilibrium in the Keynesian model is characterized by the existence of a level of aggregate output (which equals aggregate income) such that aggregate output = aggregate expenditures. Using the notation, macroeconomic equilibrium is the level of  $Y$  such that  $Y = C + I + G + NX$ .
5. The process of adjustment to macroeconomic equilibrium is an *output* adjustment process.
6. Consumption ( $C$ ) increases with disposable income ( $Y^D$ ), though the change in consumption is generally less than the corresponding change in disposable income. That is,  
$$C = C_0 + C_y \cdot Y^D$$
, where  $C_y$  is the mpc and  $0 < C_y < 1$
7. Disposable income ( $Y^D$ ) equals Income ( $Y$ ) - Net Taxes ( $T$ ). Net Taxes equal Tax Payments ( $TA$ ) - Transfer Payments ( $TR$ ). So  $Y^D = Y + TR - TA$ .
8. Investment and interest rates tend to be inversely related. Interest rates are not the *only* determinant of investment, however.
9. The  $G$  of  $C + I + G$  does not include *all* government spending. Only government purchases of goods and services are included in  $G$ . Other government spending (transfer payments) is part of  $YD$ .
10. The government's budget deficit is the difference between government outlays ( $G+TR$ ) and government receipts ( $TA$ ) for a specific year. The government's debt is the sum of all the budget deficits less the sum of all the budget surpluses over time.
11. Adjusting  $G$ ,  $TR$  (Transfer payments), or  $TA$  (Tax payments) to achieve macroeconomic goals is *fiscal* policy.
12. Adjusting  $M$  (amount of money) or  $i$  (interest rates) to achieve macroeconomic goals is *monetary* policy.
13. Capital ( $K$ ) includes structures (buildings), equipment (machines), and items in inventory. Money, stocks, bonds, or other financial assets are *not* included in capital.
14. Perfectly competitive markets are characterized by lots of indistinguishable firms producing a homogeneous product. Very few markets in the U.S. are perfectly competitive.
15. Economists assume firms wish to maximize economic profit, and that individuals and households wish to maximize utility.