

10 Macroeconomics principles

- #1 Trade-offs are a given The world has scarce resources: time, oil, food. When we choose to do one thing, we sacrifice another.
- #2 Opportunity Costs The cost of something is what you gave up to acquire it. I.E. "The next best thing" It is almost never just a monetary cost
- #3 Rational People Think at the Margin Rational People (Rational Choice theory): Assumes that people act in a manner that gives them the greatest benefit in the most logical way that are in their best self interest.
- Marginal thinking/ change: Small and often incremental adjustments
- #4 People respond to incentives Incentive: A thing that motivates or encourages someone to do something. It can be both positive or negative (bribe/punishment)
- #5 Trade can better everyone
- #6 Markets usually are a good way to organise economic activity They may not always be physical locations (e.g. online)
- #7 Governments can sometimes improve market outcomes E.g. Property Rights (Allowing people to exercise control over scarce resources), laws etc.
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- #8 A country's SOL depends on its ability to produce goods and services
- #9 Inflation Prices rise when the government prints too much money

10 Macroeconomics principles (cont)

- #10 Society faces a short-run trade-off between inflation and unemployment See the Phillips curve
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Keywords

Chapter 1:
SOL = Standard of Living
Phillips Curve = A curve that shows the short-run trade-off between inflation and unemployment
Business Cycle =

