

# Essay Topic for EC 1800

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Maximum Word Count: 1,500 words (not including Bibliography and footnotes)

Due Date: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Pass mark required: 40%

Question:

**Has Ireland become wealthier in the last twenty years? Why/Why not? Is Ireland going to become wealthier in the next twenty years (i.e. is it *sustainable*)? Why/Why not?**

You can take any interpretation of 'wealthier' that you like so long as you define what you mean by 'wealthier' at the start of your essay and consistently use that meaning throughout.

Don't try to do too much in the essay! It is only 1,500 words so don't try to cover the entire course in such a short space. Pick ONE or TWO aspects of your own choosing and cover just those alone.

Proper academic referencing is to be used throughout the essay with full bibliography. You can use the Harvard/APA/whatever referencing system so long as it is consistent throughout the essay.

## **Reading List:**

- **Main Textbook:** *Economics* by John Sloman (any edition, whatever is cheapest for you)

### **Additional Reading covered during the class:**

- *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner
- *Enron: Anatomy of Greed* by Brian Cruver
- *Happiness: Lessons from a New Science* by Richard Layard
- *The Upside of Down: Catastrophe, Creativity and the Renewal of Civilisation* by Thomas Homer-Dixon
- *Butterfly Economics* by Paul Ormerod

Good luck with your essay!