

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY  
OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH**

**Semester I Examinations 2000/01**

**EC301 IRISH ECONOMY  
B.A. Degree**

Prof. M. Keane  
Prof. M. Cuddy  
Mr. S. Hynes

**Time Allowed: Two (2) hours**

**Instructions: Answer three (3) questions. Question 1 is compulsory**

1. Write a brief note on any 5 of the following:
  - (i) Arguments in favour of privatisation
  - (ii) Expansionary Fiscal Contraction
  - (iii) The Poverty Trap
  - (iv) Agenda 2000 CAP Reforms
  - (v) Recent social welfare and taxation changes to reduce poverty
  - (vi) The Keynesian Theory of unemployment
  - (vii) Factors that may cause Irelands record growth rate to moderate in the coming years
  - (viii) The main economic policies pursued by the Cumann na nGaedheal Government (first government of the Irish Free State)
2. In political-economy models, economic motives of self-interest influence politicians' choices of policies and policy instruments. Discuss this concept using as examples, past policies pursued by the Irish government.
3. Ireland's recent economic growth is often compared to the "miracle" growth obtained by the so-called "Asian Tiger economies". Why? In your opinion is this comparison justified? Is the crisis that hit the Pacific Rim economies likely to happen to the Irish economy as well?
4. In the last five years, the concern over large-scale unemployment has shifted to one about serious labour shortages. Discuss the causes of and the remedies to the labour shortage problem in Ireland.
5. **Either**

What are the likely implications of Central and East European enlargement of the EU on Irish agriculture?

**Or**

Critically assess Ireland as a location for foreign investment, discussing in particular government policies aimed at encouraging direct foreign investment.