

Preface

The *Study Guide for Economics: Principles, Problems, Decisions*, sixth edition, is a substantially revised version of the *Study Guide* which accompanied the fifth edition of my text *Economics: Principles, Problems, Decisions*. It contains a number of new questions, many of which should whet the interest of students and extend their capabilities, without making the analysis too difficult.

This program of review and exercise material has been prepared with one overriding objective—to facilitate self-paced study of introductory economics. Each chapter parallels closely the content of the corresponding chapter in my text *Economics: Principles, Problems, Decisions*, sixth edition. In order to give comprehensive and varied coverage, a six-pronged approach has been developed:

1. *Chapter Profiles* that highlight principal points and that are followed by a set of *Behavioral Objectives* that indicate the main things students should be able to do once they have completed the chapter.
2. *A Case Study* (in practically every chapter) which shows how the chapter's principles and concepts can be useful in shedding light on major issues of public and private policy.
3. Limbering-up exercises in the form of *Matching Questions* and *Completion Questions* that open the way to systematic review of each chapter.
4. Self-tests in the form of numerous *True-False* and *Multiple-Choice* questions.
5. A number of *Discussion and Extension Questions*, many rather open-ended, to stimulate classroom discussion (or for further homework assignment).
6. Short cases in the form of *Problems* that simulate real-world situations and require the student to work with actual data in tabular and diagrammatic form.

Answers to all the objective questions and problems are contained at the end of each chapter. No answers are given for the Discussion and Extension Questions, since they are essay questions that can be answered in a variety of ways. Answers to the cases are found in the text's *Instructor's Manual*, prepared by Michael P. Claudon of Middlebury College. Answers to the even-numbered Test Yourself questions, also prepared by Michael Claudon, are found in the last section of this study guide. (Answers to the odd-numbered Test Yourself questions are given at the end of the text *Economics: Principles, Problems, Decisions*.)

Since a study guide should be a flexible learning tool, I have sought to provide not only a large number of questions but also a wide range in terms of difficulty. Each chapter begins at a relatively easy level, increasing gradually in rigor as students build confidence along with competence. The more demanding an economic concept, the more extensive the amount of review material given to it. Some of the problems at the ends of chapters are hard enough so that the typical student should not expect to answer them all. Even the best students should be challenged by some of them.

The sixth edition of the *Study Guide* contains many improvements prompted by suggestions from instructors throughout the country. I appreciate their contributions. Also, a debt is owed to my wife, Lucile, for helping me with the preparation of many objective questions.

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E.M.