

ECOMATH V25 Group Quiz 02

Name _____

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1. A firm produces $Q = 2\sqrt{L}$ units of a commodity when $L > 0$ units of labor are employed. Suppose that the price of the commodity per unit sold is 160 euros and the price of labor is 40 euros.

(a) (1/2 point) Write down an expression for the total revenues of the firm in terms of L .

(b) (1/2 point) Write down an expression for the total costs of the firm in terms of L .

(c) (1/2 point) Write down an expression for the total profits $\pi(L)$ of the firm in terms of L .

(d) (1 point) Show that the first derivative of $\pi(L)$ is given by

$$\pi'(L) = \frac{40(4 - \sqrt{L})}{\sqrt{L}}.$$

(e) (1/2 point) Find the only stationary point of the firm's profit function. Call this point L^* .

(f) (1 point) What is the sign of the first derivative of $\pi(L)$ when $0 < L < L^*$? Write a short reason why.

(g) (1 point) What is the sign of the first derivative of $\pi(L)$ when $L > L^*$? Write a short reason why.

(h) (1 point) Does L^* maximize profits? Write a short reason why.

2. Let $g(x) = 5(x + 2)^4 - 3$, with $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

(a) (2 points) Is $x = 0$ a stationary point of g ? Show why or why not.

(b) (2 points) Without using calculus, write an argument as to why $x = -2$ is a minimum point for g .