2012 Paper > Section 1 > Question 8

8. (a) Define the term primary sector.

(b) Outline two current trends affecting this sector in Ireland:
   (i) 
   (ii) 

2012 Paper > Section 1 > Question 8(Marking Scheme)

The primary sector (extractive) is a category of industry based on the natural resources of a country such as agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, energy.

Current Trends

- Commodities such as beef and milk are commanding higher prices on world markets as demand increases due to global population growth.
- Cóillte the state agency operating in forestry, land based businesses, renewable energy and panel products may be privatised along with other businesses such as Electric Ireland.
- As a result of overfishing the EU has introduced fish quotas in an attempt to conserve fish stocks.
- Gas deposits discovered in the Fermanagh/Leitrim border may be mined using ‘fracking’ a controversial mining technique. The Corrib natural gas field has also proved controversial.
- Developments in the area of wind energy and solar power.
- Continued growth in organic food production capitalising on Ireland’s green image worldwide.
- Restriction on turf cutting due to EU environmental directive.
2009 Paper > Section 1 > Question 6

6. Define the ‘secondary sector’ and outline two current trends affecting this sector in Ireland.

Current Trends:
(i) 

(ii) 

2009 Paper > Section 1 > Question 6 (Marking Scheme)

The secondary sector includes Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Construction businesses - that manufacture products from the materials produced by the primary sector (Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining). Takes raw materials, processes raw materials and produces finished goods.

Example: Kerry Group – Food Products.

Current Trends:

(i) Decline in employment in Secondary Sector – downsizing and closures have resulted in an increase in unemployment, particularly in relation to Manufacturing and Construction

(ii) Increased competition: challenge faced by Agribusiness Sector in food market from foreign retailers i.e. Lidl and Aldi

(iii) Increased wage rates in Ireland over the past few years has resulted in loss of competitiveness – relocation of some manufacturing businesses to low cost economies etc

2007 Paper > Section 3 > Question 2 > Part A

(A) Discuss the importance of the categories of industry to the current Irish economy.

(20 marks)
2007 Paper > Section 3 > Question 2 > Part A (Marking Scheme)

(A) Categories of Industry (discuss):

Primary (Extractive): Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining.

Secondary (Manufacturing/Construction): Electronics, food processing, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, building, development of the physical infrastructure, roads, bridges, tunnels, etc.

Tertiary (Service industry): Public Utilities, e.g. electricity, gas, etc. Transport, communications, distribution, financial, tourism, entertainment, etc.

Importance to current Irish economy required

2006 Paper > Section 3 > Question 2 > Part A

(A) Outline the categories of industry in the Irish economy. In the case of one of these, describe its contribution to the economy. (20 marks)

2006 Paper > Section 3 > Question 2 > Part A (Marking Scheme)

(A) Categories of Industry (outline and describe)
Primary (Extractive): Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining.

Secondary (Manufacturing/Construction): food processing, electronics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, building, development of the physical infrastructure, roads, bridges, tunnels, etc.

Tertiary (Service industry): Public Utilities, e.g. electricity, gas, etc. Transport, communications, distribution, financial, entertainment, etc.
Banking, tourism, entertainment.

Contribution – one from Primary, Secondary or Tertiary required