

Bridging Work for A Level Economics

Summer 2022

Welcome to the start of what will be a new and exciting interpretation of the world you live in!!

Your forthcoming knowledge of how the economy works will fundamentally alter your perceptions and provide you with a greater insight into how you can begin to make choices, for yourself, that will make a difference to your future!

Our starting point is a unique one. The following article on Walter Bagehot, who was the first and most influential editor of 'The Economist' magazine links Langport to the development of the science of Political Economy, through his influential weekly columns on British Life and Politics, which have continued to this day, since his death in 1877.

Although you might find some of the language in this article to be challenging, that's part of the task, ie investigate their meaning and relevance to the ideas in this summary of Walter Bagehot.

Then answer the following questions:

- Why does this article refer to Walter Bagehot as the 'Greatest Victorian'?
- What is his connection to Langport?
- Where, in Langport, is there a commemoration to him?
- Which of the other famous Victorians is he compared to?
- What single item is his most valuable contribution to British Political life, which is still used today?
- Which aspect of Economics was he most interested in and why?
- Why was Economics called Political Economy at that time?
- One of his most influential contemporary contributors to Economic Theory, at that time, was John Stuart Mill. What aspect of Economic Thought is he most associated with?

The answers to these questions will provide you with an important foundation to the start of the course and it will also provide you with a unique connection between Langport and the foundations of the subject!! Enjoy 😊

Mrs C Jenner-Laurens and Mr P Madden, who are both highly qualified practitioners of Economics