

**Section 5: Monopoly/
Monopoly power**

Disadvantages

Productive inefficiency - little incentive to cut costs as they are dominant

Allocative inefficiency- consumers have little choice as firms operate on profit mindset

Diseconomies of scale- communication problems/ waste generation

X-inefficient- they allow for waste as they lack competitive drive and are complacent

Inequality in necessity markets - higher price in necessity markets will have regressive impacts

Evaluation

-How the profits are used- most may be given to shareholders, not used for investment
-objective of firm- could have sale max/revenue max/allocatively efficient goal
-level of regulation - this will reduce inefficiencies
-price discrimination- may exaggerate the cons of a monopoly
-whether there is still some level of competition (tesco is legalised monopoly that still competes)
-type of good or service- larger neg impacts in necessity than luxury markets

Examples

-Railways (natural monopoly)
-Microsoft
-Google
-Tesco

Monopsony

-a single buyer dominates a market and acts as a price maker that drives down the prices
-e.g supermarkets act like a monopsonists because they force suppliers to sell their products at lower prices leading to losses on their side but lower prices are passed onto the consumer
-if a firm is the single buyer of labour in a market, it can exploit its power by offering lower wages

- Pure monopolies - a single seller has 100% market share
- Monopoly power- has at least 25% market share
-high barriers to entry
-large monopoly power(price making power)
-operates at profit maximisation output
-price is high and supply is restricted

Efficiencies

-Not allocatively efficient: not operating at $AR=MC$
-Not productively efficient: not on lowest point of AC
-Dynamically efficient in LR: earns large supernormal profit in LR due to barriers to entry
-Can be X-inefficient as they can slack as they may not need to earn maximum supernormal profit(the diagram shows max supernormal profit)

Deadweight loss

-potential revenue the supplier isn't earning, and surplus the consumer is missing out on

Natural monopoly

-have large monopoly power
-high fixed costs so MES is at a very high quantity
-continuous EOS so LRAC always falls
-only rational for 1 firm to supply the market as competition is undesirable as it would result in wasteful duplication of resources
-regulators usually step in and offer a subsidy to reduce price which increases the quantity supplied (to become more allocatively efficient)

Advantages

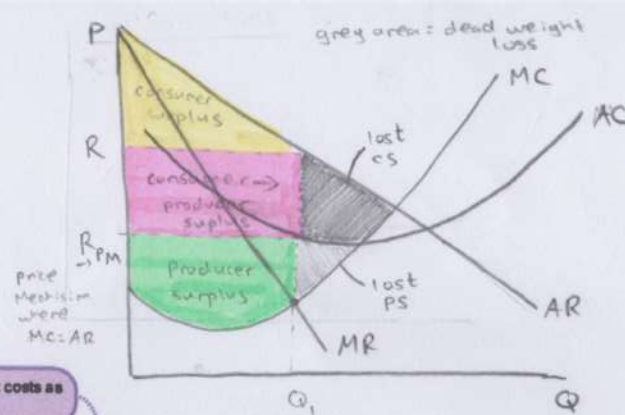
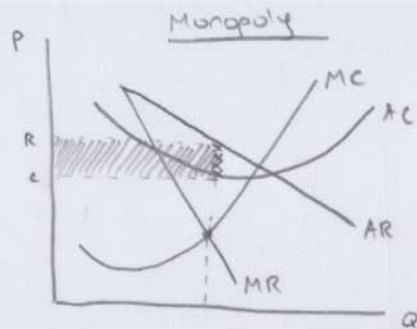
Economies of scale- produce high output at low cost

Invention and innovation(especially due to patents)=
= better quality = dynamic efficiency due to large supernormal profits

Increased financial security as firms offer stable employment

Natural Monopolies - regulated ones move towards becoming more allocatively efficient

Cross subsidisation- use sp profits to cross subsidise loss making G/S (price discrimination)



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