ECO3111 International Trade First mid-term examination: February 8th, 2012 University of Ottawa Professor: Louis Hotte Time allotted: 1h 20min

Attention: Not all questionnaires are the same. This is questionnaire A. On the answer sheet, you must indicate the letter of your questionnaire with the course's number as follows: ECO3111A. You must answer according to the material seen in this course. Read all answer choices before choosing your answer. GOOD LUCK!

## QUESTIONNAIRE A

## I. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (4 points each)

- 1. What is the term for a capital flow that is used to purchase or build a tangible asset like a factory?
  - (a) migration
  - (b) service imports
  - (c) service exports
  - (d) foreign direct investments
- 2. Several economists have hypothesized that the terms of trade for developing countries will decline over time. Which of the following might be a cause of this decline?
  - (a) Technological progress in manufactured goods has caused their prices to fall.
  - (b) Some developing countries are able to keep the price of their exports high by restricting supplies on the world market.
  - (c) Increased demand for developing country exports has caused prices of developing country exports to rise.
  - (d) The demand for food exports from developing countries has not risen as fast as the demand for manufactured exports of industrialized countries.
- 3. The Ricardian model assumes that the marginal product of labor is:
  - (a) increasing
  - (b) decreasing
  - (c) constant
  - (d) zero
- 4. In general, migration is ..... than trade.
  - (a) more controlled and regulated
  - (b) more free
  - (c) less desirable
  - (d) more desirable

- 5. The U.S. trade-to-GDP ratio is:
  - (a) the highest in the industrialized world.
  - (b) greater than China's and Japan's.
  - (c) too high.
  - (d) smaller than that of Germany.
- 6. The PPF is bowed out in the Heckscher-Ohlin model because:
  - (a) capital is specific to computer production.
  - (b) labor is specific to shoe production.
  - (c) capital is better suited to computer production than shoe production.
  - (d) labor is specific to shoe production, capital is specific to computer production, and capital is better suited to computer production than shoe production.
- 7. The focus of the Ricardian model is on how differences in ..... influence international trade patterns.
  - (a) demand
  - (b) comparative costs
  - (c) absolute costs
  - (d) transportation costs
- 8. The argument that trade generates gains for all workers may not be true because:
  - (a) a more realistic assumption includes capital and land as factors of production and recognizes that trade will generate gains for some factors and losses for others.
  - (b) greedy corporations exploit workers.
  - (c) technology gains are concentrated among low-skill workers.
  - (d) some workers lack skills and training and cannot find jobs.
- 9. If we consider the *specific-factors model*, the effect of an increase in exports on the real wages of workers:
  - (a) is inconclusive because some goods' prices will be higher compared with the wage, and some will be lower.
  - (b) absolutely increases the buying power of the real wage.
  - (c) absolutely decreases the buying power of the real wage.
  - (d) will encourage foreign workers to emigrate to the United States.
- 10. A long-run model of trade used to determine how between-sector factor mobility affects national welfare and the returns to the factors is known as:
  - (a) the specific-factors model.
  - (b) the Ricardian model.
  - (c) the Chicago model.
  - (d) the IS-LM model.
  - (e) the Heckscher-Ohlin model.

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## II. PROBLEM

(35 points) Suppose that there are only two types of goods being produced: agricultural goods (A-goods) and manufactures (M-goods). A-goods are produced with land and labor while M-goods are produced using capital and labor. Labor is the only mobile factor between sectors. Analyse and discuss the effects of free trade between countries 1 and 2 assuming that country 1 is land abundant. Consider only the perspective of country 1. Be as complete as possible.

(25 points) Suppose that when Canada opens to trade, it imports labor-intensive goods. Based on the Heckscher-Ohlin model and assuming that labor and capital are the only two production factors, answer the following in words only.

- (1) Describe the basic assumptions of the Heckscher-Ohlin model.
- (2) Compared to the rest of the world, is Canada labor or capital abundant? Justify your answer by invoking the appropriate theorem.
- (3) What is the impact of trade openness on the real wage in Canada? Justify your answer by invoking the appropriate theorem.
- (4) What is the impact of trade openness on the return to capital in Canada? Justify your answer by invoking the appropriate theorem.
- (5) According to your results in (3) and (4), is trade generally undesirable for Canada?