

Some key points for the IA:

First: Keep it simple.

There is no need to write on a complicated economics concepts. The key is the write on the correct concept for the article. You do not need to try and find a concept that is the most complicated (Cost curves). If an article would benefit from cost curve graphs, there is nothing wrong with choosing a different article that more simply applies to Supply and Demand.
Keep it simple

Second: Simple applies to the concept not your evaluation of it.

Your evaluation of the concept should be clear but complete. You have explored every possible angle. You have challenged all of your assumptions.

Third: You must have a thesis. (This is a key tat is often missing in Econ IAs).

A thesis is an argument about the implications of an economic concept. What overarching argument that includes implications for all stakeholders can you make? The thesis must be supported throughout the commentary. Topic sentences of paragraphs clearly articulate the point of the paragraph and help support your thesis. The conclusion of every paragraph should be a sentence that illustrates how the examples used in the paragraph to prove the paragraph's main argument support the larger thesis (main argument of the paper).

Fourth: Terminology must be clearly defined but also used fluidly thought the entire commentary.

Fifth: From concrete to abstract and back to concrete ...

You must begin with the concrete statements of the article, then explain abstract economic concepts, then show how those concepts apply to the specifics of the article, then discuss the abstract economic implications, then apply the abstract implications back to the specifics of the article. This should be fluid but very clear.

Sixth: Graphs must be utilized.

If you are mentioning an AD curve, you should be referencing an AD curve. If you are talking about a price floor we should see a price floor labeled on a graphs and the graph and specific label should be mentioned at that point. Each and every time you mention a curve, you should be referencing it.

Seventh: You must consider all stakeholders

All people and groups that are involved should have their prospective considered. Your thesis should reflect that you have considered all of these different perspectives before you began writing. But the differences should be spelled out in the commentary.

Eighth: D.E.E.D applies

Define, Explain, Example (specific examples from the text), Diagram

Ninth: C.L.A.S.P.

Conclusion (your argument from thesis reasserted)
Have you considered Long-run implications versus Short-run implications?
What assumptions is the article making? What assumptions are you making?
Stakeholders - Producers (domestic and foreign for international), Consumers, Governments, exporters, importers, different sectors of the economy, etc...)
Perspective - Are you thinking about different perspectives (goes with Short-run/Long-run and Stakeholders a bit.
Pros and cons - Have you considered both benefits and problems? Again, the thesis should show that you have considered these things before you began writing. Otherwise you will not have a reasoned conclusion.