DATE

PERFECT COMPETITION: SNOW-CONES ACTIVITY

AP MICROECONOMICS /









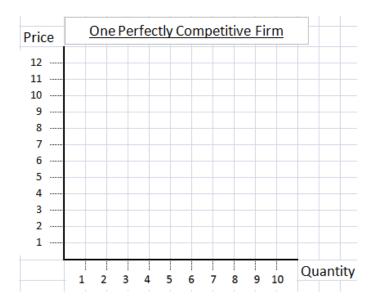




When life gives you snow... sell snow-cones!

- 1. Instead of looking at your cost data on a chart, imagine you wanted to look at it on a graph.
 - a. Using the same cost data (rewritten below), please calculate and graph MC and ATC. Approximately where does the MC curve intersect the ATC curve?

Quantity	Total	Marginal	Average
produced	cost	cost	total cost
(# units)		(ΔΤC/ΔQ)	(TC/Q)
0	10	-	
1	13		
2	15		
3	16		
4	17		
5	19		
6	22		
7	26		
8	31		
9	37		
10	45		



- b. In a perfectly competitive market, the firm is a <u>price-taker</u>, which means it receives the market price for each unit. If the market price is \$5, what will the marginal revenue be for the 1st unit? 4th? 9th?
- c. On the graph, draw the marginal revenue curve for a competitive firm who takes the equilibrium price of \$5. If the equilibrium price is \$5, what quantity of cones will the firm produce?
- d. Describe the relationship between MC and MR at the equilibrium price.
- e. What is the firm's revenue? Profit or loss?

 Please identify the area of profit or loss on the graph. (Please ask if you are having trouble doing this.)
- f. With a market price of \$5, is there an incentive for more firms to enter the market or for some firms to exit (stop producing)? Explain.
- g. What do you think will happen to profit or loss in the long-run?

Extra: In perfect competition, why does controlling a firm's cost matter so much? Can you extend this to speculate a reason why American agriculture has experienced a large consolidation in the past century? Think about economies of scale in the long-run.