

Supplementary Exercises for

Chapter 8 EU Enlargement**I. Questions on the text:**

1. Why does the U.S. Government support EU enlargement?
2. To join the EU, what conditions should each applicant meet?
3. Does gap exist between the candidates and current EU members? If yes, what are the differences?
4. According to the author, what are the economic impact of enlargement on both the EU and the candidate countries?
5. On May 1, 2004, ten new members joined the EU, in your opinion, what are the possible challenges and opportunities the enlarged EU is facing.

II. Read the following text and choose the best sentence from A to F

below to fill in each of the gaps in the text.

Newcomers sign EU membership treaties

The 10 countries joining the European Union early this week did so at a time when the group was rarely more divided, torn by disagreements over European integration and Iraq.

But those divisions are nowhere near deep enough for newcomers to reconsider entry, and they began gathering in Athens on Tuesday to sign treaties on joining in May 2004.

In an encouraging sign, Hungary's parliament overwhelmingly approved joining the EU. 1) _____ "I hope every citizen feels like a winner in 2004, a year which will inaugurate a new and happier era," parliamentary speaker Katalin Szili said.

Slovenia and Malta also approved accession, and the other seven candidates -- Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Cyprus -- followed soon.

The treaty signings in Athens capped a decade of tough reforms after many of the new signatories shed communist rule. The 10 joining nations bring 75 million people into the EU -- raising its population to 450 million. 2) _____

Officials from another country seeking entry, Turkey, promised Tuesday to make the

necessary reforms to begin negotiations by 2004 on becoming a member. Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul said his government was committed to implementing more political and economic reforms to bolster its bid. Turkey still had a lot of work to do to meet the basic political criteria for entry talks. 3) _____

The EU has put safety measures into the accession treaties, including a 10-year cap on farm subsidies and an emergency brake on trade from the east if it floods westward in exceptional quantities. 4) _____ “The new members now send two-thirds of their exports to the EU. These shares are unlikely to rise much further,” Katinka Barysch, chief economist at the London-based Center for European Reform, said in a recent news letter.

5) _____ As the EU prepares to open its eastern doors, questions linger over the EU's readiness for the expansion. A 105-member panel of representatives of EU governments, legislatures and institutions faces a June deadline for drafting a constitution for the expanded Union. 6) _____

- A. Economists now see little negative economic impact on the current members.
- B. However, it remains divided over how to share power between national capitals and the EU's central institutions.
- C. It includes such tough jobs as meeting basic human rights standards, setting up a fair judicial system and maintaining a civilian controlled military.
- D. The EU head office estimates expansion will boost the EU's gross domestic product by about 0.5 percent.
- E. The newcomers' wealth ranges from barely 29 percent of the EU average in Lithuania to 85 percent in Cyprus.
- F. Tuesday's 365-1 vote was mostly formal, but it reflects that the benefits of joining the 15-nation bloc far outweigh the disadvantages for the 10 mostly eastern European candidates.

III. E-C Translation:

1. EU enlargement is likely to further enhance trade and capital flows and accelerate growth, particularly for the developing country candidates. Greece, Portugal, Spain, and particularly Ireland experienced a further acceleration of economic growth after joining the EU. Although it takes time, previous enlargements have shown that the income gap between EU members and poorer candidate countries tended to narrow. Such examples portend a favorable economic future for the European continent.
2. MAY DAY is traditionally a workers' holiday. But this year it also marks what should be the biggest day in the 50-year story of the European project. Ten new countries, mostly from central Europe, are joining the European Union. For them,

May 1st used to mean forced jollity and endless military parades. This year, they will be guests of honour at a jamboree attended by all the European heads of government in Dublin (since Ireland holds the rotating EU presidency).

IV. Key to Exercises

Exercise II

- 1) F 2) E 3) C 4) A 5) D 6) B

Exercise III

1. 参考答案: 欧盟的扩展将很可能进一步加强贸易和资本流通, 加速发展步伐, 尤其对于发展中欧盟候选国来说。希腊、葡萄牙、西班牙, 特别是爱尔兰曾在加入欧盟后经济发展大大加速。尽管还需要时间, 但此前的扩展经验表明欧盟成员国与相对贫困的候选国之间的收入差距趋于缩小。这些例子预示着欧洲大陆美好的经济前景。
2. “五一”节是一个传统的劳动节。但今年的“五一”却标志着五十年欧洲计划中最隆重的一天。另有十个国家, 大多数为中欧国家, 将加入欧盟的行列。对于他们来说, “五一”节过去意味着强装狂欢和没完没了的军事检阅。今年, 他们将成为在都柏林举行的(因为爱尔兰持此届欧盟轮值主席席位)所有欧洲政府首脑都参加的盛大聚会的贵宾。