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India's Number 1 Education App

## ECONOMICS

# BOOKS - GOYAL BROTHERS PRAKASHAN ECONOMICS (HINGLISH) 

## PRODUCTION FUNCTION : RETURNS TO A

## FACTOR

## Illustrations

1. Identify the three phases in the law of variable proprtions from the following :

Units of Factor Total Product (units)

| 1 | 20 |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 | 50 |
| 3 | 70 |
| 4 | 80 |
| 5 | 60 |

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2. Identify the different output levels which mark the
different phases of the operation of the law of variable proportions from the following data:

Units of Varible Input Total Product (units)
0 0
1 50
2 20
3
28
4
20
5
30

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## Exercises

1. Production function is an expression of :
A. Output
B. Inputs
C. Technology
D. Cost

Answer: C
2. In 'returns of a factor', the world return refers to :
A. Units of output
B. Value of output
C. Total profit
D. Per unit profit

Answer: A
3. If average product of employing one unit of variable input is 10 units and that of 2 units of variable inputs is 13 units, the marginal product of 2 units of variable inputs is :
A. 3 units
B. 11.5 units
C. 16 units
D. 23 units

## Answer: C

4. In the Law of Variable Proportions, when Total Product rises at decreasing rate, Average Product
A. Rises throughout
B. Falls throughout
C. Initially rises and then falls
D. Initially fall and then rises

## Answer: C

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5. So long as Average Product is rising :
A. Marginal product is also rising
B. Marginal product is greater than average product
C. Average product is greater than marginal product
D. Marginal product is less than average product

## Answer: B

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## 1. Explain the term 'returns to a factor'.

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2. Give meanings of AP and MP.

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3. When one input is increased while other kept
fixed TP increases at increasing rate in the beginning. Why?
4. When one input is increased while other kept fixed, after a level of output TP increases at decreasing rate. Why ?

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5. When one input is increased while others are kept fixed, after a level of output TP falls. Why?

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1. Explain the concepts of TP, AP and MP.

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2. What does the law of variable proportions state ?

State the three phases of behaviour of output in this law.

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3. Explain the reasons behind the three phases of the law of variable proportions.
4. Represent the law of variable proportions diagrammatically and mark its different phases.

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5. Explain the relation between MP and AP.

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6. Explain the relation between MP curve and AP curve.

## 7. Explain the relation between TP and MP.

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## Long Answer Questions

1. Explain the relation between (a) TP and MP and (b) MP and AP.
2. Explain the Law of Variable Proportions. Use diagram.

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## Numerical Questions

1. 4 units of a factor of production produce 100
units of output, and 5 units produce 120 units of output, Calculate MP of that factor.
2. Complete the following table :

| Units of <br> input | TP <br> (units) | AP <br> (units) | MP <br> (units) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 10 |  |  |
| 2 | 22 |  |  |
| 3 | 30 |  |  |
| 4 | 30 |  |  |
| 5 | 25 |  |  |

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3. Identify the three phases of the Law of Variable Proportions from the data in question number 2.

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4. Complete the following table. Assume that the
law of diminishing returns is operating throughout

| Units of Variable Input | TP (units) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 100 |
| 2 |  |
| 3 |  |
| 4 |  |

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5. Complete the following table. Assume that the
law of diminishing returns is operating throughout

| Variable Input <br> (units) | MP <br> (units) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 10 |
| 2 |  |
| 3 |  |
| 4 |  |

6. Prepare a schedule showing variable input and TP on the basis of the Law of Variable Prportions.

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7. Prepare a schedule showing variable input and MP on the basis of the Law of Variable Proportions.

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## 8. Complete the following table

| Variable input <br> (units) | TP <br> (units) | $\mathbf{A P}$ <br> (units) | MP <br> (units) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 |  |  |
| 1 |  |  | 20 |
| 2 |  |  | 26 |
| 3 | 66 |  |  |
| 4 |  | 19 |  |
| 5 |  |  | 4 |

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## Some Important Questions

1. Define marginal product.
2. Define production function.

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3. What is meant by returns to a factor ? State the law of diminishing returns to a factor.

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4. What is meant by returns to a factor? State the reasons for diminishing returns to a factor.
5. What is menat by returns to a factor. What leads to increasing returns to a factor ? Explain.

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6. Identify different phases of the law of variable proportions from the following schedule. Given reason for your answer.

Variable Input (Units)
1
2
3
4
5

Total Product (Units
4
9
13
15
12
7. Explain the Law of Variable Proportions with the help of total product and marginal product curves.

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8. Explain the Law of Variable Proportions and the reasons behind it. Use diagram.
9. Giving reasons, state whether the following statements are true or false :
(i) When there are diminishing returns to a factor, total product always decreases.
(ii) Total product will increase only when marginal product increases.

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## 10. Explain with the help of a total product curve the

 meaning of increasing returns to a factor.11. Giving reasons, state whether the following statements are true of false :
(i) AP will increase only when MP increases.
(ii) Under diminishing returns to a factor, TP continue to increase till MP reaches zero.

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