Economics 161 — Spring 2004

Latin American Economic Development

Mock Final Exam

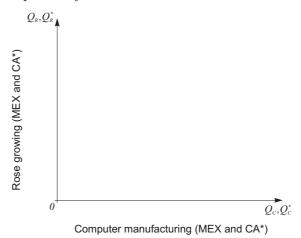
June 3, 2004

Time: 40 minutes Total score: 40 points

1 Comparative Advantage

California's workers can either manufacture 200,000 computers or grow 10 million roses, or a mix of the two. Mexico's workers can either manufacture 60,000 computers or grow 9 million roses, or a mix of the two.

- 1. Explain in words or show with a numerical example how you can determine California's and Mexico's opportunity costs of computers in terms of roses.
- 2. Explain in words or depict in the graph below California's and Mexico's production possibility frontiers.



2 Fixed Exchange Rates

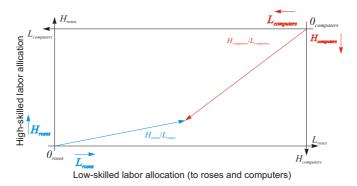
Discuss the differences of a fixed exchange rate regime managed by the Central Bank, a currency board and full dollarization.

3 Heckscher-Ohlin

Mexico is relatively abundant in low-skilled labor L and California is relatively abundant in high-skilled labor H. Rose-growing is relatively low-skill intensive

and computer-manufacturing is relatively high-skill intensive.

- 1. What is the pattern of trade? Why?
- 2. If Mexico intensifies its trade integration with California, how does the share of H/L in each sector change in Mexico? You may use the graph below to show your answer or provide a verbal explanation.



4 Debt Laffer Curve

- 1. Briefly explain the Debt Laffer Curve. Why does the market value of debt not increase one-to-one with the face value of debt?
- 2. What is your policy recommendation to a country at the depicted point on the debt Laffer Curve?

