

SUBJECT	Introductory Microeconomics
CLASS	XI
TOPIC	Production Function
SUB TOPIC	Law of Variable Proportion
TIME	40 minutes
NATURE OF ACTIVITY	Group Activity

What will I learn (Learning Outcome)?

Will enable to assess the best combination of fixed and variable factors for maximum outcome.

Skills:

Teamwork, observation, analytical thinking & interpretation skills

What I have to do?

Perform a group activity with fellow students that explains the various stages of the law of variable proportion

What do I require?

6 boards and 25 items per board which can be pinned up on the board

What do I need to know?

I should have complete knowledge about the stages of law of variable proportion and the reasoning behind each stage.

Teacher's Activity

1. Teacher will arrange 60 blocks of five different colours and different shapes.
2. Students are supposed to segregate the blocks according to colour and shapes.
3. Will instruct to add six more students one by one to perform the activity and observe the performance by students after every addition.

Student Activity.

1. In this activity initially there will be one student to segregate the blocks.
2. After two minutes one more student will join, now the segregation will be fast.
3. Gradually students will be joining one by one till there are seven students.
4. All other students will observe this act.
5. They will explain the change in work that as more and more students were added initially, the segregation was done at fast speed till certain number of students.
6. There was a stage when addition of student did not make any difference in the going on task.
7. When number of students reached to 7, there was chaos and mismanagement and the speed and output both reduced.
8. This observation explains the three stages of law of variable proportion.
9. Students will discuss the law, its stages and reasons for the operation of law. Will show the stages in a diagram.

What have I observed?

S.no	Number of students	Returns to factor
Stage 1		
Stage 2		
Stage 3		

What have I learnt?

There is a stage where fixed and variable factors are in best combination. Any change in this proportion will diminish the returns.

What am I curious to learn?

What will happen if number of variable and fixed factors are increased in same proportion? Will the law be applicable then?

Let me evaluate myself?

Q1. Differentiate between short run and long run.

Q 2. Discuss the reasons responsible for slow change in output in 2nd stage of production.

Q 3. Explain short run production function with the help of diagram.

Q4. Explain the law of variable proportion with the help of schedule and diagram.
