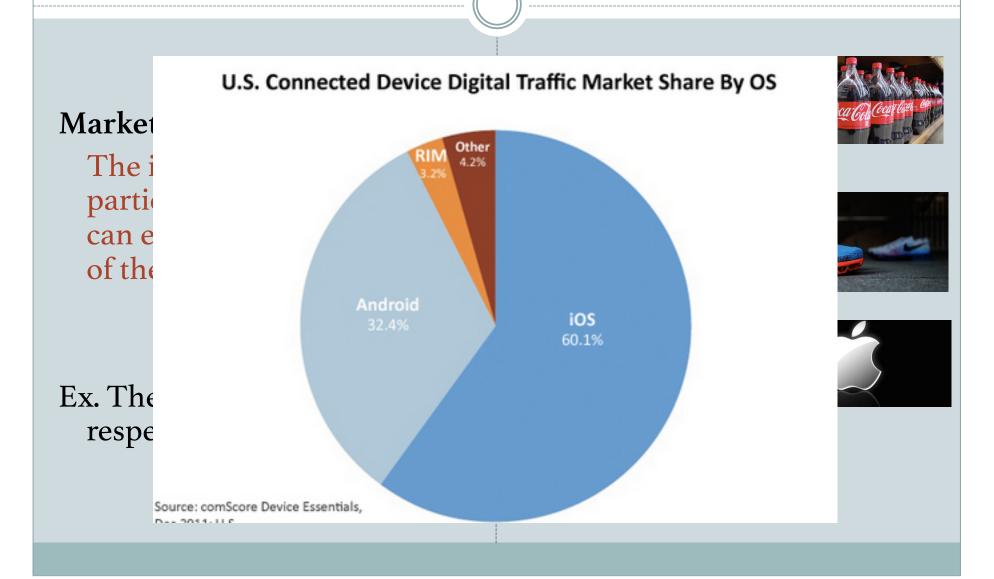
# Market Structures

## Market Power



## Perfect Competition

#### "Price Takers"



- Large number of firms producing the same/identical product.
- Price is set by buyer.
- Each firm's production level <u>does</u>
   <u>not</u> influence the price.
- Few barriers to entry.
  - -Agriculture *Ex. Strawberries, wheat, poultry*
  - -Gold
  - -Oil
  - -Stock market



## Monopolistic Competition

- Many firms compete to sell products that are similar but not identical.
- Differentiated products.
- Slight control over price.
- Few barriers to entry

Ex. -Jeans

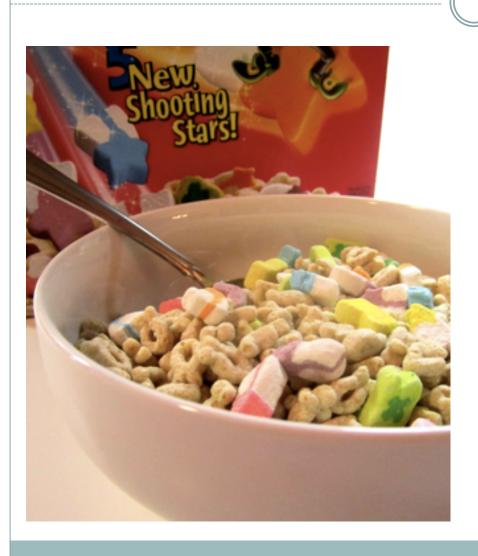
-Watches

-Shoes





# Oligopoly



 Market dominated by a few large profitable firms.

(3-4 control 70-80%).

- Little or <u>no</u> true *price* competition.
- Firms are interdependent
- Significant barriers to entry (start up costs high).

Ex. -Airline Industry

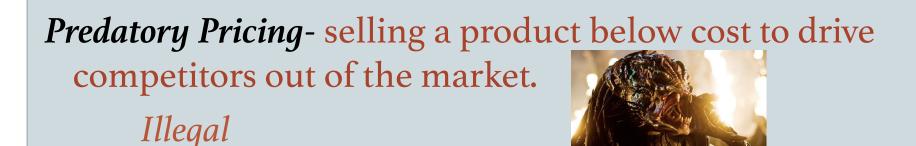
-Breakfast Cereal

-Soft Drinks

# How do firms in an oligopoly control their respective industries?

Collusion- an agreement among firms to set prices.

Illegal



Time for a Simulation....

Pricing-Profit Situations (Offgopoly)

Industry			Individual Firm			
Prices (Firm Sales)	Total Sales	Price	Sales Quantity	Total Revenue P x Q	Total cost \$55 Fixed \$1/Variable	Profit
<b>H, H, H</b> 30, 30, 30	90	<b>H</b> = \$ 4	+			+\$30
H, H, L 10, 10, 80	100	H=\$4	-	And the state of t		- \$25
		L=\$3				+ \$105
H, L, L 5, 50, 50	105	H=\$4			4	- \$40
		L=\$3		en e		+\$45
L, L, L 36, 36, 36	108	L=\$3				+ \$17

Profit or Loss Statement									
	(Read the	e results from the prepared	chart as you play	)					
	Industry	Your Firm's Price							
No.	Situation	(H or L)	Profit	Loss					
1	L, L, H	Н		- 40					
2	H,H, H	Н	+30						
3									
4									
. 5									
6									
7	THEORY		*						
8									
9									
10			nauthar service and control of the c						
11			1.71.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01						
12									
13									

#### **Pricing-Profit Situation (Follow Up)**

1. What was you strategy at the start of the game? How did you change your strategy as the game progressed?

2. As a consumer which strategy would you like to see firms follow?

3. Do you think collusion is fair? Why/Why not.



# How do oligopolies continue to grow legally without becoming a monopoly?

They buy other businesses!

Conglomerate- a business combination merging more than three businesses that make <u>unrelated</u> <u>products.</u>

# Examples

#### GILLETTE

- I. Razors/shaving accessories #I in U.S.
  - 70% market share



- 2. Batteries-#I in U.S.
  - 50% market share

Duracell



3. Deodorant- #2 in U.S.

Right Guard



## More Examples



#### SARA LEE

1. Baked Goods- #2 bakery in the U.S.



2. Packaged Meat-major provider to food service

Hilshire Farm, Jimmy Dean - "Go Meat!"



3. Apparel- #1 intimate wear provider in U.S.

Beefy T, Hanes, Playtex



## Monopoly

- A market dominated by a single seller.
- Barriers prevent firms from entering the market.
- High prices = no competition.
- Natural Monopoly: Most efficient (lowest long-run average cost) for production in a single firm.

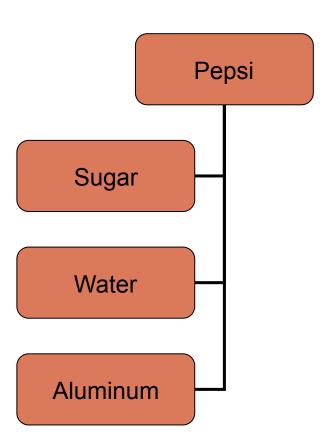
Ex. Gas Company

• Government Monopoly: patent, license, franchise.

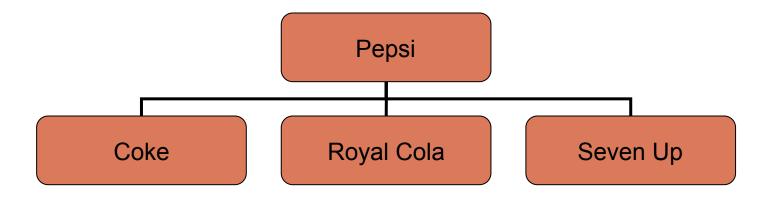
Ex. Public Water.



# Vertical Monopoly

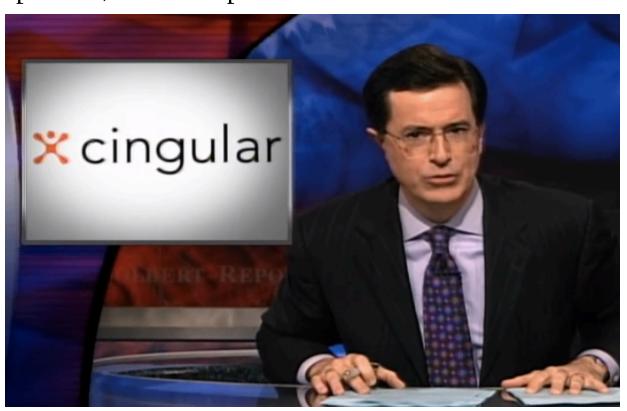


# Horizontal Monopoly



#### Monopolies and You

Antitrust Laws: Laws that restrict formation of cartels, mergers that lessen competition, and monopolies.



#### Quick Write:

Using the concept of supply and demand, how would consumers react to an economy based solely on a monopolistic market structure?

# TUCKER

Sadly Tucker died...

You are going to write a eulogy where you honor Tucker's ingenuity and brilliance.

The eulogy should contain the following words:

- Entrepreneur
- Innovation
- Oligopoly
- Collusion
- Competition

# Time for our second DBQ!!!

Just kidding...

### Competition and Market Power



# All airlines try to impress you with their lowest fares.

# How many can do it with their highest?

Raleigh/Durham to Atlanta One-way

Raleigh/Durham to Houston (Hobby) One-way Walk-up Fare \$139

00 479

3-Day

Advance Purchase

14-Day Advance Purchase

49

119

No matter how little advance notice you have to get where you're going. AirTran always has a great tare to get you there. Even at the last minute. These fares to Atlanta and Houston are just a souple of examples. Plus, for only \$25 more than our walk-up fares on nonstop flights (\$40 on connecting flights), you can enjoy the extra space of our Business Class. But we thought putting that fare in big bold numbers would be pushing it. For more information about our other destinations, or for reservations, call your travel agent or 1-800-AIR-TRAN. For complete vacation packages, call AirTran Vacations at 888-785-9760, www.airtran.com

Seats are limited, subject to availability and may not be available on all flights. All tares are one-way. All fares are non-refundable and a \$50 fee per person applies to any change made after purchase plus any applicable increase in airfare. Fares and schedules subject to change without notice. Business Class upgrades are available for \$25 over the full one-way coach fare for nonstop flights and \$40 over the full one-way coach fare for connecting flights, and are not available for discounted fares. Airport Passenger Facility Charges of up to \$12 are not included. Charges 1999.

#### Price Discrimination

Price Discrimination: Dividing consumers into <u>two or more</u> groups and charging a different price to each groups.

- -Everyone has his or her own maximum price.
- -Monopolists can attract more consumers and maximize profits because they are capturing each consumers maximum price

# Examples of Price Discrimination (remember consumer surplus?)

- Senior Citizen Discount
- Kids Discount
  - They still take up a seat
- Ladies Night
- Coupons/ "Kohl's Cash"
- ASB
- College Tuition
- Can you think of others?





# How to Make the Most Through Price Discrimination

Your cereal manufacturer knows that some of its customers pay lots of attention to prices, while others don't. If it were to cut its price, then only the price-sensitive customers would respond by buying more. The price cut would be wasted (from the firm's point of view) on those shoppers who don't pay attention to prices.

Coupons are a clever way of giving a break just to the pricesensitive shoppers. By creating all of the hassles you described, manufacturers see to it that only very price-sensitive customers are going to end up using their coupons. This targets the price cut on just those people who will be most responsive to it.