Economics 362, Hanes Problem set on the natural rate of interest and loanable funds

1) Consider a "closed economy" in which

Y = C + I + G C = a + b(Y - T) I = c - dr  $G = \overline{G}$ T = tY where 0 < t < 1

Notice that this economy is a little different from the one we described in class. Here, taxes net of transfers *T* is not an exogenous variable. *T* is instead a fraction of real GDP, such as  $\frac{1}{10}$  or  $\frac{1}{5}$ , denoted *t*.

a) Using algebra, derive the equation that gives the natural rate of interest  $\overline{r}$  as a function of  $\overline{G}$ ,  $\overline{Y}$  etc.

b) Using algebra, derive the equation that gives national savings S when output is equal to the natural rate of output  $\overline{Y}$ . (We called this  $\overline{S}$ .)

2) Continue to consider the economy from part 1). On the "loanable funds" graphs below, draw what happens to the natural rate of interest in response to the events listed. Hint: use your answer from 1b)!

a) Exogenous government purchases  $\overline{G}$  decreases from a higher value  $\overline{G}_1$ to a lower value  $\overline{G}_2$ .

b) The "tax rate" t decreases from a higher value  $t_1$ to a lower value  $t_2$ .

c) The constant in the consumption function a increases from a higher value  $a_1$  to a lower value  $a_2$ .