

Year A: Cycle 4  
Identity

Study Guide  
Social World  
February 13- March 24



“One man’s wage increase is another man’s price increase.”

Harold Wilson, *The Observer*, January 11, 1970

“Man is the only creature that consumes without producing.”

George Orwell, *Animal Farm*

### Overview

One definition of economy is that it is a system for the production and exchange of goods and services. This applies to global, household, as well as individual level of activity. Decisions related to spending, saving, and overall money management can have a lasting impact, for better or worse, and should be made using responsible financial principles. Often, there are very differing opinions as to how an economic system should be managed.

The government of that country influences the economy of any given country. In our democratic society, the government generally allows private businesses to flourish or fail within a free enterprise system, also known as capitalism. Other nations follow a socialistic system where governments have eliminated business profit and competition in favor of a more even distribution of wealth to all citizens.

One of the major concepts that impact any economy is that of scarcity of goods and services. For example, consumers who wanted to obtain McDonald’s “Teeny Beanie Babies” often found they were unable to do so because of the significant demand for that particular item. For many individuals, managing their own economy or their personal finances can be a difficult task.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Read the overview with your color group and mark it up. Vocabulary words: capitalism, socialism, communism, production, consumer, inflation, share, economic, corporation, and capital. **Quizlet Due 2/27**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Personal Project: Draw a career/salary card and receive a checkbook, deposit slips, and checkbook register. Calculate how much you earn in a two-month period. Calculate the tax amount by subtracting 20% of your two-month earning. This amount will be your starting balance. During the week, receive money card from your teacher. Pay bills or make deposits and keep your checkbook register. At the end show your checkbook register to your teacher. Checks and deposit slips will be given to your banker (teacher). **Due: 3/22**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Socratic Discussion: The Labor Question by Frederick Douglas. **3/1**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. **Advanced Work:** Choose one of the following activities to complete.
  - a. Estimate the profits for one of the class businesses.
  - b. Estimate the cost of having a child for the first year.

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- c. Choose five of the most popular consumer items with people your age. Research the answer to the following questions for each of the selected products and services:
- Why is it so popular?
  - What is the profit margin?
  - Where are each of the products made? Under what conditions?
  - What type of business organization produces it?
  - What are the advertising practices/techniques employed?
- d. Make 3 different commercials for the same product. Each commercial should target a different consumer audience. Videotape your commercials and present them to your color group.

**Guiding Question 1: *What is economics and what are the major systems used in the world today?***

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Participate in the lesson on economics and economic systems. Watch the Kingdom of Mocha and Return to Mocha videos. Record the information on the graphic organizer. **2/24**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Complete a) and b) with your small group to answer the guiding question. **Due: 3/23**
- a. Participate in the simulation game.
  - b. Complete the *Supply and Demand* activity sheets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Reflect on the answer to this question by adding to your graphic organizer.

**Guiding Question 2: *What is life like in the U.S. economic system?***

- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Participate in the lesson on the US economic system and free market economy, including the 7 M's of production, the role of government, the stock market, and forms of business. Record the information in the graphic organizer. **2/24**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Complete two of the activities individually to answer the guiding question. **Due: 3/23**
- a. Choose at least three stocks to follow on a daily basis. You have \$10,000 to invest. How many shares of each stock can you buy? Chart each stock on graph paper for a 10-day period. Did your group lose or make money? Did any local, national, or world events affect the price of your stock?
  - b. Make a list of groceries that are necessary for a family of four for one week. Estimate the cost of these items. Then go to the store and get the prices for these items. Calculate the cost of food for one year for a family of four based on the weekly amount.
  - c. Interview the heads of a business to find out their strategies with regard to the 7 M's.
  - d. Using the Toy Company packet, create a company and design a toy. Identify which type of company yours is and at least four of the seven M's of production for your company. Create a poster, flyer, or jingle to advertise your company and toy. How might the process, product and presentation be different if you were living in a socialist society? Present your information to the group and use a rubric to assess your group's presentation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Take the vocabulary test. You must show mastery to be complete. **3/6**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Complete the self and group assessment individually and then discuss it with your small group.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Cycle 4 Social World Project **3/22**