

Assignments for Topic A

USA's economy

Lesson 1

Regions Assignment

PowerPoint presentation on each of the regions.

- must describe physical and human characteristics
- must include pictures
- must include industry
- must include famous locations
- hand in paper copy of presentation which must include a map of the regions
- hand in a 250 word essay explaining which region you would most like to live in

Lesson 2

1. What is mercantilism?
2. Who benefited from mercantilism?
3. What happened at the Boston Tea Party? Why were they upset and at whom?
4. What was the cause of the American Revolution?
5. Name and describe the treaty that ended the American Revolution.
6. Outline the beliefs of the following people:
 - John Locke
 - Voltaire
 - Jean-Jacques Rousseau
 - Montesquieu
7. What is Manifest Destiny? Do you believe that is still a threat today?

Lesson 3

1. What major problem did the American economy have?
2. Explain the causes of the War of 1812.

Lesson 4

1. What does revolution mean?
2. List and explain the events that occurred during the Agricultural Revolution. How did each help lead to an Industrial Revolution?
3. Assume the role of a displaced farmer or a wealthy landowner. Write a letter to a friend or a family member in a distant town explaining the effects of the Enclosure Acts.
4. Which system would appeal to you more – cottage or factory? Make sure to explain what you like and dislike about each. (2 – 3 paragraphs)
5. Where would new factories need to be placed? Why?
6. Would you have liked to live in a British city during the Industrial Revolution? Give reasons for your opinion.
7. Who were the Luddites? Would you have wanted to be a member of this social movement? Explain.

Invention Assignment

Display each of the following inventions from the textile industry. Ensure you indicate who invented it, when it was invented and what it did.

Flying shuttle
Spinning Jenny
Water Frame
Water Mule
Power Loom
Cotton Gin

Lesson 5

1. What makes transportation so important to industry? Can industry live without efficient transportation?
2. How was USA's industrialization different than Britain's?
3. What were the reasons for the American Civil War?
4. The American Civil War caused a major problem for the US gov't. What was this problem and how was it resolved?
5. Explain the results of the Civil War.

Lesson 6

1. Define economics in your own words.
2. What 3 things must every economy deal with?
3. What is a market economy?
4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of a market economy?
5. What is a command economy?
6. What are the advantages and disadvantages of a command economy?
7. Explain, in your own words “From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs”.
8. In your opinion, which method of organizing the economy of a country would be most fair to the average person?

Lesson 7

1. Define the terms Boom and Bust.
2. Give examples of Boom and Bust in American History.
3. Are we in a boom or bust currently? Explain how you know this – give evidence.

Lesson 8

Entrepreneur Assignment

Choose one of the following entrepreneurs and answer the following questions using any form to show your answers.

Donald Trump

Richard and Maurice McDonald/Ray

Kroc

Mary Kay

Dave Thomas

Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen

Bill Gates

Walt Disney

Steve Jobs

Milton Hershey

J.D. Rockefeller

Sam Walton

Oprah Winfrey

Henry Ford

How did they get started?

Where did they come from?

What risks did they take?

What personal characteristics make them a successful entrepreneur?

What is their relationship with those who work for them?

What are some of their accomplishments?

How did they develop their industry?

Lesson 9

1. Explain the difference between labour and management. Give an example of each.
2. What is Labour Movement? What conditions must be evident in order for there to be a Labour Movement?
3. Why are labour movements necessary?
4. What role do labour unions play today?

Lesson 10

1. Define consumer sovereignty. Why is it so important?
2. What are 3 pros and 3 cons of advertising?
3. What is consumerism
4. Are consumer groups important for our economy?
5. Do you think that it is the gov't role to make laws to set minimum standards on products or do you think it should be a role of the consumer (Buyer Beware?)

6. What is the difference between a right and a responsibility?
7. What are the basic rights and responsibilities of a consumer?
8. Which group has the most control over the type and price of goods and services, consumers or producers? Study the points of view below and decide which one you agree with. Are there other arguments you could add? Write a 150 word essay on this.

Some arguments in favour of consumer control

- Consumers are free to buy what they want. Sellers cannot force anyone to buy something. Consumers only get what they want.
- Consumers will shop wisely for the best and cheapest product or service; therefore, only the best and lowest-priced items will survive in a free market
- Consumers have political power. They are voters so they can get their elected gov't to force changes on producers if necessary

Some arguments in favour of producer control

- Producers are usually a small group so they can easily get together to set any price they want; that is, they can form a monopoly
- Producers can use advertising in the mass media to create wants and needs in consumers. This advertising can mislead or confuse consumers to buy goods or services they do not need.
- Producers have political power. Politicians will tend to listen more to a few rich producers than a large group of poor and disorganized consumers.

Advertisement Assignment

Choose an advertisement and answer the following questions:

- What is the advertisement trying to sell?
- How is the advertisement trying to sell?
- What is misleading about the advertisement?
- Would you buy this product? Why?

Lesson 11

1. What is the best method for looking after the environment according to Market Economist like Adam Smith?
2. Why does this market economy solution to environmental concerns not work?
3. What is the Kyoto Accord? What is your take on the Accord? Will it work to reduce emissions or is it just a waste?

Environment Assignment

What are 10 ways that you could reduce your effect on the environment? How much would this cost you? Is it do-able? Is it convenient?

Lesson 12

1. Define Quality of Life. How is it measured?
2. Do you have a good quality of life? Defend your answer with evidence.
3. Define Standard of Living? How is it measured?
4. Do you have a good standard of living? Defend your answer with evidence.
5. Does money buy happiness? Explain your decision.
6. Who are America's poor?
7. What is the poverty line? How is it determined?
8. How do sports stimulate our economy? (directly/indirectly)
9. What is a lobby group? Why are they important?
10. Write a paragraph on one lobby group that you are interested in. What are they demands for the gov't? How do they go about addressing gov't? Are they/will they be successful?

Lesson 13

1. What is a tariff?
2. Why are tariffs important?
3. Make a chart like below and compare the lives of people in the past with your prediction about the future.

Item	100 years ago	Today	100 years in the Future
Long-distance communication			
Transportation			
Medicine			
Foods			
Music			