

## **ECONOMICS SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

***Objective:*** To become familiar with the vocabulary and concepts we will be using during the term.

***Task:*** You will keep a journal over the summer covering economics issues. Select **5** articles discussing either the American economy or the international economy. The articles should be from the New York Times the Wall Street Journal, news or business magazines such as Time, Newsweek, Fortune, or a news or business news internet site such as CNN. The articles should be spread out over the summer (no more than one for each week).

Some of the major areas include:

--analysis of the US economy from the Federal Reserve Bank including the Beige Book and testimony/remarks made by Federal Reserve Officials including Ben Bernanke

--analysis of statistics or conditions related to the economy including but not limited to: inflation, business activity, employment, consumer activity, housing

--actions or remarks made by the President or Congress relating to economic conditions, taxes, healthcare/Social Security/Medicare reforms or the national deficit

--international: trade, value of the dollar, economic conditions in other countries

At **least one** article must be about the President or Congress and the economy and at **least one** article must be about an international topic.

--For **each** of the 5 articles write a brief summary including identifying and describing the issue/problem the article is discussing about the United States economy, the international economy or another country's economy. Include copies of your articles and any questions you have. Any vocabulary should be researched.

***Final conclusion:***

Using the information from the 5 articles, answer the questions:

1-How do the issues/problems discussed in the 5 articles impact (are related to) each other? For examples, if something is decided in Congress about the economy how could that action have impacted the other topics you have read about?

2-How do the issues/problems discussed in the 5 articles impact the United States or certain groups within this country? Use evidence from the articles to support your answer.

3-Do any of the issues you discussed in question 2 also impact other countries? Explain, again using supporting evidence.

4-How do the issues/problems discussed in the 5 articles impact your family?

Your discussion for each question should be 1 page in length—no more than 4 pages for the four questions.

**Grading:**

--Quality of the articles you have selected

--Completeness of your summary of each article: writing the summary in your own words (not copying information from the article), selecting the main ideas and clearly explaining these ideas.

--Conclusion questions: clearly explaining the relationship(s) of the different topics to your family or each other, supporting your ideas with examples.