

Economics Project

Overview: Students will research an economic topic, and then provide the class with a 3-7 minute oral presentation on that topic. Choose from the following activities to guide your research and presentation.

Oral Requirements:

3-7 minute speech. Practice! It will be timed. Minimum 1 visual aid (sensory pleasing).

Options:

1. Investigate a culture (minimum of 4 sources) that operates within a traditional economic system. In your speech, include a discussion about the social norms of the group, the economic activity, the daily lives, etc. Also focus on how the society has rejected modern 'western cultures'. Turn in: Bibliography, speech outline.
2. Investigate (minimum of 4 sources) a famous world economist. In your speech, include a discussion about the theory, and concepts discussed by the individual. Is this theory or concepts still in practice, or apparent in the world today. Turn in: Bibliography, speech outline.
3. Conduct an interview with a local merchant, to determine the impact of Supply & Demand on their Business. Include, but do not limit your interview to the following questions: What determines the price that you charge? What determines when you change prices? Are there any costs to you of changing prices? In your speech, discuss the overall impact of S&D. Turn in: interview questions (minimum of 6), interview notes, speech outline.
4. Present an analysis of American economic issues through economic cartoons. Display a series of 8 cartoons (4 drawn by you, 4 from other sources) on the overhead, and provide some guided discussion as to their meaning. Turn in: 1 paragraph description of each cartoon, copy of each cartoon, speech outline.
5. Investigate (minimum of 5 sources) the current economic situation in the countries of the former U.S.S.R. In your speech, discuss how these countries have made the transition from a command economy into a market system. What are the difficulties? What has been the easy aspects? Are the citizens happy to change? Turn in: Bibliography, speech outline.

6. Present the class with a proposed business plan for any business you would be interested in starting. In your speech, address the following elements from an economic perspective: Why start this business? Location and why (be specific)? Is the business a need or a want and how does that influence demand? Would you be interested in a partner, and why? Which Government agencies and regulations would affect your business? Create an advertisement for the business that is a quality ad, with the intent to attract customers. Turn in: speech outline.