

Mapping and Currency

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Lesson Plan Background:

- **Demographics**

- **Theme/Topic:**
- **Subjects/Grade Level:** AP World History and Geography + Current Affairs. 10th - 12th grade.
- **Suggested duration:** 90 minutes
- **Introduction to lesson:** This lesson will delve into the important topics of Currency and Mapping, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of different global currencies and their values, as well as the basics of geographical mapping.

- **Connection to Standards/Common Core**

- **Standard 6.2 World History/Global Studies**

- All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically and systematically about how past interactions of people, cultures, and the environment affect issues across time and cultures.
- Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions as socially and ethically responsible world citizens in the 21st century.
- Describe how improved transportation technologies and commercial practices led to an increased volume of trade, and expanded the geographical range of existing and newly active trade networks.
- Explain how the movement of people and goods through exchange caused environmental and linguistic effects.
- Evaluate how cross-cultural exchanges were fostered by the intensification of existing, or the creation of new, networks of trade and communication.
- Discuss how trade routes continued to diffuse crops and pathogens throughout the Eastern and Western Hemisphere.
- The WEF Education 4.0 learning that is comprehensive and towards a set of skills, attitudes, and values to prepare young learners for well-being in the economies of the future.

- **Essential Questions**

- What can you learn about mapping from one port of call to another around each destination?
- How does currency change from destination nation and culture to another in a different region of the world?

- **Learning Objectives**

- Understand the concept and significance of different global currencies **Understand**
- Apply knowledge of currency exchange rates in practical scenarios **Apply**
- Remember key features of geographical maps **Remember**
- Analyze different geographical features using maps **Analyze**

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- Evaluate the impact of currency fluctuations on global trade **Evaluate**
- Create a map representing trade routes between different countries **Create**
- **Materials Needed**
 - World maps, Maps of Europe, Trade route maps, Silk Road maps, Shipping routes. Ports of Call- Major cities of trade.
 - Videos about the shipping industry, Great Lakes Port of Call
 - TI-82 or higher calculators, Google currency rate calculator.
 - Currency exchange code document from Western Union:
[https://business.westernunion.com/media\(58d28098-df21-47e6-9ab2-3d7c390ca303\)?download=false](https://business.westernunion.com/media(58d28098-df21-47e6-9ab2-3d7c390ca303)?download=false)
 - Currencies: Real Money in US dollar and the Euro, British pound, and Japanese Yen.

Lesson Plan Details:

- **Pre-Assessment of Prior Knowledge**
 - **Introduce different global currencies:** Provide learners with a list of common global currencies and discuss the importance of currency in international trade. Show them real currency notes or pictures online as visual aids
 - **Discuss currency exchange rates in practical scenarios:** Give learners examples of scenarios where they need to exchange currencies, such as planning a trip or buying goods online from a different country. Ask them to calculate the total cost or value of their transactions by considering the exchange rates
 - **Remember key features of geographical maps:** Show learners different geographical maps and point out key features such as continents, oceans, countries, and major cities. Encourage them to use mnemonics, associations, or memory games to help remember the important elements of the maps
 - **Analyze different geographical features using maps:** Provide learners with maps that highlight different geographical features like mountains, rivers, deserts, or coastlines. Ask them to label or identify these features on the maps and discuss their significance or impact on human activities
 - Evaluate the impact of currency fluctuations on global trade: Present learners with examples or case studies of how currency fluctuations can affect exporting or importing goods between countries. Discuss the potential risks and advantages for businesses and consumers
 - Create a map representing trade routes between different countries: Give learners a world map and ask them to draw or indicate trade routes between different countries or regions based on their knowledge or research. Encourage them to use symbols or color-coding to represent different types or levels of trade
- **Teacher-Student Interaction**
 1. **Demonstrate and Explain**
 - a. Research and write a brief overview of the concept and significance of different global currencies Example: Write a summary explaining the role and importance of the US dollar as the world's reserve currency.
 - b. Participate in a currency exchange simulation game, where learners can practice converting one currency to another based on current exchange rates.

- c. Example: Engage in a simulated scenario where learners trade currencies and calculate the amount they would receive after conversion.
- d. Participate in a group discussion or debate exploring the impact of currency fluctuations on global trade.
- e. Example: Join a group discussion to analyze how currency fluctuations can affect international business transactions and trade agreements.
- f. Study and memorize the key features of geographical maps, such as continents, countries, rivers, and mountains.
- g. Example: Memorize the names and locations of major mountain ranges and rivers around the world.
- h. Use maps to identify and analyze different geographical features, such as identifying landforms, climate patterns, and population distribution.
- i. Example: Analyze a map of Africa to identify different climate zones and explain how they influence agricultural practices and economic activities.
- j. Research and present a case study on the impact of currency fluctuations on a particular industry or sector.
- k. Example: Investigate how currency fluctuations affect the tourism industry in a specific country and present findings and implications.
- l. Design and create a map representing trade routes between different countries or regions
Example: Use drawing tools to create a map illustrating the trade routes between Europe and Asia during the ancient Silk Road period.

2. Student Task

- a. **Currency exchange simulation:** Students will be given a list of different currencies and their exchange rates. They will then engage in a simulation where they have to exchange their own currency for another currency, taking into account the exchange rate. They will calculate how much money they would have after the exchange and discuss the implications of currency fluctuations on global trade.
- b. **Mapping trade routes:** Students will be provided with a blank map and a list of different countries. They will have to research and identify the trade routes between these countries, marking them on the map using different colored lines. They will then analyze the map to understand the interconnectedness of global trade and the importance of these trade routes in economic development.
- c. **Comparing currencies:** Students will be given a set of different currencies and their values. They will have to compare the values of these currencies and rank them from highest to lowest. They will also discuss the factors that determine the value of a currency and how it affects trade between different countries.
- d. **Creating a travel budget:** Students will be given a scenario where they have to plan a trip to a foreign country. They will have to research the currency, exchange rate, and cost of living in that country. Using this information, they will create a budget for their trip, considering accommodation, meals, transportation, and other expenses. They will then present their budgets to the class and discuss the challenges of budgeting when dealing with different currencies.
- e. **Analyzing map features:** Students will be given a map with various physical and human-made features labeled. They will have to identify and analyze these features, discussing their significance in terms of geography, history, and culture. They will also have to explain how these features can impact trade and economic development in the region.

- f. **Currency and trade discussions:** Students will participate in group discussions where they analyze the impact of currency fluctuations on global trade. They will discuss real-world examples and case studies, and explore the role of exchange rates, inflation, and interest rates in determining currency values. They will also explore the concept of a global currency and the challenges and benefits it would bring to the international trade system.

- **Closing Activity**

- Teacher gives compliments to each Students job on the creative process and understanding of navigating different cultures with different currencies and maps. Students would talk about what they learned through a show and tell in front of the class. Then if artwork was created it would be on display in the classroom.

- **Post-Assessment**

- Research and analyze the currency values of different countries. Calculate the exchange rates between currencies and determine the impact on trade.
- Students can research and compare the exchange rates between the US dollar and the Euro, British pound, and Japanese Yen.
- They can calculate how much they would get in each currency for a certain number of US dollars and analyze which currency would provide the highest value for trade purposes.
- Create a world map and label different countries on it. Identify the major trade routes between these countries and mark them on the map.
- Students can draw a world map and label the countries of Europe, Asia, North and South America, and Africa. Then, they can research and identify the major trade routes, such as the Silk Road or the Transatlantic Slave Trade route and mark them on the map using colored lines or arrows.
- Design and create a poster showcasing the different currencies of the world. Include images and key information about each currency, such as its name, symbol, and current exchange rate.
- Students can choose a few different currencies from around the world and create a poster displaying them. They can research and find images of the currency notes and coins, and include key information such as the currency's name, symbol, and its value in relation to the US dollar. They can also include interesting facts about each currency, such as historical significance or unique features.
- Complete a mock currency exchange activity with a set amount of money in one currency and ask them to exchange it for another currency, considering exchange rates and fees.
- Students can pretend to be travelers going on a trip to a foreign country and needing to exchange their money. The teacher can assign each student a specific currency and give them a set amount of money in that currency. Students can then research the exchange rate and any fees or charges associated with exchanging their money and calculate how much they would receive in the local currency. They can write down their calculations and explain their thought process in a journal or worksheet exploring new vocabulary words.

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Lesson Plan Resources/Next Steps:

- **Resources**

- Port of Call. Shipping News | Great Lakes Now | PBS LearningMedia <https://wosu.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/46cd7b0c-9c7e-46a3-9a5e-9f4efbc5589e/shipping-news-great-lakes-now-video-the-geography-of-the-great-lakes-curriculum/>
- Shipping and ports of call marinetraffic.com
- National Geographic Global Journey photo: <https://images.nationalgeographic.org/image/upload/v1638889806/EducationHub/photos/global-human-journey.jpg>
- UNESCO silk roads map. <https://en.unesco.org/silkroad/about-silk-roads>
- World map <https://www.mapsofworld.com/amp/>
- Google currency converter <https://www.google.com/search?q=google+currency+converter&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari>

- **Extension Activities/Cross-Curricular Connections**

- Research and analyze the impact of currency fluctuations on global trade. Examine how changes in exchange rates can affect the cost of imports and exports and discuss the potential implications for different industries and economies.
- Students can research recent examples of currency fluctuations and their impact on global trade. They can choose a specific industry, such as the automotive or technology sector, and analyze how changes in exchange rates would affect the cost of importing or exporting goods for companies in that industry. They can discuss the potential implications for job markets, consumer prices, and economic growth in different countries.
- Create a 3D model or diorama representing a trade route between two countries. Include key landmarks, natural resources, and cities along the route.
- Students can choose two countries that have a significant historical or modern-day trading relationship, such as the United States and China. They can research and identify the major trade route between these countries and create a 3D model or diorama showcasing the key landmarks, natural resources, and cities along the route. They can use materials such as clay, cardboard, or paper to construct the model, and present it to the class, explaining the significance of each feature on the trade route.

Resource Support:

This lesson plan was developed by Sabrina Jeffries, who participated in the [Global Teacher Seminar 2023: Global Movement of Goods and People](#). The seminar was a partnership with the Center for African Studies (CAS), Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS), Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (CSEES), East Asian Studies Center (EASC), and Middle East Studies Center (MESC) and funded in part by U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grants to The Ohio State University. The content of this lesson plan does not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Lesson plans are available online for classroom use worldwide and can be accessed at the [Global Teacher Seminar Resource page](#).



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