

Mona Al-Hayani
China---Lesson Plan
American Studies Grade 9
Two 68 minute periods

THE FUTURE OF CHINA'S ECONOMIC SYSTEM

SOCIAL STUDIES OHIO ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS CONNECTIONS:

GRADE 9

The students will be introduced to the following benchmarks and indicators:

BENCHMARK:

Compare how different economic systems answer the fundamental economic questions of what goods or services to produce, how to produce them, and who will consume them.

STANDARD:

Economics

INDICATORS:

Describe costs and benefits of trade with regard to:

- a) Standard of living,
- b) Usage of productive resources.

Explain how changing methods of production and a country's productive resources affect how it answers the fundamental economic questions of what to produce, how to produce, and for whom to produce.

Analyze characteristics of traditional, market, command and mixed economies with regard to:

- a) Private property;
- b) Competition and consumer choice;
- c) The role of government.

Evaluate the effects of specialization, trade and interdependence on the economic system of the United States.

MATERIALS / RESOURCES:

Economics Glossary

Provides economic terms and glossary.

www.amosweb.com/gls/

Economics Glossary

A glossary of commonly used economic terms, provided by the Federal Reserve Bank.

www.frbsf.org/tools/glossary/glossReg.html

Economics Glossary
Glossary of Economics Terms
economics.about.com/od/economicsglossary/

International Economic Glossary
This glossary will eventually attempt to cover all of the terms and concepts from international economics, including both international trade and domestic trade.
www-personal.umich.edu/~alandear/glossary/

PBS
Provides clips about the newly emerging economy of China for student viewing.
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/asia/july-dec05/china_10-04.html

CIA Factbook
Provides statistics about the economy of China.
<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ch.html>

Econedlink.org
Provides help with lessons relating to economics.

The Economist Magazine
March 10th 2007
Caught Between Right and Left, town and country: A new law on property rights defines the ideological struggle at the heart of China's economic reform.

Fishman, Ted. *CHINA INC.: How The Rise Of The Next Superpower Challenges America And The World* (New York: Scribner, 2005)

ENGAGEMENT:

Students will group into their teacher created dyads. Each dyad will be given the following economic terms to define using the provided websites in:

markets, trade, comparative advantage, goods, demand, consumers, competition, comparative advantage, interdependence, purchasing power, factors of production, economic growth, disposable personal income, standard of living, supply and demand, human and physical capital, and competition.

Each dyad will record vocabulary definitions in their journals and provide an example for each (picture, phrase, etc.).

Through oral discussion, teacher will call on dyads to provide definitions and will provide clarification and have students share examples.

EXPLORATION:

In their dyads, students will visit the following website to view the piece discussing China's newly emerging economy and journal ideas for discussion:

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/asia/july-dec05/china_10-04.html

Teacher will direct whole class discussion with the students after they have viewed the piece.

Students may discuss the following learned from viewing the piece (discussion will vary):

- 1) Demolition of neighborhoods to make way for sky-scrapers, night clubs, shops, etc.
- 2) China's population being more than the U.S. and Europe combined.
- 3) China as the fastest growing economy in the world.
- 4) Chinese gaining ten times the purchasing power in a 25 year period.
- 5) China's economy doubling every eight years since the 1970's, whereas the U.S. economy only doubled once.
- 6) More privatization of property.

Students will then be asked to:

List several examples that show how China is developing from a socialist/communist country to a country with a mixed economic system.

Identify ways in which China will compete with the United States for resources.

EXPLANATION:

Students will listen to the teacher as she conducts whole class instruction:

China is fast becoming an economic super power. This lesson will explore the reasons for China's economic growth. When you have completed this lesson, you will have a better understanding of China's current position in the world economy. You will also see how the rise of China may impact the United States.

China is becoming a dominant force in the world economy. China's purchasing power is on the rise, compared to that of the United States and other countries. China is not only exporting more goods and services; increasingly, China is exporting high-tech goods like computer chips.

Also, China is becoming a more consumer-oriented society. Chinese incomes are on the rise. The Chinese people are purchasing more cars, and in China today there are several Wal-Mart stores, Kentucky Fried Chicken Restaurants, etc. China's growth is unprecedented in the history of economics. With children in China learning English and China competing with the United States for productive resources, China is no longer a

poor communist country trying to survive. China is emerging as an economic superpower ready to compete in the world economy.

EVALUATION:

List three factors of production that China is using to help its economy grow. Give an example of each from the video or from your reading in this lesson.

Possible answers: land to build new houses and factories, labor to make a variety of goods and services for export and for in-country consumption, and capital used to finance new growth for housing and factories.

Give two reasons or indications that show why or how China is becoming more consumer oriented within its own economy. Possible answers: More cars are being purchased; personal incomes are on the rise; corporations like Wal-Mart and Kentucky Fried Chicken are opening up in China everyday, selling more and more consumer goods.

EXTENSION:

Assume that you are a journalist, Write a short article (three to five paragraphs) or do a newscast on China's economy. Explain the recent changes in China's economy. Also explain where the Chinese economy seems to be headed.