Teaching international trade? We have a plan!

Engage: Get them thinking

Start your discussion of trade by raising student awareness about the origins of the goods they consume. You can demonstrate the scope of international trade with the A Trip around the World through Exports Bell Ringer interactive activity. In this activity, students try to match goods to the countries that export the greatest number of those goods. Follow this activity with a short Economy Matters quiz about the highest-value exports from the southeastern United States.

Teach: Share the knowledge

Teach: Absolute advantage, comparative advantage, and terms of trade

The International Trade and Comparative Advantage lesson uses technology, infographics, classroom simulation, and a quote from Martin Luther King Jr. to teach scarcity, production possibilities, comparative advantage, and terms of trade. Steps 27 to 29 can be used as an assessment on these topics.
Practice: Why do people and nations trade?

Assign students the *Page One Economics* reading *International Trade: Why Do People and Nations Trade?*

Have students complete the discussion questions. Access the *Trade infographic* online or *order copies* and distribute. Ask students to complete the trade infographic *activity worksheet*.

Assess: Trade agreement press release

Using the data produced in the “Teach” portion of this lesson plan, ask students to write the press release described in steps 27 to 29 of the *International Trade and Comparative Advantage lesson*. You may also *create a class* in the *Econlowdown* instructor management panel and assign students the *Comparative Advantage online course*, which has both a pretest and posttest. This is also an excellent tool for reteaching struggling students or providing the content to students who were absent for the classroom lesson.