Teaching the foreign exchange market? We have a plan!

Engage: Explore foreign currency

Ask students to read pages 6 and 7 of the Dallas Fed’s *Globalization* booklet that explains the concept of foreign currency exchange and then answer the following questions.

1. What is the term for the price of one currency in terms of another?
2. How might Americans traveling abroad be affected by a stronger U.S. dollar?
3. Explain what is meant by a currency that is depreciating.

Teach: International monetary exchange

Turn your classroom into a foreign exchange market with this lesson. Your students will learn how currencies are valued in relation to one another. Students will experience how supply and demand in the market establishes exchange rates and will explain the difference between appreciating and depreciating currencies.
Practice: Currency Crusaders of Justice online course

Register as an instructor and then enroll your students in the online course Currency Crusaders of Justice. Students will travel the globe as Jack teaches his sidekick Andy all about how the markets for currency exchange work. The course includes a pretest and posttest as well as checks of students' knowledge after each new episode of the animated journey.

Assess: Is a strong dollar better than a weak dollar?

Help your students demonstrate their understanding of the value of one nation’s currency relative to another with this classroom edition of the St. Louis Fed’s Page One Economics. Students should be able to answer the following questions after reading the article:

1. What does it mean for a currency to appreciate?
2. What does it mean for a currency to depreciate?
3. Who benefits versus who is hurt when one nation’s currency appreciates relative to another nation?
Engage: Around the world with exports

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: 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.