



CTAE PROGRAM AREA

UNIT: Economic Recession & Depression



INTRODUCTION

Annotation: This is a timely lesson based on the 2009 Recession. Students will learn about the effects of recessions and depressions on jobs and economic prosperity.

Grade(s):

X	9 th
X	10 th
X	11 th
X	12 th

Time:

2 hours

Author:

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Additional Author(s):

Students with Disabilities:

For students with disabilities, the instructor should refer to the student's IEP to be sure that the accommodations specified are being provided. Instructors should also familiarize themselves with the provisions of Behavior Intervention Plans that may be part of a student's IEP. Frequent consultation with a student's special education instructor will be beneficial in providing appropriate differentiation.



FOCUS STANDARDS

GPS Focus Standards: Please list the standard and elements covered.

- **CTAE-FS-6 Systems.** Learners understand a variety of organizational structures and functions.

GPS Academic Standards:

- **SSUSH17.** The student will analyze the causes and consequences of the Great Depression.
 1. Describe the causes, including overproduction, under consumption, and stock market speculation that led to the stock market crash of 1929 and the Great Depression.
 2. Explain the impact of the drought in the creation of the Dust Bowl.
 3. Explain the social and political impact of widespread unemployment that resulted in developments such as Hoovervilles.

National / Local Standards / Industry / ISTE:

- **ESS05. SYSTEMS:** Understand roles within teams, work units, departments, organizations, inter-organizational systems, and the larger environment. Identify how key organizational systems affect organizational performance and the quality of products and services. Understand global context of industries and careers.



UNDERSTANDINGS & GOALS

Enduring Understandings: Enduring understandings are statements summarizing important ideas and have lasting value beyond the classroom. They synthesize what students should understand – not just know.

- The US economic system is complex and intertwined. The failure of one section may have a great effect on the stability of other sectors of the economy. Economic recessions and depressions affect everyone in some way.

Essential Questions: Essential questions probe for deeper meaning and understanding while fostering the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Example: Why is life-long learning important in the modern workplace?

- What are recessions and depressions and why do they happen?
- What are the effects of recessions and depressions?
- Why does failure of one sector often have a great effect on other sectors?
- What can be done to avoid or minimize the effects of a recession or depression?
- How does the economy of the US affect world economies and vice versa?

Knowledge from this Unit: Factual information.

Students will be able to:

- Define economic recessions and depressions.
- List the effects of recessions and economic depressions.
- Explain how failure of one economic sector affects another.
- List some things that the government does to help the economy in a recession.

Skills from this Unit: Performance.

- Prescribe government actions to minimize the effects of recessions.



ASSESSMENT(S)

Assessment Method Type: Select one or more of the following. Please consider the type(s) of differentiated instruction you will be using in the classroom.

- Pre-test
- Objective assessment - multiple-choice, true- false, etc.
 - Quizzes/Tests
 - Unit test
- Group project
- Individual project
- Self-assessment - May include practice quizzes, games, simulations, checklists, etc.
 - Self-check rubrics
 - Self-check during writing/planning process
 - Journal reflections on concepts, personal experiences and impact on one's life
 - Reflect on evaluations of work from teachers, business partners, and competition judges
 - Academic prompts
 - Practice quizzes/tests
- Subjective assessment/Informal observations
 - Essay tests
 - Observe students working with partners
 - Observe students role playing
- Peer-assessment
 - Peer editing & commentary of products/projects/presentations using rubrics
 - Peer editing and/or critiquing
- Dialogue and Discussion
 - Student/teacher conferences
 - Partner and small group discussions
 - Whole group discussions
 - Interaction with/feedback from community members/speakers and business partners
- Constructed Responses
 - Chart good reading/writing/listening/speaking habits
 - Application of skills to real-life situations/scenarios
- Post-test

Assessment(s) Title:

1. Economic Recession Unit Exam
2. Depression Era Photo and Political Cartoon Interpretation Work Sheet

Assessment(s) Description/Directions:**Attachments for Assessment(s):** Please list.

1. Economic Recession Unit Exam



LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Instructional planning: Include lessons, activities and other learning experiences in this section with a brief description of the activities to ensure student acquisition of the knowledge and skills addressed in the standards. Complete the sequence of instruction for each lesson/task in the unit.

Sequence of Instruction**1. Identify the Standards. Standards should be posted in the classroom for each lesson.**

ESS05. SYSTEMS: Understand roles within teams, work units, departments, organizations, inter-organizational systems, and the larger environment. Identify how key organizational systems affect organizational performance and the quality of products and services. Understand global context of industries and careers.

2. Review Essential Questions.

- a. What are recessions and depressions and why do they happen?
- b. What are the effects of recessions and depressions?
- c. Why does failure of one sector often have a great effect on other sectors?
- d. What can be done to avoid or minimize the effects of a recession?
- e. How does the economy of the US affect world economies and vice versa?

3. Identify and review the unit vocabulary.

Black Tuesday – one of the largest drops in stock market history; start of the Great Depression

Civilian Conservation Corps – U.S. federal agency that utilized the nation's unemployed by building roads, planting trees, etc.

Depression – period when business, employment, and stock-market values decline severely or remain at a very low level of activity

Drought – period of dry weather

Dust Bowl – region of the Great Plains where there were enormous dust storms in the 1930's

Food Bank – center that collects food and distributes it to the needy

Foreclosure – when the financier of a mortgage seeks to regain property because the borrower has defaulted on payments

Hobo – one who wanders from place to place without a permanent home

Hoovervilles – collection of shacks at the edge of a city that housed unemployed during the 1930's

The New Deal – principles from President Franklin D. Roosevelt for economic recovery and social reforms

Okies – offensive slang for a migrant worker from the south-center US who looked for work in the West during the 1930's

Philanthropist – a generous person who donates to promote human welfare

Resettlement Administration – U.S. federal agency that relocated struggling urban and rural families to communities planned by the federal government

Squatter – person who settles on land without title, right, or payment of rent

Stimulus Funds – act of government that will provide economic stimuli intended to boost the economy

Stock Market Crash – the most devastating stock market crash in the history of the US occurred in October of 1929

Train Hopper – someone who illegally hitches a ride on a railroad freight car

Unemployment Rate – the number of people who are involuntarily unemployed

4. Show the PowerPoint on the Great Depression and discuss the historical photos.

- Ask the students what they see in the photos.
 - What story do they tell?

5. Ask the students what the difference in a recession and a depression is.

- Definition of Recession and Depression:
 - There is not a universally agreed upon definition. Generally, both can be interchanged to refer to the same thing: a period when business, employment, and stock-market values decline severely.

6. How does the PowerPoint on the Great Depression relate to the recent recession in the United States?

7. Why do recessions and depressions happen and how can they be avoided?

8. What was done during the Great Depression to help get the economy moving?

- The New Deal
- Government Jobs
- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Resettlement Administration

9. How does the US economy affect the world?

- The modern world has global trade. Failure of one sector will cause failure of another.

10. Ask students "If a recession started now, what should the government do to try to avoid the economic downturn?"

- Sample Answers:
 - Cut taxes and give people money in some manner to stimulate spending.
 - Start government building projects such as making roads to provide jobs.
 - Give tax credits for businesses in hope they will invest and create jobs.

Attachments for Learning Experiences: Please list.

1. Depression Era Photo and Political Cartoon PowerPoint
2. Interpretation Worksheet

Notes & Reflections: May include notes to the teacher, pre-requisite knowledge & skills, suggestions, etc.



CULMINATING PERFORMANCE TASK (Optional)

Culminating Unit Performance Task Title:

- **Optional:** The teacher may ask the student to write a short paper on the possible effects a recession could have on their future career field. Whether they determine it will have a lot or little effect on their career field, their answer to the question “why” is most important.

Culminating Unit Performance Task Description/Directions/Differentiated Instruction:

Attachments for Culminating Performance Task: Please list.



UNIT RESOURCES

Web Resources:

Attachment(s): Supplemental files not listed in assessment, learning experiences, and performance task.

Materials & Equipment:

What 21st Century Technology was used in this unit:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Slide Show Software	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graphing Software	<input type="checkbox"/>	Audio File(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interactive Whiteboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Calculator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graphic Organizer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student Response System	<input type="checkbox"/>	Desktop Publishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Image File(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Web Design Software	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blog	<input type="checkbox"/>	Video
<input type="checkbox"/>	Animation Software	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wiki	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electronic Game or Puzzle Maker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Website		