

Explore the interactive exhibits in each of the five zones of the Economy Museum at the St. Louis Fed to answer the following questions:

Zone 1: The Eighth District Comes Alive

1. What does the Federal Reserve System do? Circle all that are correct.
 - a. Prevents panics and provides stability to the banking system
 - b. Conducts monetary policy
 - c. Acts as the “banker’s bank,” providing currency and services to commercial banks
 - d. Serves as the fiscal agent for the U.S. government
 - e. Processes government checks
 - f. Conducts government securities auctions

2. List the 12 cities that have Federal Reserve banks and the location of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors:

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| 1A _____ | 8H _____ |
| 2B _____ | 9I _____ |
| 3C _____ | 10J _____ |
| 4D _____ | 11K _____ |
| 5E _____ | 12L _____ |
| 6F _____ | Board _____ |
| 7G _____ | |

Zone 2: How People Make Decisions

3. How do choices make a difference in future earnings? _____

4. Define opportunity cost and give an example: _____

5. Why can't anyone have it all? _____

Zone 3: How People Interact

6. Why do people trade? _____

7. What does it mean to have comparative advantage? _____

8. Play the “Trading Pit” game. Were you a buyer or seller? Did you make or lose money?
Mark the appropriate choices:
I was the buyer seller, and I won lost money

Zone 4: The Connections Theater

Watch the videos in Connections Theater.

9. List interesting facts you learned. _____

10. Why were these facts interesting to you? _____

Zone 5: The Vault

11. What type of currency system has the United States had since leaving the gold standard?

12. What are the 3 steps to checking if a bill is real? _____

Zone 6: You and the Economy

13. What features make the Federal Reserve System both politically independent and also accountable to the public and Congress? _____

14. How is the structure of the Federal Reserve System unique? _____

15. Look at “The Earth at Night” graphic. Rather than measuring economic output by the number of lights on at night, what measure do economists use to determine economic output?

16. Go to the “Where Do You Fit in the Labor Force?” display. Pick an age range and a gender. Then, click on the different levels of education, starting with “No Degree.” What relationship do you see between levels of education and unemployment? _____

17. The United States has used a fiat currency system since leaving the gold standard. What is a fiat currency system? _____

18. What is an advantage of using a fiat currency system rather than being tied to a gold standard?

Conclusions

19. What do you picture yourself doing 10 years from now?

20. What skills will you need to get there? _____

