

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Unit #1: International Research Activity

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Step #1: Currency Challenge

For this activity you are asked to work in groups of 5. Each group will receive a different currency. Your first challenge is to find out what nation's currency you have.

Once you have determined your nation you will be asked to present the currency, its nation and the exchange rate. You are then asked to complete step #2 - research questions. Record your findings; many students will be asked to present their research findings to the class.

Your bank is: _____

CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS:

- Identify the factors that affect foreign exchange rates.
- Analyze the ways in which cultural factors influence international business methods and operations.
- Assess the ways in which political, economic and geographic factors influence business methods and operations.
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages in both developed countries and developing countries with regard to business opportunities (e.g., size of consumer base, government regulations, infrastructure, cost of labour).
- Demonstrate numeracy skills by converting a variety of international currencies to Canadian dollars.

KEY LEARNING GOAL:

A note from Mr. Parsons...

This activity is designed to be an introduction to International Business. Following your activity and research it will allow us to discuss and learn many of the critical factors that influence the economic climate of different nations.

Step #2: Research Questions

Part #1: Begin your research by providing a general description of your nation. This should include a map of its location, geography description, description of people and country, politics, climate, culture, existence of tourism, etc.

Part #2: Outline your country's demographics. This should include population, average income (also minimum wage levels - if it exists), education and skills levels, family and marital practices, average life expectancy.

Part #3: Outline the nation's features that would have a major impact on International Business. This should include Currency (and exchange rate), GDP, inflation rate, natural resources, major imports and exports, major trade partners, current economic situation, taxes, business practices (are there major differences in the way business is conducted?).

