

“PEACE IS THE NATURAL EFFECT OF TRADE”

... Montesquieu

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Enrichment teachers (gifted and talented)
Grades 9-12
SUBJECT- SOCIAL STUDIES/ ECONOMICS

This activity set is to help provide you practice in **questioning and posing problems as well as gain a closer understanding of complex political-economic global relationships between China, Russia and their other ASEAN partners.**

Activity Goal is analysis of the following question: Why and to what extent/role does commerce affect the stability of peaceful relations with other countries in American foreign policy?

CURRENT EVENTS: WAGING PEACE THROUGH COMMERCE

Process directions: Read the interview with Gao Xiqing, president of the China Investment Co-operation (the man who oversees \$200 billion of China’s 2 trillion dollar US holdings) from the link above. This will provide you with a beginning point from which to continue this activity.

This article was published in the December 2008 issue of “The Atlantic.” You can find this article by googling the title of the article and author.

This activity is to help provide you practice in questioning and posing problems as well as gain a closer understanding of complex political-economic global relationships between China, Russia and their other ASEAN partners. If you read this interview carefully, you will be able to adequately answer these questions without other research, but feel free to do more.

I. Look up/define the following vocabulary words/concepts. All can be found in the interview/article provided. _____ / 20 points

Global economy
Fully colloquial
Fusion minded
Long March
Cultural Revolution
Chairman Mao
Astringent
Leverage
Stock market derivatives
State Council



Bretton Woods Convention
Pragmatic
ASEAN (not in this text, but look it up anyway)
Economic interdependence
On equal footing
Cultural distortion
Sustainable financial policy

II. Answer the following analysis questions. Answers should be several sentences in length. _____ / 40 points

- a. Who is Gao Xiquig and why is he important enough to warrant your attention?
- b. Discuss Mr. Xiquig's education and professional credentials.
- c. What is your stereotype of a Chinese Communist official? How does this man's background fit into your stereotype?
- d. Describe what you know about the ways/means/extent that other countries currently finance American debt, as Mr. Xiquig puts it "living on other people's money."
- e. Discuss Mr. Xiquig's attitude toward derivatives.
- f. Mr XiQing discusses "cultural distortion" of American wages. Summarize his description.
- g. Explain Mr. Xiqing's comment "Now our people are joking that we look at the U.S. and see "socialism with American characteristics"
- h. What action(s) (by the US Government) are the Chinese characterizing as pragmatic?
- i. Explain Deng Xiaoping's quote, "it doesn't matter if the cat is white or black, as long as it catches the mouse."
- j. Explain the logic /argument Mr Xiqing uses to substantiate his comment "let's throw away the ideological differences and think about what is good for everyone."
- k. What are at least five thought shifts that Mr Xiqing suggests the American people might make to become more "in touch" with international economic interdependence?
- l. How would you describe the tone of this interview?
- m. What part(s) of this interview might you use later to consider the issue of "waging peace through commerce?"

III. Create a list of 5 questions that you have as a result of reading this article.

_____ / 10 points

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

IV. Now with the information that you gained . . . remember, this information is only as good as the integrity of the information of the writer submitting it, you will continue your practice in connections, credibility, and questioning skills . . . you will read the following recent articles. Fill out the information below as a beginning of your analysis of information . . . _____ / 40 points

1. Read “Peace Through Commerce, a Working for Good Program”

What are the 5 most important details that you can glean from this piece?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Discuss the tone, author, bias, merit of this piece.

Tone:

Author:

Bias:

Merit:

2. Read “ASEAN-Russia: Partnership for Peace and Prosperity in Asia Pacific”

What are the 5 most important details that you can glean from this article?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Discuss the tone, author, bias, merit of this piece.

Tone:

Author:

Bias:

Merit:

3. Read “Waging Peace Through Commerce”

What are the 5 most important details that you can glean from this article?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Discuss the tone, author, bias, merit of this piece.

Tone:

Author:

Bias:

Merit:

4. Read “Peace through a South Asian economic bloc”

What are the 5 most important details that you can glean from this article?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Discuss the tone, author, bias, merit of this piece.

Tone:

Author:

Bias:

Merit:

V. This activity should provide you practice regarding making informed judgments about the value of ideas or materials. Use the data in these articles to answer the questions a through m on a separate sheet of paper, then using this information answer the following question using your new understandings. _____ / 50 points

5. Why and to what extent/role does commerce affect the stability of peaceful relations with other countries in American foreign policy? You need to incorporate the vocabulary words provided at the beginning of this activity as well as site information from at least three of the sources provided in the readings.