

Guided Reading Activity

Monetary Policy

Lesson 2 *Monetary Policy*

Review Questions

Directions: Read each main idea and complete the statements below. Refer to your textbook as you write the answers.

A. Fractional Reserves and Deposit Expansion

Main Idea: Banks must keep a portion of their deposits on reserve in their vaults, plus a deposit at the Fed.

1. Under a _____ reserve system, banks must keep a portion of their _____ in their vault.
2. The reserve _____ is the percentage of every deposit that must be set aside as _____ reserves.
3. A _____ bank reserve is the deposit kept by member banks at the _____ to satisfy reserve requirements.
4. The _____ reserves are the amount of cash, currency, and reserves a bank has that are not needed for _____ requirements.

B. Conducting Monetary Policy

Main Idea: Monetary policy changes the amount of money in circulation, or the money supply. Changing the money supply raises or lowers interest rates.

1. An _____ rate is the price of credit to a borrower.
2. An _____ money policy expands the money supply, which leads to _____ interest rates.
3. A tight money policy _____ the money supply, which _____ interest rates.
4. If banks' _____ requirement is low, then banks have _____ money to lend, and this boosts economic activity. If the reserve requirement is raised, then banks have less money to _____, and the economy tends to shrink.

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5. Monetary policy that takes the form of the purchase and sale of government securities is called open _____, and is one of the Fed's most _____ tools.
6. When the Fed buys securities, it _____ the economy by increasing banks' _____ reserves. When the Fed sells these securities, people take money out of the bank to buy them, so banks have less money to _____, and the economy shrinks.
7. The _____ rate is the interest the Fed charges to banks that _____ money from it.
8. A high discount rate makes it more _____ for banks to borrow, thus _____ their excess reserves.
9. If the Fed _____ the discount rate, banks are more eager to borrow and then use that extra money to make _____ to their customers.
10. The _____ rate is the lowest _____ rate commercial banks charge their best customers. The federal _____ rate is the interest rate banks charge each other for _____-_____ loans (usually overnight).

C. Monetary Policy Dilemmas

Main Idea: Timing is important in Fed policy and its effects on the economy. Some advocate monetarism, or a stable money supply. Those who advocate manipulating the money supply recognize that the money supply can have unwanted effects on prices.

1. One problem the Fed faces is timing, because it cannot know when to _____ an action and when to _____ it for the best economic results.
2. _____ states that changes in the money supply are _____ for the economy, so the money supply should be kept stable.

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3. The _____ theory of money is a hypothesis that the supply of money directly affects the price level over the long run. When the _____ supply grows, prices tend to increase, which can lead to _____.
4. Wage-_____ controls are measures taken to freeze wages and prices in an attempt to control _____; they make it illegal for firms to give raises or raise prices without _____ from the government.

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the following question.

Suppose you want to buy a house or a new car. You need to borrow money for a mortgage or a car loan. What type of Fed monetary policy would be most advantageous for you when you want to borrow money? Explain.
