

Performance Assessment Task

Could It Happen to Us?

The impact of the 2008 global economic meltdown continues to affect people of all walks of life, all over the world, to differing degrees.

You are a writer for a prominent financial magazine in Canada. For your next assignment, your editor has assigned you the task of exploring the economic meltdown and writing an opinion article about whether Canada could ever experience a crisis as severe as what occurred in the United States. To comply with the magazine's editorial standards, you will need to complete the following.

Create an annotated bibliography to assess the reliability of sources

Use the template provided to examine your sources of information for reliability, bias, perspective and context.

Compare the principles and practices of market and mixed economies

As background information for your article, consider the following questions.

- What are the principles of a market economy?
- Why do governments intervene in a market economy?
- Why is Canada viewed as having a mixed economy?
- What is the role of the consumer in market and mixed economies?
- What are some similarities and differences in the way governments in Canada and the United States intervene in the market economies?

Develop a position

Respond to the question: Could an economic crisis occur in Canada to the magnitude of the American experience?

Support position

Provide concrete examples of how the Canadian implementation of a mixed economy may or may not shield Canada from international economic meltdowns.

Since this will be the magazine's featured cover article, ensure that your work is well supported and polished.

Graphic Organizer: Could It Happen to Us?

Record specific evidence obtained from your website analysis for each criterion. After you review the website, draw a conclusion about the usefulness of this website for your inquiry.

Website Reviewed:

	Criteria	Specific Evidence Gathered from the Website
Exploring Authorship	Are you able to determine whether the author is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledgeable on the topic? • affiliated with a reputable organization? • aware of his/her specific perspective or bias? 	
Consulting with Experts	Does the information on the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refer to credible evidence and research? 	
Citing Sources	Does the website provide details about the sources of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information? • statistics? • graphics? 	
Currency	Has the website been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updated or reviewed recently? 	
<p>Is this website a credible one to use in your inquiry?</p> <p>What are the most compelling reasons that led you to this conclusion? Provide support for your conclusion.</p>		

Rubric: Could It Happen to Us?

Student _____

Level Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Adequate	Limited *	Insufficient / Blank *
Assess reliability of sources (9.S.1.1, 9.S.7.5)	Provides an astute examination of sources to assess the reliability of information.	Provides a credible examination of sources to assess the reliability of information.	Provides a simplistic examination of sources to assess the reliability of information.	Provides a flawed examination of sources to assess the reliability of information.	No score is awarded because there is insufficient evidence of student performance based on the requirements of the assessment task.
Compare market and mixed economies (9.2.4.1, 9.2.4.2, 9.2.4.3, 9.2.4.4, 9.2.4.7)	Provides a perceptive analysis of the similarities and differences between market and mixed economies.	Provides a thoughtful analysis of the similarities and differences between market and mixed economies.	Provides a predictable analysis of the similarities and differences between market and mixed economies.	Provides a superficial analysis of the similarities and differences between market and mixed economies.	
Formulate and support position (9.S.7.3, 9.S.7.4)	Uses specific examples in a compelling manner to support position.	Uses specific examples in a convincing manner to support position.	Uses specific examples in a simplistic manner to support position.	Uses specific examples in an inconclusive manner to support position.	
Communicate information (9.S.8.1)	Communicates information in a persuasive manner.	Communicates information in a convincing manner.	Communicates information in a believable manner.	Communicates information in an unconvincing manner.	

* When work is judged to be limited or insufficient, the teacher makes decisions about appropriate intervention to help the student improve.