

AP Macroeconomics Summer Assignment

Ms. Kasey Dunn
Social Studies Department, NHS
105B, dunnk@norwalkps.org

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1giln7

#1: Read the following book: This book can be found on Amazon or numerous book stores (used or new is acceptable). Consider asking past students for their copies.

- Freakonomics By Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner

#2: Answer the below questions from Freakonomics using direct references, for each question, from the book. Responses need to be typed using 12font, 1 inch margins, Times New Roman or Arial. These responses should also be single-spaced; 2 pages in length. Due the first day of school.

1. Most people think of economics as a dry subject matter concerning monetary and fiscal matters. How does Freakonomics change this definition?
2. Freakonomics argues that morality represent the way we'd like the world to work, whereas economics can show how the world really does work. Do you agree?
3. Freakonomics lists three varieties of incentives: social, moral, and financial. Can you think of others?
4. Freakonomics shows how the conventional wisdom is often shoddily formed. What are some instances of conventional wisdom that you've always doubted?
5. Does it seem as though "experts" truly hold too much power in the modern world, or are we lucky to have them?
6. What are some issues in your daily life toward which you can apply some Freakonomics-style thinking?
7. What were some of the most convincing arguments put forth in Freakonomics? What were some of the least convincing?
8. Explain Casualty and Correlation using concrete examples from the book.
9. How does the view of parenting in Freakonomics jibe with your own view?
10. After reading Freakonomics, do you think that cheating is more prevalent or less prevalent than you thought it was before you read the book?

Your first assessment of the quarter will be on this book, so be sure to take careful notes for review

#3: Visit Planet Money: NPR (<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/>)

1. Find and listen to three podcasts of your choosing from the above website.
 - a. For each podcast complete the following (typed, single-spaced 12font 1inch margins, Times or Arial)
 - i. Title of Podcast, Date of Podcast
 - ii. Easybib Citation of the Podcast: easybib.com
 - iii. ½ page reflection of podcast- personal reflection and what economic concepts are being covered

#4: Graph Work

- A large portion of the units, especially later ones, require graphical analysis including creating graphs. If you are not strong on this be sure to review the following concepts: X vs. Y axis, plotting points using a set of data, inverse relationships, etc)