

- Put your name here: \_\_\_\_\_ And also on the back. (5 pts)
- Highlight or underline important information (5 pts)
- Annotate by making comments in the margins, minimum of 5 (5pts)
- Define your vocabulary words in the designated vocabulary space by googling them or looking them up on the website (10 pts)
- Goes into effect AOW 2:** List the kind of organizational pattern this article uses and why by filling in the template below:  
**This article uses \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.** (10 pts)
- Under prompt (bottom of page), plan 2 guiding reasons and 2 SPECIFIC, NAMED examples. (10 pts)
- Include a thesis with points A and B. Be sure to include two persuasive examples in body paragraphs, one in body paragraph 1 and another in body paragraph 2 (10 pts)
- Give a persuasive response to the WRITE statement at the bottom of the page by writing an essay on the back. Make sure to choose only ONE side of the argument in your writing. We NEVER write about both sides. (up to 30 pts)
- DO NOT USE "I" or "you" when writing your response. Form opinions WITHOUT IT. (5 pts)
- Make sure that your essay uses PARAGRAPHS. This means, 1. Indent 2. No skipping lines between paragraphs 3. A paragraph is MORE than just one sentence 4. Minimum of 4 paragraphs. (10 pts)



### **Should all high schoolers take courses in personal finance? By K. Alexander Ashe and Wayne Madsen**

#### **PRO: Yes. Education system overhaul should include new emphasis on financial literacy**

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos is setting out to reform America's underperforming public schools. Let's hope she makes their shocking lack of personal finance instruction a top concern. Our high schools are failing badly when it comes to teaching students about how to manage money. Only 17 states require high school students to take courses in personal finance, a 2016 study by the Council for Economic Education said. It's particularly distressing when you consider that the final year of high school is, for many young people, a last opportunity to acquire financial knowledge. Then, they'll enter today's costly, complex and rapidly changing world. Personal finance courses don't require teachers with advanced degrees. Almost any teacher who can manage personal finances can follow course guidelines to teach basic money matters.

#### **Learn How to Manage Your Bank Account**

To be successful, most kids don't need to learn advanced ideas, said Nan J. Morrison. She is president and CEO of the Council for Economic Education. However, students do need to know how to open a bank account and how much they need to save each month to reach their goals, she said. They also should know how much money they will need to earn to pay back money they borrow, she said. She and other personal finance advocates are responsible for many of the recent gains made in the establishment of what some call "everyday economics" in high school classrooms. In 1998, only 14 states required that high schools give their seniors a basic knowledge of personal finance. Now 37 states do. Students learn about finance as part of other classes. Over the last few years, New York and Illinois have set tougher standards. Washington state has new legislation doing the same.

#### **Only 17 States Require Finance Courses**

Still, the number of states that require high school students to take a separate personal finance course has remained unchanged since 2014, the study said. There are still just 17 states that require a finance course. That's truly unfortunate. The states with the toughest personal finance requirements send their students on to college and into the real world with a measurable head start. Data recently released by the Investor Education Foundation, or IEF, show that students benefit from the classes. Those who passed required personal finance courses have better-than-average credit scores as young adults, the information says. They are less likely to fall behind when it comes to paying back money they owe.

The IEF study found improvements in financial outcomes for young adults ages 18 to 22 in three states where financial education mandates are considered strict by the Council for Economic Education. The states are Idaho, Georgia and Texas.

#### **It Would Help Students in Low-Income Areas**

Personal finance courses provide important help to students in low-income areas with lagging schools. Young people in economically challenged areas are often unemployed or underemployed. They find themselves at the mercy of loan sharks and payday loans who take advantage of people who need to borrow money quickly. These lenders target poor people with unethical and even illegal practices, charging very high interest rates. These factors can be key drivers of ongoing poverty. Recent graduates in these communities find themselves



