

《高中英语（上外版）》选择性必修第四册Unit 2 Learning about Trade

and Economy

课时：第4课时

课题：Listening and Viewing about Trade and Economy

课型：Listening and Viewing

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Worksheet

Listening: Why do we need to study economics?

Step 1: Answer the question: When you plan to take a trip to a foreign country, will you choose a cheap flight with longer flight time of a more costly one with shorter flight time?

Possible answers:

1. I will choose the with longer flight time because I have a tight budget but plenty of time.
2. I will choose a more costly one with shorter flight time because I think it is a waste of time spending so much time on a flight since time is money.
3. Whether I'll take a cheap flight or not may totally depend on the purpose of my flight, as well as some related factors. If I am not on a tight schedule, I will choose a cheap flight with longer flight time. If I have an appointment or have to take part in some contests, I would like to choose a direct flight that might be more expensive, but more time-saving, and more comfortable, and as we all know, "time is money."

Step 2: Listen and complete the table.

Economics is a study of how we deal with scarcity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The initial concept learned in economics is scarcity.• We have 1 <u>unlimited</u> wants and <u>limited</u> resources.• Economics makes us better 3 <u>decision-makers</u>.
Thinking like an economist means seeing the 4 <u>unseen</u> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An example of my wife choosing a flight among the three: a Thursday night flight which was 5\$ <u>275</u>; a Friday night which was 6\$ <u>300</u>; a Saturday morning flight which was 7\$ <u>325</u>. She worked in a restaurant from Monday through Friday, earning about 8\$ <u>100</u> a day. Actually, the cheapest flight is 9 <u>the Saturday morning flight</u>.• Thinking like an economist has saved me 10 <u>time</u> and 11 <u>money</u>.

Step 3: Interactive activity: Listen to the material again and work in groups and discuss: Why did the most expensive Saturday morning flight turn out to be the cheapest in fact? Suggest similar examples from your daily life.

Possible answer: The most expensive Saturday morning flight turned out to be the cheapest in fact because of the opportunity cost or the unseen cost. One similar example in our daily life may be like this: Now in China, if a business person wants to go to Beijing for a business trip from Shanghai, he may fly to Beijing or take the high-speed train. As to the first choice, the cost of a two-hour flight from Shanghai to Beijing is around 800 yuan. And a high-speed train ticket is about 600 yuan and the time is nearly four hours. If he wants to save time, the flight may seem a better choice at first sight.

However, it is not if you give a second thought. He will have to arrive at the airport two hours before the departure time; the flight might be delayed or even cancelled due to bad weather.

While-task 2: Viewing: How the Economy Really Works?

Step 1: Read the short passage in the textbook and think about the ancient forms of money.

1. What was the earliest recorded form of money in history?
2. Why was it a good solution for small money?
3. Can you list other forms of ancient money?

Possible version for Question 3: Besides cowrie shells in China, there were other forms of currency in other parts of the world. Money has got a very colorful history. For example, feathers, cloth salt, cattle, wheat and so on. In Roman times, Roman soldiers were paid in salt, and that's how we get the word salary, from the Latin sal for salt.

Step 2: Interactive activity: Discuss with your group members and present your point of view: Do you agree that "Trade can make people better off"?

Sample version: Yes, I agree that "Trade can make people better off". It is impossible for anybody or any manufacturer to produce all the necessities they need in the daily life. But by trading with others, we can buy a greater variety of goods and services easily and at a lower cost. Trade enables people to specialize in what they do best and to enjoy a greater variety of goods and services.

Step 4: Interactive activity: Watch the video again and describe how money, goods and services flow among individuals in a society.

Checklist
() 1. Are the jobs of the four people in the video accurately stated?
() 2. Is the sequence of the story plots properly presented?
() 3. Are the words, expressions and sentences in the short story properly used?
() 4. Is the content of the video coherently stated?
() 5. Does it clearly convey how money, goods and services flow among individuals in a society?

Possible version: Each person has his own occupation and when he needs something he can't produce himself, he buys it with a shell. When the builder wants a fish for dinner, he buys one from a fisherman with a shell. With the same shell, the fisherman buys a new shirt from the clothes maker, the clothes maker buys some tomatoes from the farmer and the farmer buys the builder's work to add a room to his hut. The money situation has not changed since the builder has the same shell he started with. However, everyone got what they wanted. Everyone is "richer" or better off even though they don't have any more money.