Money Through Time

Read, mark, and compare ways people have paid.

4.E.4 "List the functions of money, and compare and contrast things that have been used as money in the past in Indiana, the United States, and the world."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the three jobs of money, circle the past kinds of money, and write 1 beside two circled kinds that the passage compares.

What Counts as Money?

1. At a busy market, a shopper pays for bread instead of swapping a toy for it. Money is a way to pay for goods and services. It also gives prices a shared measure, so shoppers can compare the cost of bread and milk. People can save money to spend later. These are three jobs of money: paying, measuring value, and storing value.

2. In early Indiana, some traders accepted animal pelts as payment for supplies. Pelts were useful in trade, but a torn pelt might be worth less than a clean one. Across the United States, gold and silver coins were also used as money. Coins carried a stated value, which made prices easier to compare. Both pelts and coins could be saved, but coins were easier to count.

3. In parts of Africa and Asia, people once used cowrie shells as money. Small shells were easier to carry than bulky pelts. Like coins, shells could be counted to make a payment, but shells did not carry a stamped value. What people accept as money has changed across places and times. The objects differ, yet they can all help people pay for things and save value for later.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What are the three jobs of money named in the passage?

2. How were animal pelts used in early Indiana and gold and silver coins used in the United States alike? How were they different?

3. How were cowrie shells and gold and silver coins alike as money? What was one difference?

4. Which would be easier to carry to a market, animal pelts or cowrie shells? Use a detail from the passage to explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your class makes a new kind of money for a school market. In 3 to 4 sentences, describe it, explain how it could do two jobs of money, and compare it with one past kind of money from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

Money Through Time

GRADE 4 · 4.E.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the three jobs of money, circle the past kinds of money, and write 1 beside two circled kinds that the passage compares. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are the three jobs of money named in the passage?	**Paying for goods and services, measuring value, and storing value.**
2	How were animal pelts used in early Indiana and gold and silver coins used in the United States alike? How were they different?	**Both were used as money and could be saved. Coins were easier to count, while a pelt's condition could change its value.**
3	How were cowrie shells and gold and silver coins alike as money? What was one difference?	**Both could be counted to make a payment. Coins carried a stated value, but shells did not have a stamped value.**
4	Which would be easier to carry to a market, animal pelts or cowrie shells? Use a detail from the passage to explain.	**Cowrie shells, because the passage says small shells were easier to carry than bulky pelts.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our class could use numbered paper tickets at a school market. Students could pay for bookmarks with tickets. Prices in tickets would let students compare the cost of bookmarks and pencils. Unlike animal pelts, tickets would be easy to count, but both could be saved to use later.

Accept other accurate similarities and differences supported by the passage. For Part 3, look for a described form of money, two clear jobs it could do, and an accurate comparison with a past kind of money.