

Writing About an Economic Enigma

Follow these steps to write a two-page article to be included in the upcoming book *Economic Enigmas Unraveled*.

Step 1: Identify an economic enigma.

On your own, brainstorm two to three economic enigmas that you have observed in your own life. Discuss these enigmas with your partner. Choose the one enigma that you think will be the most interesting to write about.

Step 2: Gather economic data about your enigma.

Find three to four pieces of economic data that will help illustrate your enigma.

Step 3: Apply the principles of economic thinking.

Choose the three principles of economic thinking that best explain your enigma. List the reasons that each of these principles helps explain why your enigma does not defy common sense.

Step 4: Write an article exploring the economic enigma.

The first page of your article should get readers interested in figuring out what your economic enigma is. It should present three or four pieces of economic data. Each piece of data—such as a table, graph, photograph, illustration, or cartoon—should graphically illustrate your enigma.

The second page of your article should include

- a clever title that alerts the reader to the topic of your enigma.
- a brief introduction that clearly states the evidence for why your economic enigma is indeed an enigma. It should also state your enigma in the form of a question.
- three paragraphs that each describe how one of the principles of economic thinking helps explain your enigma.
- an interesting conclusion that wraps up the article.