

MONEY

Objective: General fluency and new vocabulary linked to the theme of money

Materials: Use the sheets provided (“Money” from A-Z of discussions Advanced)

Procedure

Warm up – Ask the students to read the history of the uses of, and alternatives to, money. (Taken from A-Z of discussions, CUP 1997)

1. Brainstorm:

- a) How do people get rich?
- b) Who deserves to be rich? (entrepreneurs?)
- c) How does money affect and change people?

d) Do you believe that money makes the world go round?

e) Is “money the root of all evil”?

f) Are we too focused on money nowadays?

2. Read through the questions and quiz on the A-Z of discussions sheet

3. If you finish on time,ask some current affairs questions regarding the Euro.

a) In your opinion has the cost of living increased and has it affected you?

b) Did you and do you agree now with Italy’s decision to enter into the single currency?

c) Do you like using the Euro or did you prefer your “old” currency?

Workshop – Fluency: Warm up reading

Really, anything, which is accepted, can be used as money, and many items over the centuries have served this purpose. American Indians have used beads made from shells; in India, cowrie shells, and in the Fiji islands, whale teeth; the early colonists of North America utilised tobacco; cigarettes and liquor were used after the Second World War in Germany, and some southern Europeans used sweets as small change. Today, in some holiday camps plastic beads made into bracelets and necklaces are used instead of money; and tokens are of course a common substitute in slot machines.

The wide use of cattle in primitive times survives in the word “pecuniary” from the Latin “pecus” meaning cattle; and the word “salary” reminds us of how the Roman soldiers used to be paid in salt. Coins began to be employed on a regular basis in the seventh century in a Greek state in Asia Minor. Originally they were very heavy and were made of a mixture of silver and gold. In this period coins were also used to spread propaganda about the power of the ruler whose head was shown on the face of the coin. Coins were also used as amulets and for decorative purposes. The use of paper money only began about 200 years ago.