2026 AP Microeconomics
Summer Assignment
Mrs. Meghan Finn- mfinn@fairfieldschools.org

Welcome to AP Microeconomics! As we head into our summer vacation, I want to give you a brief description of the course expectations as well as provide you with your summer assignment.

This course will move at an accelerated pace and expectations will be high. AP Economics is intensive in reading and graphing and we will be exploring many economic theories and principles throughout the year. We will be studying current events in class so you will want to get into the habit of staying current with the events of the world around us. Take some time this summer to get comfortable with some economic/news websites. If this is your first AP course, you should spend some time at AP Central www.apcentral.collegeboard.com. The site has many resources for students and parents on a number of topics and it also has complete course descriptions of all the AP courses.

Summer Assignment (Required):

1. **Read the first two chapters**. In your textbook, *Economics (McConnell, Brue, and Flynn),* read the first two chapters (pages 1-18, 25-44). You do NOT have to read the Graphing Appendix at the end of Chapter 1, we will cover this together during the school year.
2. **Answer the attached questions and submit answers on Google classroom.** Answer the following questions on a google document and submit these answers on your Google classroom. Codes are provided below but you will also be receiving a invitation to the classroom.
3. **Prepare for a test on the first 2 chapters**. As you read the chapters, be sure you are comfortable with the key terms/concepts in chapters 1 and 2 as these will be tested on the assessment you will take on this content during the first week of class. I have also provided a note taking sheet that outlines the terms and objectives to help you get started.

You will be submitting your completed assignment in Google Classroom **by the first day of class**. **CREDIT WILL NOT BE GIVEN FOR LATE SUBMISSIONS.** I can be reached by email during the summer with any questions regarding the summer work at mfinn@fairfieldschools.org.

Here are your Google Classroom join Codes.

Day 2/4 Period 1 - euwn6b4e

Day 2/4 Period 2- wvgik6qa

Day 2/4 Period 3-js5jhvyx

Have a great summer! I look forward to seeing you in the fall!!

-Mrs. Finn

AP Microeconomics Summer Assignment

After reading chapters 1 and 2, answer each of the following questions on a separate google document. **Copy the question onto your document and type the answers out under the question.** This will need to be submitted on Google classroom by the first class. Answers should be in your own words (do not copy paste from the textbook/internet) and in full sentences. This assignment is to help you prepare for the first test so if you copy and paste you will not gain any benefit or get to know the material prior to your first test.

Chapter 1 Questions

1. In one paragraph, explain how individuals and economics confront the problem of scarce resources.
2. What is an opportunity cost? How does the idea relate to the definition of economics? Which of the following decisions would entail the greater opportunity cost: allocating a square block in the heart of New York City for a surface parking lot or allocating a square block at the edge of a typical suburb for such a lot? Explain.
3. Cite three examples of recent decisions that you made in which you, at least implicitly, weighed the marginal cost and marginal benefit.
4. What is "utility" and how does it relate to purposeful behavior?
5. Make (a) positive economic statement of your choice, and then (b) a normative economic statement relating to your first statement.
6. Why is money not considered to be a capital resource in economics?
7. Why is entrepreneurial ability considered a category of economic resource, distinct from labor?
8. Suppose that, on the basis of a nation's production possibilities curve, an economy must sacrifice 10,000 pizzas domestically to get 1 additional industrial robot it desires, but it can get the robot from another country in exchange for 9,000 pizzas. Relate this information to the following statement: "Through international specialization and trade, a nation can reduce its opportunity cost of obtaining goods and thus move outside its production possibilities curve."

Chapter 2 Questions

1. Contrast how a market system and a command economy try to cope with economic scarcity.
2. In a few paragraphs, explain the 3 main economic systems and how they allocate resources
3. Distinguish between the resource market and the product product market in the circular flow model. In what way are businesses and households both sellers and buyers in this model? What are the flows in the circular flow model?
4. Evaluate and explain the following statements:
   a. The market system is a profit-and-loss system.
   b. Competition is the disciplinarian of the market economy.
5. In a sentence, describe the meaning of the phrase "invisible hand".