

Unit 4 Performance Task: Government: **Superhero** or **Villain**?

Interdependence – Choices made by one party have intended and unintended consequences.

In this performance task you will analyze some current economic data and evaluate several government decisions.

- **Part I** - Using inflation (CPI), unemployment, and GDP data for the last 2 quarters (or so), analyze the current situation of the US Economy in terms of the business cycle. **Specifically** analyze how this data could affect your business from unit 2.
- **Part II** – Evaluate a recent fiscal policy action that has taken place in the past 3 months. Describe the action including 1) which tool of fiscal policy was used, 2) **specifically** how it could **help AND harm the economy using valid economic reasoning** and 3) **how it will impact the federal deficit and debt. Finally**, evaluate how well the action addresses **3 different social goals** (Choose from: security, stability, freedom, equity, growth, efficiency). CITE the article or provide a link!
- **Part III** - Analyze the most recent FOMC statement. What is the current goal of the FED? **What tool or tools of the Fed are they using?** What are the **intended consequences of their actions** and what are some *potential unintended consequences*?
- **Part IV** - Using **the theme of interdependence and your own opinion**, evaluate whether the government serves a more “hero-like” role in our economy or a more “villain-like” role. **USE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES TO SUPPORT YOUR SIDE!**

Criteria	1 (Needs Improvement)	2 (Below Standards)	3 (Meets Standard)	4 (Exceeds Standard)	WEIGHT
PART I: Analyzes current economic situation using unemployment, inflation, and GDP and applies to bus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explains indicators, but mis-identifies business cycle component • Identifies business cycle, but provides minimal (1 measure) or no support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only explains 2 of the 3 measures (unemployment, inflation, GDP) with business cycle OR • explains all 3 measures but not the business cycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPECIFICALLY uses current unemployment, inflation, and GDP data to correctly explain which part of the business cycle the US Economy is in. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to everything in 3, explains clear and specific examples of how the current situation will impact your business. 	X3
Part II: Evaluates a recent fiscal policy action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action stated with no evaluation of positive or negatives. • Economic reasoning significantly flawed • No mention of effect on budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic reasoning is partially flawed in at least one area • Only a positive or negative result is explained • Social Goals incorrectly interpreted or only listed, not analyzed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiscal action explained & supported with valid economic thinking. • At least one positive and negative identified. • Logically explains the link between the action and one social goal. • Logically explains impact on federal budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to everything in 3, explains how the fiscal policy relates to 3 social goals. 	X4
Part III: Analyzes recent FOMC statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action is explained with no mention of consequences OR tools of the Fed • Missing 2 components of “meets” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explains the action but misuses tools of the Fed in answer • Explains the intended consequences of the actions in vague terms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explains the recent goal/goals • Correctly explains the tools of the Fed in the answer • Explains the intended consequences of the action by explaining the <i>economic rationale</i> behind the decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to everything in 3, explains AT LEAST one logical unintended consequence of the actions as well. 	X4
Part IV: Evaluates the overall role of government in the economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position is not clear OR • Position is given, but with little to no supporting information. • Position explained, but no mention of business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explains a CLEAR position using <i>multiple examples from the unit or current events</i> AND references to your business. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to 3, explains how interdependence is related to government involvement in the economy 	X2
Project is neat and presentable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions of project are difficult to find or not labeled • No citation of sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All parts are easy to find and clearly identified • Outside information is correctly cited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	X1

TOTAL _____/55

***Bonus:** As an optional component find an internet MEME related to either fiscal or monetary policy. Include the meme on a slide WITH AN EXPLANATION of the content behind it. You can earn UP TO 5 points for very thorough content explanations.