

Subject

Math
Language Arts
Instructional
Technology

Concept

Computation

Grade Level

6 - 8

National Career Guidelines

Competency VIII

Understanding
how work
relates to the
needs and
functions of the
economy and
society

Type of Activity

Individual

Related Occupations

Retailer
Sales Person
Accountant
Entrepreneur

Taxing Taxes

There's a saying about two sure things in life being death and taxes. Tax is a fact of life as we know it. This activity explores the world of sales tax. Students will research taxes in their area and learn to figure sales tax.

Materials/Supplies

Computer with Internet access, "Taxing Taxes" worksheet, paper, pen/pencil

Activity

- Lead a class discussion on taxes and why we have them.

Ask the students to research the history of taxes in general and of sales tax as well and write a brief summary of their findings.

Have the students determine what the sales tax rate is in your area and how it is broken down. Most communities pay state, local, and county taxes. Ask the students to determine the rate of each type of tax and how the money collected from taxes is used. Have them add this information to their summaries.

Have the students complete the "Taxing Taxes" worksheet and turn it in for grading. Answers can be found in the Additional Resources section.

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on their research, written summaries, completed worksheets, and class participation.

Additional Resources

- Some web sites dealing with taxes include:
<<http://www.oktax.state.ok.us/oktax/busreg.html>>.

Answers to the worksheet:

1. \$ 17.27
2. \$ 1.60
3. \$ 8.65
4. \$ 14.20
5. \$.32
\$ 4.29

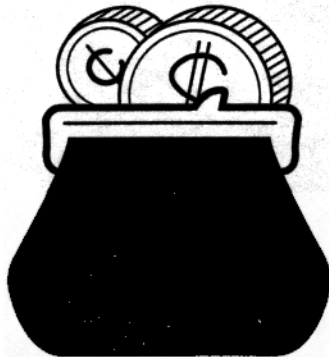
Taxing Taxes



Use the tax rates listed below to solve the following problems dealing with sales tax. All the problems assume you pay state, county, and city tax on all purchases. Round off your answers to two decimal points.

State tax is 4.5%
County tax is 1.0%
City tax is 2.5%

1. You want to buy a new CD which costs \$15.99. What will the total cost be including tax?
2. The new shirt you want is marked \$19.95. How much tax will you have to pay on the shirt?
3. On your trip to Super-Mart, you buy a notebook for \$1.99; pencils for \$.99; poster board for \$.59; markers for \$2.99; and a card for \$1.45. What is the total cost of your purchases including sales tax?
4. Your mom asked you to go to the grocery store for her. You purchased milk for \$2.49, bread for \$.99, bananas for \$2.39; cookies for \$2.99; and cereal for \$4.29. What was the total for your purchase, including sales tax?
5. You stop at the local drive-in for lunch. You order a hamburger for \$1.99; fries for \$.99; and a drink for \$.99. How much is the tax on your order? What is your total cost for lunch?



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