Immigration and the Economy

***Article Reading and Reflection Questions:*** Have the students read “Immigrants’ impact on the U.S. economy in 7 charts” by CBS News - <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/immigrants-impact-on-the-u-s-economy-in-7-charts/> .

Have the students fill out the reading guide as they analyze the article (at bottom of the lesson plan).

***Video Viewing*** - This video supports the idea that immigration helps our economy. "There's No Question that Immigration as a Whole is an Economic Benefit to Our Country".

Description: Randy Johnson, Senior Vice President of the U.S. Chamber of Congress, discusses the Chamber's position on immigration.

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?7176> (3:19)

***Video Viewing*** - This video supports the idea that the economic advantages are not unique to immigrants. The US can change policy in other areas to balance out the economic argument if we impose strict regulations. "Give American Workers a Pay Raise by Reducing Unskilled Immigration".

Description: President Trump speaks in favor of the RAISE Act proposed by Senators Tom Cotton (R-AR) and David Perdue (R-GA).

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?7172> (2:12)

***Reading Deliberative Arguments*** - Direct students to procon.org to analyze the question - “Do Undocumented Immigrants Pay their ‘Fair Share’ of taxes?” <https://immigration.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=000789>

Have students take notes on the included T-Chart on key pro/con arguments on the pro/con deliberation of key arguments that they are finding.

***Student reflection***: Assign students a multi-paragraph essay on the question - “Do Undocumented Immigrants Pay their ‘Fair Share’ of taxes?” I am going to assign a five-paragraph essay to follow our school-wide writing model of Intro/3 Body Paragraphs/Conclusion.

Students should include three pieces of outside support for their main arguments. I am limiting the students to two of the three can be from the ProCon.org. The third outside source needs to be one that they find on their own.

“Immigrants’ impact on the U.S. economy in 7 charts” Reading Guide

Read the article from CBS News and analyze the charts provided. Please answer the following questions.

* What data in the charts did you find surprising? What data did you find unsurprising? Explain your positions.
* Which data points do you believe are most significant to policymakers in determining the best guidelines for immigration? Justify your selections.
* Which data provides the strongest support **for** strict immigration limits? Justify your selection.
* Which data provides the strongest support **against** strict immigration limits? Justify your selection.

PRO/CON - DO UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS PAY THEIR “FAIR SHARE” OF TAXES?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **YES** | **NO** |
|  |  |