The Impact of the European Union

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Grade Level	7
Duration	2 class periods

National Standards

GEOGRAPHY
Element 1: The World in Spatial Terms
1. How to use maps and other geographic representations, geospatial technologies, and spatial thinking to understand and communicate information
Element 2: Places and Regions
4. The physical and human characteristics of places
Element 4: Human Systems
11. The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on the Earth's surface
13. How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
Element 6: The Uses of Geography
17. How to apply geography to interpret the past
18. How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future

AZ Standards

ELA
Writing
Production and Distribution of Writing
7.W.4 and 8.W.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
Research to Build and Present Knowledge
7.W.7 Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

Arizona Social Science Standards

GEOGRAPHY
The use of geographic representations and tools helps individuals understand their world.
7.G1.1 Use and construct maps and other geographic representations to explain the spatial patterns of cultural and environmental characteristics.
Human-environment interactions are essential aspects of human life in all societies.
7.G2.1 Explain how cultural demographic patterns, economic decisions, and human adaptations shape the identity of nearby and distant places.
7.G2.2 Analyze cultural and environmental characteristics that make places both similar and different.
Examining human population and movement helps individuals understand past, present, and future conditions on Earth's surface.
7.G3.4 Evaluate human population and movement may cause conflict or promote cooperation.

SIOP Elements

Preparation	**Scaffolding**	**Grouping Option**
Adapting content	Modeling	Whole class
Linking to background	Guided practice	Small groups
Linking to past learning	Independent practice	**Partners**
Strategies used	**Comprehensible input**	Independent

ARIZONA
GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

The Impact of the European Union

Integrating Processes	Application	Assessment
Reading	**Hands on**	Individual
Writing	Meaningful	**Group**
Speaking	Linked to objectives	**Written**
Listening	**Promotes engagement**	Oral

Arizona ELP Standards
Stage IV
Basic
Reading
Standard 4: The student will analyze text for expression, enjoyment, and response to other related content areas. The student will demonstrate knowledge of reading comprehension by:
B-23: locating information in print and electronic reference sources (*e.g., encyclopedia, atlas, almanac, dictionary, thesaurus, periodicals, website, and textbooks*) periodicals for a specific purpose.
Writing
Standard 1: The student will express his or her thinking and ideas in a variety of writing genres.
The student will express his or her thinking and ideas by using a variety of writing genres, as demonstrated by:
B-4: writing a paragraph based on research using topic sentences, main ideas, relevant facts, details, and concluding statements.

Overview

From its post-World War II beginnings, the European Union has evolved from the European Economic Community to a vital 27-member trade organization and solid vehicle for socio-political cooperation. The E.U. has become a dynamic force in the arena of international trade and global politics. It is essential that Americans understand the significant role this organization plays in unifying the nations of Europe, as well as the ramifications the EU poses for the rest of the world.

Purpose

In this lesson, students will map the countries belonging to the European Union and learn about the EU's political make up, its use of the euro, and its impact on its member countries and the world.

Key Vocabulary

goal – the desired result from your effort
European Union (EU) - a group of countries in Europe who share common ideas about economic trade and politics
currency - a type of money used in a country

cooperation - the act of getting along with one another
impact – effect
member - being part of a group or unit

Materials

- European Union Countries (with country names) map http://geoalliance.asu.edu/sites/default/files/maps/EU-NAME.pdf
- European Union Countries (without country names) map https://geoalliance.asu.edu/sites/default/files/maps/EU-BLNK.pdf
- Official European Union website (for teacher use) https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu_en
- Easy to Read-The European Union https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/easy-to-read_en
- Computer lab or handheld devices and Internet access
- European Union Writing Prompt/Scoring Guide and Answer Key

Objectives
The student will be able to:

ARIZONA GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

- Read and summarize information for a report.
- Locate EU members on a Europe map.

Procedures

Note: Two European Union Countries Maps are provided. If time is a factor, use the map with the names of the countries labeled. For additional practice in learning the countries of Europe, select the unlabeled map.

SESSION ONE

1. Ask students to estimate the number of countries that exist on the European continent. (There are 43-45, depending on how Cyprus and Turkey are categorized.) Pose the question, "*Which is larger in land area: the continent of Europe or the United States?"* Have students look up (on the Internet or using classroom resources) the actual land area. *The continent of Europe is slightly larger at 4,056,000 square miles versus the United States at 3,679,192 square miles. The difference in area (376,808 square miles) is equivalent to one-half the size of Alaska.* Point out that the majority of European countries are the size of the smaller U.S. states. **(Preparation: Linking to past learning)**

2. Write this quote from Victor Hugo on the whiteboard. **(1848) A day will come when all nations on our continent will form a European brotherhood…A day will come when we shall see…the United States of America and the United States of Europe, face to face, reaching out for each other across the seas.** Discuss this quote. What would be the advantages and disadvantages? Is this likely to happen? **(Application: Promotes engagement)**

3. Project the Vocabulary Cards. Have students divide a piece of paper into thirds. In the left column, have them write the word. In the middle column, have them write the definition. In the right column, have them draw an illustration to show what the word means. **(Scaffolding: Comprehensible input; Application: Hands on)**

4. Distribute and project the European Union Writing Prompt to students. Read the scenario and explain that they will be researching the EU using the Official European Union website and that the weblink is at the top of the page. They need to answer the questions given and create a map of the member and non-member countries.

5. Distribute the labeled or unlabeled European Union Countries map and two colored pencils to each student. Instruct students to use the website to determine the member countries and to color the member countries with one color and the non-members with the other pencil. Remind them to be sure to color the key/legend as well. **(Integrating Processes: Reading, Writing; Application: Hands on, Linked to objectives)**

6. Allow students to partner and work together**. (Grouping Option: Partners)**

SESSION TWO

4. Students complete their research, map, and write their reports. Homework may be necessary if students are not finished**. (Assessment: Written, Group)**

Assessment

Geography
The map can be graded for accuracy in identifying the member and applicant countries. Mastery will be considered 80% or higher.

ELA and Geography
The one-page report can be graded using the Scoring Guide. Mastery will be considered a score of 80% or higher.

Extensions

Write a comparison paper on the European Union and the United States.

Sources

Official European Union website
https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu_en
https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/easy-to-read_en