

DISCUSSION GUIDE & QUIZ

April 15, 2013

Generation Money: Teens & Taxes

- Why do citizens of most nations pay taxes?
 - Why do some Americans pay more taxes than others pay?
 - Why are some Americans taxed at a higher rate than others?
 - What is the difference between income tax and sales tax?
1. True or False: If you earned more than \$5,950 last year, you must file an income tax return.
 2. The federal income tax system is based on a **progressive** tax.
 - a. legal, fair and balanced
 - b. the base amount increases as the rate increases
 3. What part of speech is **progressive** in the previous sentence?
 - a. noun
 - b. verb
 - c. adjective
 - d. adverb

QUIZ ANSWERS

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WRITING PROMPT

What do you think of our current tax system? Are Americans taxed too much for what we get in return from government services? Or should we be taxed more, in order to get better services? Do we need to be making different choices about where and how our tax dollars are spent?

How would you improve our tax system? Describe at least two strategies you think would make a difference.