

GUIDED READING Activity 12-1

For use with the textbook pages 313–319

A

MERICANS AT WORK

FILLING IN THE BLANKS

Directions: Use your textbook to fill in the blanks using the words in the box. Some words may be used more than once.

civilian labor force	blue-collar workers	professionals
service workers	white-collar workers	location
unskilled workers	semiskilled workers	skilled workers
minimum wage law	labor	supply and demand
labor market	skill	market failure

Introduction/The Civilian Labor Force

Everyone belongs to the productive resource known as **1** _____. The **2** _____ is the total number of people 16 years old or older who are either employed or actively seeking work.

Categories of Workers

3 _____ are employed in craft, manufacturing, and nonfarm labor. Office workers, salespeople, and doctors are examples of the largest sector of the labor force— **4** _____. While **5** _____ are those who provide services directly to individuals. Jobs are also categorized by skill level. **6** _____ are workers with no specialized training. Those whose jobs require some training, often using modern technology, are known as **7** _____. Those with the most education and training are called **8** _____.

Supply and Demand in the Labor Market

The labor market, like other markets, is affected by the law of **9** _____. Three major factors affect how supply and demand determine wages in the **10** _____. The first is **11** _____, which is the ability a person brings to a job. The type of job and the **12** _____ of both the job and worker also help determine wages. Economists call a lack of information about wages a **13** _____. The **14** _____ sets the lowest legal hourly wage rate that may be paid to certain types of workers.

GUIDED READING Activity 12-2

For use with the textbook pages 321–326

ORGANIZED LABOR

RECALLING THE FACTS

Directions: Use the information in your textbook to answer the questions.

1. Why do workers organize into labor unions?

2. What idea are labor unions based on?

3. In the 1800s, how did businesses try to stop labor unions?

4. What is the purpose of a strike?

5. How are craft and industrial unions organized?
Craft unions:

Industrial Unions:

6. Why did the AFL and CIO merge in the mid-1950s?

7. In 1947, what did the Taft-Hartley Act outlaw?

8. How are a union shop and agency shop different?

9. How do right-to-work laws weaken the power of unions?

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GUIDED READING Activity 12-3

For use with the textbook pages 328–333

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

OUTLINING

Directions: Locate the heading in your textbook. Then use the information under the heading to help you write each answer.

I. Negotiations

A. Introduction

1. When do negotiations take place?

2. What types of things do labor and management negotiate?

B. Mediation—Why is mediation sometimes necessary in negotiations?

C. Arbitration—How does arbitration work?

II. Strikes and Management

A. Introduction

1. What is the purpose of picketing?

2. What is a boycott?

B. Lockouts—How do companies use lockouts?

C. Injunctions—What is an injunction?

III. Decline of Unions

A. Introduction—Why has collective bargaining decreased over the years?

B. Critics—What have been the criticisms of the labor movement?
