

A Taste of Chocolate



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Video Page



A Taste of Chocolate **Teacher's Guide**

This Teacher's Guide includes the following:

- Suggested Lesson Plan
- Preview Questions
- Key Terms
- Viewing Guide
- Discussion Questions
- Quiz
- Activity: Who Chooses?
- Enrichment Activities
- Answer Key

Suggested Lesson Plan

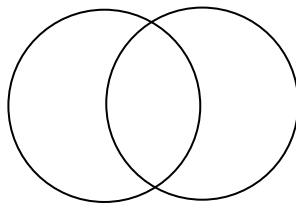
These materials may be used in a variety of ways. For maximum benefit, we suggest the following lesson plan:

- As a class, discuss the Preview Questions and Key Terms.
- Distribute copies of the Viewing Guide for students to use as a note-taking tool during the video.
- Play the video, pausing if needed to facilitate understanding and note-taking.
- Review and discuss answers to the Viewing Guide using Answer Key as a guide.
- Use Discussion Questions to spark class discussion or assign these questions as homework.
- Replay the video as preparation for the Quiz.
- Administer and grade the Quiz using Answer Key as a guide.
- As a class or in small groups, complete the Who Chooses Activity.
- Optional: Assign one or more Enrichment Activities as homework.

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Preview Questions

1. The United States has been called a nation of immigrants. What country or countries did your parents, grandparents or ancestors come from? Why did they come to the United States?
2. What contributions have immigrants made to American culture? How do these benefit you?
3. Do you think Americans take freedom for granted? Explain.
4. Do we need laws? Why?
5. Do some laws enhance or improve freedom? How?
6. Do some laws interfere with freedom? How?
7. What do you think is the relationship between freedom and risk? Can you have one without the other?
8. Do you have to take risks to be successful? How does risk play a part in success?
9. Why do entrepreneurs take risks to provide things for people they don't even know? Is it because they care about them? Explain.
10. Activity—Make a Venn diagram on the board and have students list the ways China and the United States are different and the ways the two countries are similar. Encourage students to consider history, government, economics and culture.



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Key Terms and Definitions

Entrepreneur – a decision maker who assumes the risk of trying innovative approaches and products and pursuing projects in the expectation of realizing profits. A successful entrepreneur's actions will increase the value of resources.

Rule of law – a legal system in which rules are clear, well-understood and fairly enforced, including property rights and enforcement of contracts; the doctrine that all people are equal before the law and that the government is subject to the law; the absence of arbitrary executive power.

Property rights – the rights to use, control, dispose of and obtain the benefits from a good or service.

Economic freedom – Individuals have economic freedom when property they acquire without the use of force, fraud or theft is protected from physical invasions by others and they are free to use, exchange or give their property as long as their actions do not violate the identical rights of others.

Collectivist – adhering to the political principle of centralized social and economic control, especially of all means of production.

National Socialism – the doctrines and practices of the Nazis involving the supremacy of Hitler as Führer, anti-Semitism, state control of the economy and national expansion.

Communism – a political and economic system in which the central government plans and controls the economy and in which a single, usually authoritarian, party holds all power.

State – the set of governing and supportive institutions that have sovereignty over a definite territory and population.

Speculate – to buy or sell in expectation of profiting from market fluctuations.

Nest egg – money saved and held in reserve for a future purpose such as retirement.

Capital – the wealth, whether in money or property, owned or employed in business by an individual, firm or corporation.

Muckraking – searching for and exposing real or alleged corruption, scandal or the like, especially in politics.

Serfdom – slavery; a state of working under duress or without freedom.

Name: _____

Date: _____

A Taste of Chocolate Viewing Guide, page 1

1. Google, YouTube, Yahoo! and EBay were all co-founded by _____.

2. Hong Kong is one of the richest and _____ places in the world.

3. The taste of _____ fueled young Jimmy Lai's imagination.

4. Communist China in the 1950s and '60s had a _____ and _____ economy.

5. The biggest impediment to economic growth is when people feel the threat of _____ of their gains.

6. Jimmy was sent to work the same night he arrived in the Kowloon district of _____.

7. In Hong Kong, Jimmy Lai was taken to a _____ to work as an odd-job worker.

8. Later Jimmy became a _____ and his work eventually took him to New York City.

9. In New York, Jimmy Lai read a book, _____, which changed his life.

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A Taste of Chocolate Viewing Guide, page 2

10. Friedrich Hayek believed only if the State accepts its limited role can real _____ prosper.

11. On his return to Hong Kong, Jimmy Lai landed a job as a _____ in a garment factory.

12. With his stock market profits and help from a friend Jimmy soon had the _____ to think big.

13. In 1981, Jimmy Lai founded a _____ chain called Giordano.

14. Jimmy Lai had made it...in one of the most _____ clothing markets in the world.

15. "But if I go into the media business, then I deliver _____, which is choice, and choice is _____."

16. Jimmy Lai publicly _____ Premier Li Peng for his role in the Tiananmen Square Massacre.

17. "Apple" and "Next" soon became leaders in the crowded Hong Kong and Taiwanese _____ markets.

18. Jimmy Lai succeeded because he believed in himself and in the future and he was willing to take _____.

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Discussion Questions, page 1

1. Jimmy Lai was born into a wealthy family. Why did he end up carrying luggage in a railway station?
2. Jimmy Lai said that in China his family had been rich and that when you're rich you become the enemy of the people. Is that true about the United States? Why / Why not?
3. What is a command and control economy? How is it different from a free market economy?
4. What is the rule of law? What happens when people can't rely on the rule of law and property rights? How does this affect the economy and standard of living?
5. Could you have the rule of law in a command and control economy? Explain.
6. Why was chocolate more likely to be available in Hong Kong than in communist China?
7. What did the narrator mean when he said that in the train station, 12-year old Jimmy Lai "tasted economic freedom?"
8. Why didn't Jimmy's mother want him to go to Hong Kong? Why do you think she eventually gave in?
9. What were the conditions like on the boat in which Jimmy Lai escaped to Hong Kong? Was it wrong for the Macao fishermen to profit by smuggling people to freedom? Explain.
10. Why was Jimmy Lai happy working at the factory in Hong Kong in spite of the long hours and hard work?
11. In the United States we frequently hear criticism of children working in factories—especially from our own history and in other countries today. Would Jimmy Lai have been better off if he had not been allowed to work in the factory as a child? Why/why not?

A Taste of Chocolate Discussion Questions, page 2

12. What was Friedrich Hayek warning about in *The Road to Serfdom*? Why did the book change Jimmy Lai's life?
13. Why did economist Friedrich Hayek argue that freedom could not long survive the State's attempt to centrally plan its economy?
14. How is the rule of law like the state providing road signs but without commanding people which road to take?
15. How is the state's limited role important to freedom?
16. Why did Jimmy Lai buy books before speculating in the stock market?
17. What do you think would have happened if Jimmy Lai had lost his money in the stock market? Why did he take the risk?
18. How did Jimmy Lai eventually "make it big?"
19. What happened in Tiananmen Square in 1989 that caused Jimmy Lai to become emotionally involved? What was his connection to mainland China prior to 1989?
20. Why did Jimmy Lai go into the media business?
21. What did the narrator mean that the Chinese government forced Jimmy Lai out of his own company? Can that happen in the United States?
22. List three risks that Jimmy Lai took. What motivated him to take those risks? Did he ever experience failure? Explain.
23. Jimmy Lai said that in the media business he delivers information which is choice and choice is freedom. Why does he say that information is choice? How is choice freedom?

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A Taste of Chocolate Quiz, page 1

1. Google, YouTube, Yahoo! and EBay were all cofounded by _____.
 - A) native Americans
 - B) immigrants
 - C) Chinese
 - D) women

2. The country with the most economic freedom is _____.
 - A) The United States
 - B) China
 - C) Hong Kong
 - D) North Korea

3. Jimmy Lai first tasted chocolate _____.
 - A) at an Italian restaurant in New York City
 - B) at the protests in Tiananmen Square
 - C) on the boat to Hong Kong
 - D) in a railway station in Canton

4. As soon as young Jimmy arrived in Hong Kong he was _____.
 - A) sent to work in a factory
 - B) helped by wealthy relatives
 - C) reunited with his mother
 - D) filled with regret over leaving China

5. While working at the factory in Hong Kong as a youngster, Jimmy studied _____ to get ahead.
 - A) English
 - B) economics
 - C) the stock market
 - D) law

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Date: _____

A Taste of Chocolate Quiz, page 2

6. In *The Road to Serfdom*, Friedrich Hayek said the rule of law was like _____.
- A) central planning
 - B) the State providing road signs
 - C) communism
 - D) a police state
7. Jimmy Lai made his fortune in the _____ business.
- A) restaurant
 - B) luggage
 - C) transportation
 - D) clothing
8. Jimmy Lai said choice is _____.
- A) freedom
 - B) wealth
 - C) democracy
 - D) overwhelming
9. After he spoke out against the Chinese government's role in Tiananmen Square, Jimmy Lai was forced to _____.
- A) publicly apologize
 - B) go to jail
 - C) sell his share in his company
 - D) go into exile
10. Jimmy Lai believes risk-taking _____.
- A) should be avoided
 - B) is like dashing into hope
 - C) guarantees success
 - D) is the road to serfdom

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Activity:

Who chooses? Who benefits? Who pays? What's fair?

[These four questions can be a useful tool for evaluating any policy or system. Posing the questions is a great way to stimulate critical thinking.]

As a class, or in small groups, discuss the following:

(For each question, think broadly about all the possible people or groups of people who may be affected.)

1. From the moment he decided to escape to Hong Kong to the day he decided to go into the media business, Jimmy Lai's life was full of fateful choices. List five of those choices. For each one—

Who chose?

Who benefited?

Who paid?

2. Which of Jimmy Lai's choices directly violated the dictates of the Communist Chinese government?
3. Which of Jimmy Lai's choices would have been available to him if he had stayed in China?

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Enrichment Activities, page 1

- I. Debate: Jimmy Lai was smuggled out of China to live in Hong Kong. Through hard work and a willingness to take risks he became a very successful businessman. Immigration is a hot topic in the United States right now. People argue over whether undocumented immigrants help or hurt our country. Research the different arguments about immigration and hold a debate with one side arguing for a more open immigration policy and one side arguing for a more restrictive immigration policy.

- II. Business Plan: Think of a business you could start someday. Write a business plan.*
 1. Describe your business.
 2. Estimate the amount of money, property and other supplies you will need to start the business.
 3. Describe any challenges which might make starting this business difficult.
 4. Explain how you will overcome these challenges.

*As an alternative to writing a business plan, have students write an “elevator pitch,” a 2 minute talk through which they, as entrepreneurs, “sell” a business concept to a potential investor whom they meet during an elevator ride. Have students present their pitches to the class with a 3 minute Q and A afterwards. Conduct a vote to determine the best pitches.

- III. Essay: Do you think Jimmy Lai could have had the same success if he had stayed in China? Why/why not? Explain your answer in a 500 word essay.

- IV. Characteristics of an entrepreneur.
 1. Note characteristics of an entrepreneur on separate strips of paper.
 2. Put strips in a bag or hat.
 3. Students pull out a piece of paper, see the characteristic.
 4. Students state something about Jimmy Lai that relates to the characteristic.
 5. Students identify business people in the U.S. with some of those characteristics.

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Enrichment Activities, page 2

V. Research Projects

1. Using the Index of Economic Freedom, explore the connection between economic freedom and prosperity as measured by GDP per capita. First select several countries on the list to learn more detail about each including GDP per capita. Then create a graph. Label the horizontal axis Freedom Score with a scale of 1-100. Label the vertical axis GDP per capita with a scale of \$0 to \$100,000. Select ten countries from the list including the United States, China, and Hong Kong and plot them on your graph by making a bar to represent each country. Use a different color for each. Write a short essay explaining what your graph shows.
2. Research the Tiananmen Square protests. What led to the protests? What happened during the protests? What were the results?
3. When Jimmy Lai was 12, around 1960, he left mainland China, which had a command and control economy. How has China changed since then? Research China and how it has changed in the last 50 years. Why did China change? How have those changes affected the Chinese people?
4. What does it take to be an entrepreneur? Select an entrepreneur you would like to learn about to research. Why did he or she become an entrepreneur? What risks did he or she take? How successful was his or her business? Why was it successful?
5. Read one chapter from either *The Myth of the Robber Barons* by Burton W. Folsom or *Family Pride* by Thomas Goldwasser. Write a report on the entrepreneur/company which you read about.
6. How do entrepreneurs affect our lives? Produce a PowerPoint presentation that demonstrates the impact and influence entrepreneurs have over our lives.

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Viewing Guide Answer Key

1. immigrants
2. freest
3. chocolate
4. command and control
5. confiscation
6. Hong Kong
7. factory
8. garment salesman
9. *The Road to Serfdom*
10. freedom
11. manager
12. capital
13. clothing
14. competitive
15. information, freedom
16. criticized
17. media
18. risks

Quiz Answer Key

1. B) immigrants
2. C) Hong Kong
3. D) in a railway station in Canton
4. A) sent to work in a factory
5. A) English
6. B) the State providing road signs
7. D) clothing
8. A) freedom
9. C) sell his share in his company
10. B) is like dashing into hope

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