Lesson 1 Teacher Guide: Tax Types and the Reasons for Taxes

Objectives

As a result of this lesson, students will be able to identify and explain types of taxes and reasons for taxation at the local, state, and federal levels. More specifically, students will be able to:

a. Explain the different types of taxes.
b. List levels at which taxes are paid.
c. Describe the impact taxes make on our state and communities.

Lesson Components

Online Learning Module

The Lesson One learning module has five sections, and we estimate it will take students 20 to 30 minutes to complete.

The components include:

- **The written lesson**
  The content is presented through written lectures. Students will need to select tabs, use directional arrows, and open links to fully engage with the information.
- **Vocabulary words**
  Important vocabulary words are in bold throughout this lesson. At the bottom of each section, the vocabulary words appear on flashcards and their definitions are revealed when students select each one.
- **Vocabulary matching exercises**
  There are vocabulary matching exercises throughout this lesson. Vocabulary words are on the left column and definitions are on the right column. Students must select and drag the definitions to the correct vocabulary word. They cannot submit the exercise until all items are matched, and they will receive feedback on correct and incorrect answers after submitting the exercise.
- **Check for understanding**
  Students must complete a check for understanding activity at the end of this lesson. It consists of seven multiple choice questions, and the pass rate is 80%. If they score below 80%, students will be prompted

to retake the activity. You will not receive students' scores. If you would like this information, we suggest asking students to email you a screenshot of their scores or recreating the questions in your preferred format.

Note-Taking Guide

We included a PDF note-taking guide to accompany the online learning module. The note-taking guide is for students to fill out as they complete the lesson. This guide will help students complete the vocabulary matching exercise and check for understanding activity.

Answer Keys

Vocabulary Check 1

Match the vocabulary term with the correct definition. (Terms and definitions here are listed as matching pairs and need to be randomized for assessment.)

Vocabulary Term	Definition
Taxes	Mandatory payments that individuals and businesses make to a government.
Public Services	Programs and activities that governments provide to meet community needs, such as safety, transportation, and education.
Individual Income Taxes	Taxes individuals pay on money they earn.
Property Taxes	Taxes property owners pay based on the value of their land and buildings.
Sales Tax	Taxes people pay when they buy certain items or pay for services.
Business Tax	Taxes businesses pay on the income they earn.

Check for Understanding

These are assessment questions for this lesson. Correct answers are in bold.

1. Who can set and collect taxes? (Select all that apply)
    a. **Federal government**
    b. **States**
    c. **Counties**
    d. **Cities**
    e. **Tribal governments**
2. In Minnesota, what levels of government collect individual income taxes? (Select all that apply)
    a. **Federal**
    b. **State**
    c. County

d. City

3. Which level of government collects most of the property taxes in Minnesota?
   a. Federal
   b. State
   c. County
   d. City

4. Safiya just purchased a new tablet. Which tax applies to this type of purchase?
   a. Individual Income Taxes
   b. Property Taxes
   c. Sales Taxes
   d. Business Taxes

5. Phu owns a house. Which tax applies to the ownership of house?
   a. Individual Income Taxes
   b. Property Taxes
   c. Sales Taxes
   d. Business Taxes

6. Daniel is earning money from his job as a cashier at Target. Which tax applies to the money he earns?
   a. Individual Income Taxes
   b. Property Taxes
   c. Sales Taxes
   d. Business Taxes

7. What type of public service was projected to receive most funding from Minnesota tax dollars from 2025 to 2026?
   a. Environment and Energy
   b. Housing
   c. Early Childhood and K-12 Education
   d. Transportation

Resources Linked in Lesson

These videos are referenced in this lesson:

- #OurMN: Minnesota State Grant Video
- #OurMN: GreenCorps Preserves and Protects Minnesota's Environment video
- #OurMN: FIRST Program video