

Section 1: Guided Reading and Review

Labor Market Trends



A. As You Read

As you read Section 1, fill in two supporting facts or details under each main idea by answering each question.

Main Idea: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) tracks changes in the labor force.

1. How do economists define *labor force*? _____

2. What criteria define unemployment? _____

Main Idea: The changing economy has brought along a changing job market.

3. How did the electronics boom of the mid-twentieth century impact the job market?

4. What new jobs were created beginning in the 1970s? _____

Main Idea: Changes in the labor force can be traced to a number of causes.

5. How has higher education contributed? _____

6. Why are there more women in the labor force? _____

Main Idea: For about the past 20 years, the trend in average wage earnings can be described as slightly downward.

7. Have all workers received lower wages? _____

8. How has competition affected wage earnings? _____

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Answer each of the following questions in a complete sentence.

9. How might the *learning effect* influence wage trends? _____
10. According to the *screening effect*, how may employers view job applicants who have a college education? _____
11. To what kinds of jobs does *contingent employment* refer? _____