



Lesson Plan: Positive vs. Normative Economics

Objectives:

1. Distinguish between positive and normative economic statements.
2. Analyze economic reasoning through an example given by Tyrion Lannister from *Game of Thrones*.
3. Evaluate how understanding the distinction can enhance critical thinking about economic issues.

Materials:

- Video: ["Tyrion Lannister Understands Positive vs. Normative Economics."](#)
- Worksheet with discussion prompts.
- Optional – whiteboard, blackboard, or computer technology to make notes

Procedures:

Introduction (5 minutes):

1. Begin by asking students to consider the difference between facts and opinions in everyday discussions.
2. Introduce the concepts of positive economics (descriptive, fact-based) and normative economics (opinion-based, prescriptive).

Instruction (20 minutes):

1. **Define Positive and Normative Economics:**
 - Positive economics describes what is (e.g., "Unemployment is 5%.")
 - Normative economics prescribes what ought to be (e.g., "Unemployment should be lower.").
2. Provide simple examples of each to illustrate the distinction.
3. **Video Analysis:**

- Show the video: "Tyrion Lannister Understands Positive vs. Normative Economics."
- Discuss as a class:
 - What normative claim does Tyrion make about the fighting pits?
 - What positive claim does Hizdahr make in response?