



Lesson Plan: "Today's Choices, Tomorrow's Possibilities: The PPC and Economic Growth"

Objective:

Students will explore how decisions about resource allocation today can influence future production possibilities. They will analyze the tradeoffs between consumption and investment and understand how these choices drive long-term economic growth and shift the Production Possibilities Curve (PPC) outward.

Materials Needed:

- [Game of Thrones clip or summary of Samwell Tarly's research on dragonglass and the Night King.](#)
- Handouts explaining the PPC, investment vs. consumption, and factors of economic growth.
- Graphs to illustrate how different allocations affect future PPC shifts.

Lesson Steps:

1. Introduction (10 minutes):

- Define the **Production Possibilities Curve (PPC)**: A graphical representation of tradeoffs between two goods that can be produced with limited resources.
- Introduce the concept of **economic growth**: An outward shift of the PPC due to factors like investment in capital, technology, and infrastructure.
- Explain the tradeoff between consumption (immediate satisfaction) and investment (future growth).

2. Viewing Clip (5 minutes):

- [Show or summarize the Game of Thrones scene where Samwell Tarly prioritizes researching dragonglass as a means to combat the White Walkers.](#)
- Highlight how Sam's decision reflects an investment in future capabilities rather than immediate gratification.

3. Group Discussion (15 minutes):

- Divide students into small groups to discuss:
 - How does the PPC illustrate the tradeoffs Sam faced?

- What is the opportunity cost of focusing on dragonglass research?
- How might this decision influence the future PPC of the Night's Watch?
- What parallels can you draw to real-world examples of investment in research or infrastructure?

4. Concept Application (20 minutes):

- **Case Study Analysis:**
 - Provide real-world examples of investment vs. consumption tradeoffs:
 - Investing in education or infrastructure vs. increasing consumer spending.
 - Research and development in renewable energy vs. immediate use of fossil fuels.
 - Ask students to analyze:
 - How these decisions impact today's PPC.
 - How they influence the potential for future growth and shift the PPC outward.
 - The opportunity costs involved in prioritizing investment over consumption.

5. Wrap-Up and Reflection (10 minutes):

- Summarize key takeaways:
 - Decisions about resource allocation today influence future production capabilities.
 - Investing in capital, technology, and infrastructure drives long-term economic growth and shifts the PPC outward.
 - Balancing consumption and investment is critical for sustainable growth.
- Pose a reflective question: How would you balance short-term satisfaction with long-term growth in your own life or a business setting?

6. Activity or Homework (20 minutes):

- **Design a Resource Allocation Plan:**
 - Present students with a hypothetical economy producing two goods: **food** (consumption) and **tools** (investment).
 - Groups decide how to allocate resources between the two today, considering:
 - Immediate needs and satisfaction.
 - Long-term benefits and future PPC shifts.
 - Groups illustrate their decisions on a PPC graph and predict how their choices will influence future production possibilities.
 - Facilitate a discussion: How do investment-heavy allocations affect the standard of living in the short and long term?