

Financial Trivia Just for Fun

Knowing this trivia may not make you a better investor, but it's a lot of fun anyway. Go ahead – test yourself.

- a. Which first lady was the first to appear on U.S. currency?

- b. There's a \$1 bill and a \$2 bill. How about a \$3 bill?

- c. How often does the government print new money?

- d. How did the word “buck” come to mean a dollar?

- e. Which two women have appeared on the U.S. \$1 coin?

- f. How did the word “bread” come to mean money?

- g. Why did the U.S. government put grooves on coins?

- h. If each currency note printed in the U.S. were laid end to end, approximately how many times would the line of bills stretch around the earth's equator?

- i. Who was the first U.S. billionaire?

- j. In the financial world, what is a zombie?

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Answer Key

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a. Which first lady was the first to appear on U.S. currency?

Martha Washington appeared on a \$1 silver certificate in 1886 and 1891, as well as on the back of the \$1 silver certificate in 1896.

b. There's a \$1 bill and a \$2 bill. How about a \$3 bill?

There actually was a \$3 bill in the early 1800s, but only a few were ever printed by banks.

c. How often does the government print new money?

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing produces 37 million currency a day with a face value of \$696 million.

d. How did the word "buck" come to mean a dollar?

Originally, a buck referred to a deerskin or buckskin, which was commonly used as money.

e. Which two women have appeared on the U.S. \$1 coin?

Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea have appeared on the U.S. \$1 coin.

f. How did the word "bread" come to mean money?

"Bread," the slang word for money, comes from an old Cockney rhyme, "Give me your money. Give me your bread and honey."

g. Why did the U.S. government put grooves on coins?

So that no one could shave the edges. People often did this when the dollar, half-dollar, quarter and 10-cent coins were made from silver and gold. Now the grooved edges can help visually impaired people tell the coins apart.

h. If each currency note printed in the U.S. were laid end to end, approximately how many times would the line of bills stretch around the earth's equator?

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i. Who was the first U.S. billionaire?

Henry Ford

j. In the financial world, what is a zombie?

Zombies, also called living dead, are companies that continue to operate even though they're bankrupt.