**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



**Teachers: Please complete the areas on Page 5, or use only the first 4 pages of this organizer, and distribute to your students**

**Writing Organizer**

**Grades 6-8**

**Fall 2022**

**As part of The Stock Market Game you can participate in a fun national writing competition, InvestWrite.**

**Dozens of students around the country win every semester.**

**Check out the awards and see more information on the website at**

[**www.investwrite.org**](http://www.investwrite.org)

**Writing Assignment**

**When developing your Stock Market Game™ investment portfolio, you have many options to consider. Fortunately, there are valuable research sources to help you make informed choices. Discuss what you think are the most important things to research and use those to select a portfolio of stocks/bonds/mutual funds you think will be successful in the long-term. Explain why your selections will make good long-term investments.**

**Learning Targets**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **InvestWrite Essay: Learning Targets** | **1** | **2** | **3** |
| **1 = Need more help understanding.   2 = Understand but need to refresh.   3 = Got it!** | | | | |
| **1** | I can define a stock |  |  |  |
| **2** | I can define a mutual fund |  |  |  |
| **3** | I can define a bond |  |  |  |
| **4** | I can identify and use important investing research tools |  |  |  |
| **5** | I can plan and design a long-term investment portfolio |  |  |  |

**Writing Organizer**

* + **Introduction- Develop an introductory paragraph keeping in mind that research is important when choosing your Stock Market Game portfolio and investing successfully for your own future.**
  + **Body**
    - **Identify research sources you can use when choosing a portfolio for the Stock Market Game, and when thinking about your own future investments.**
    - **What are some specific tools you look at when researching stocks/bonds/mutual funds.**

**HELPFUL HINT: *Some examples you might research -- market cap, beta, ESG, sustainability, P/E ratios, company news, and earnings, 52-week range, etc.***

* + - **Discuss what you think are the most important of these tools and why you think they’re valuable.**
    - **Use those tools and identify a successful portfolio of stocks/bonds/mutual funds.**
    - **Explain why you selected your portfolio and how the research tools helped you identify them.**
    - **Describe your reasons these will make good long-term investments.**
  + **Conclusion**

**Brain Storm!**

***Use the boxes below for your notes***

**Introduction** **Develop an introductory paragraph keeping in mind that research is important when choosing your Stock Market Game portfolio and investing successfully for your own future.**

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**Body of Your Essay**

**Identify research sources you can use when choosing a portfolio for the Stock Market Game, and when thinking about your own future investments.**

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**What are some specific tools you look at when researching stocks/bonds/mutual funds?**

**HELPFUL HINT: *Some examples you might research -- market cap, beta, ESG, sustainability, P/E ratios, company news, and earnings, 52-week range, etc.***

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**Discuss what you think are the most important of these tools and why you think they’re valuable.**

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**Use those tools and identify a successful portfolio of stocks/bonds/mutual funds.**

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**Explain why you selected your portfolio and how the research tools helped you identify them.**

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**Describe your reasons these will make good long-term investments.**

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**Conclusion**

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**Now you’re all set to write your draft!**

**Due Dates:**

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| **TASK** | **DATE** |
| DRAFT Due |  |
| EDITS Due |  |
| FINAL Due |  |

**Participation is voluntary/required/extra credit.**

* **Teachers, please adapt the table above for your needs.**
* **NOTE the essay submission deadline is**

**Monday, December 5, 2022**

**COMPLETE INFORMATION AND AWARDS CAN BE FOUND AT:**

**www.investwrite.org**

**Judging Criteria**

Judges of the InvestWrite competition will base their decisions on your **rationale, understanding of the subject matter,** and **writing style.** They will ask themselves the following questions as they review your essay submission:

**Rationale**

* Is your essay well organized?
* Do you address all the elements of the question in your essay?
* Have you written clearly when you described details?
* Have you omitted unnecessary details?

**Understanding the Subject Matter**

* Are the words and terms you include in your essay used correctly?
* Will your statements make sense to a judge who is reading your essay?
* Have you described your strategies clearly?
* Do you talk about how the things you learned in the Stock Market Game relate to what you wrote in your essay?

**Writing Style**

* Did you make your essay easy for the judges to read?
* Will the judges be able to see your creative side when they read your essay?
* Will judges who read your essay be interested and want to read to the end?
* Have you used proper punctuation and good grammar?
* Have you carefully worked on your drafts to make your final essay as good as it can be?
* Did you work on this essay without too much help from your teacher or an adult? Your essay should be in your very own personal writing style!

**Rules and Guidelines**

Essays need to meet all the guidelines before the deadline. Failure to meet the guidelines will result in disqualification.

* Each student in the 6-8 grade division may submit only one entry with a maximum of **900** words and a minimum of **400** words.
* This is an individual project. Group discussion is encouraged but **essays must be written and submitted by individual students.**
* If a title is chosen it must appear at the top of the first page of the text.
* The student author’s name **CANNOT** appear in the essay or title. Identification of the student or teacher in the essay will result in disqualification.
* If references are cited, include them at the end of the essay text.
* References must be formatted without footnotes. At the end of the essay simply list each source as: (Author. “Title”. Date. URL).
* Only the body of the essay will be included in the word count. The title and references will not count in the word limit.
* **Essays in PDF format cannot be accepted**. All essays need to be in a format that can be cut and pasted to the InvestWrite website.
* All essays must be submitted in plain text; no charts, graphs or symbols will be accepted.

**www.investwrite.org**