QUESTION & ANSWER

Why were cowry shells used as currency in Central Asia and Africa?

Give a few examples of other types of currencies, besides money, used around the world.

What are some reasons to use paper money instead of coins?

What do we use money for?

What makes an item valuable? Give an example of something that you think is valuable.
1. Which of these is an example of barter?
   A. Charging $1 for a hamburger
   B. Trading a valuable baseball card for a valuable comic book
   C. Mining for gold and silver
   D. Using money that's backed by faith in the U.S. government

2. Place the following forms of currency in the order they were introduced: A) Cowrie shells; B) Gold and silver; C) Paper money
   A. A, B, C
   B. B, C, A
   C. B, A, C
   D. A, C, B

3. Perishable goods like barley make poor forms of currency. What does "perishable" mean?
   A. Worthless
   B. Susceptible to spoiling or being ruined
   C. Hard to measure
   D. Large in size

4. What attributes of gold and silver led to the creation of paper money?
   A. The ease which they can be shaped into coins
   B. Their lack of value
   C. Their shininess and lustre
   D. Their bulky size and heavy weight

5. Which of these is an example of a commodity?
   A. 
   B. 
   C. 
   D. 

6. What is the difference between goods and services?
   A. Goods are difficult to make, while services are easy to make
   B. Goods are generally objects, while services are tasks or jobs
   C. Goods are generally more expensive than services
   D. Goods are generally less expensive than services

7. Which of these is a fact about money?
   A. The modern system of money is too complicated to understand
   B. Originally, gold and silver were traded in small pieces
   C. Gold coins are a better form of currency than shells
   D. A system of paper money is superior to a system that uses gold and silver

8. Why were coins originally given markings?
   A. To honor the Roman Emperor
   B. To show where the coins came from
   C. To explain how they should be used
   D. To indicate their value

9. What did markets allow people to do?
   A. Invent paper money
   B. Use gold coins
   C. Trade on a larger scale
   D. Trade on a smaller scale

10. Today, what gives the U.S. dollar its value?
    A. The fact that everyone believes it has value
    B. The gold held in reserve by the U.S. Treasury
    C. The silver paper that it's printed on
    D. All the goods and services produced by the United States