

Economics Presentation Assignment

Topic: The Business Cycle and Aggregate Demand & Supply
Ontario Curriculum

- **D1.1:** Demonstrate understanding of the business cycle (recession, depression, peak, recovery, expansion) and economic indicators (employment, GDP, inflation).
 - **D1.2:** Use the AD/AS model to analyze how economic changes affect the economy.
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Assignment Overview

Create a **visual presentation** (PowerPoint, Google Slides, or Canva) explaining:

1. How the business cycle works.
2. How Aggregate Demand (AD) and Aggregate Supply (AS) influence each stage.
3. How real-world events affect GDP, prices, and employment.

Your presentation must include **graphs, explanations, and real-world examples**.

Part 1: Knowledge — The Business Cycle

Task:

1. Create a **graph of the business cycle** showing the five stages:
 - **Expansion → Peak → Recession → Trough → Recovery**

2. Label each stage clearly.
3. Under each stage, explain changes in:
 - **GDP**
 - **Employment/Unemployment**
 - **Inflation/Prices**

Example:

- *Expansion:* GDP ↑, unemployment ↓, inflation ↑

Tip: Use color coding or arrows to make trends visually clear.

Part 2: Thinking & Communication — AD/AS Analysis

Task:

1. Draw **labeled AD/AS graphs** to show:
 - How an increase or decrease in AD or AS shifts the economy.
 - AD shifts → Right → What happens to the GDP, prices and unemployment. What is the stage of the business cycle?
 - AD shifts → Left → What happens to the GDP, prices and unemployment. What is the stage of the business cycle?
 - AS shifts → Right → What happens to the GDP, prices and unemployment. What is the stage of the business cycle?

- AS shifts → Left → What happens to the GDP, prices and unemployment. What is the stage of the business cycle?

2. **Explain each graph clearly** using economic terms. Focus on **visual clarity and communication**.

PART 3: APPLICATION — Real-World Economic Events

Task:

1. Choose **two real-world economic events**, such as:
 - COVID-19 pandemic economic slowdown and recovery
 - 2008 Global Financial Crisis
 - Oil price shocks or other major economic events
 2. Explain:
 - What happened during the event
 - How it affected **GDP, unemployment, and inflation/prices**
 - Which stage(s) of the business cycle the economy went through
 3. Use **data, news reports, or credible sources** to support your explanation.
 4. Focus on **real-life impact and understanding, no graphs required**.
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CONCLUSION / REFLECTION

- Reflect on the importance of understanding economic trends in **everyday life and government decisions**.

RUBRIC – Presentation: The Business Cycle and AD/AS

Category	Level 1 (50–59%)	Level 2 (60–69%)	Level 3 (70–79%)	Level 4 (80–100%)
Knowledge	Shows limited understanding of business cycle stages and indicators; missing or unclear labels.	Shows some understanding; most stages and indicators explained.	Shows clear understanding of all stages and indicators; accurate explanations.	Demonstrates thorough understanding with detailed and accurate descriptions supported by strong visuals.
Thinking & Communication	Provides limited analysis or unclear visuals.	Some analysis and organization; graphs partially support ideas.	Clear analysis with accurate visuals and logical explanations.	Insightful and well-organized analysis using strong visuals, and terminologies..
Application	Limited ability to connect events to economic outcomes.	Some connection; events partially explained.	Clear explanation of real-world events and impact on GDP, unemployment, and prices.	Detailed application showing deep understanding of events' impact on the business cycle.

Presentation Requirements

- **6–8 slides total**
- **At least 5 graphs:**
 1. Business Cycle
 2. AD/AS graph(s) showing shifts
- **Use economic terms accurately**
- **Include real data or examples**
- **Presentation time:** 5–7 minutes
- **Sources:** Cite all data/images