Social Studies, Grade 8 Unit IX: Lesson A3

Research: Installment Buying



Research the system of installment buying that began in the 1920s.

In a research paper, discuss how installment buying increases purchases. Demonstrate that while the initial outlay is smaller, the buyers end up paying more in interest. Discuss with your parents how they use credit cards. Have them explain how the credit card system operates. In your research paper, compare installment buying with credit card purchases. Explore the advantages for the buyer, for the stores, and for the companies that issue credit cards.

Share your findings with the class.