



Real-time Stock Market Updates

Description

Stocks were mostly steady on Wednesday as traders looked at possible future Federal Reserve rate cuts with concerns about rising prices. The Dow Jones Industrial Average went up a little, while the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite also saw small movements. These three major stock averages are on track for a second week of losses.

The Federal Reserve released meeting minutes from December, showing worries about inflation and signaling a possible slowdown in rate cuts. Bond yields, which show how much interest investors can earn, were up as investors watched for data on Friday's job report.

Some individual stocks were in the news, like Palantir, which has gone up a lot recently but was down for the third day in a row. Another company, Advanced Micro Devices, saw a drop after a negative rating by HSBC.

Overall, with uncertainty about government policies and economic data, the market could be unpredictable in the coming days. Investors are watching closely for any surprises in the job report on Friday.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Inflation** /ɪnˈfleɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The rate at which the general level of prices for goods and services is rising.
2. **Uncertain** /ʌnˈsɜːr.tən/ (adjective): Not able to be relied on; not known or definite.
3. **Yield** /jiːld/ (verb): To produce or provide (a return or profit).
4. **Steady** /ˈstɛdi/ (adjective): Firmly fixed supported or balanced; not shaking or moving.
5. **Report** /rɪˈpɔːrt/ (noun): An account given of a particular matter especially in the form of a document.
6. **Movements** /ˈmuːv.mənt/ (noun): An act of changing physical location or position or of having this changed.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What were traders looking at on Wednesday that affected the stock market?
Option: Possible future Federal Reserve rate cuts
Option: Earnings reports



Option: Weather forecasts

Option: Sports events

2. Which of the following saw small movements on Wednesday?

Option: Dow Jones Industrial Average

Option: Bitcoin price

Option: Oil prices

Option: Real estate market

3. What concern about rising prices did traders have on Wednesday?

Option: Inflation

Option: Deflation

Option: Stagnation

Option: Unemployment rates

4. What caused Palantir stock to go down for the third day in a row?

Option: Negative news

Option: Positive news

Option: Government intervention

Option: Natural disaster

5. What company saw a drop after a negative rating by HSBC?

Option: Advanced Micro Devices

Option: Amazon

Option: Apple

Option: Google

6. What are investors watching for closely on Friday?

Option: Job report

Option: Weather forecast

Option: Sporting event outcome

Option: Stock market closure

True-False

7. The Federal Reserve released meeting minutes from December expressing no worries about inflation.

8. The market is expected to be highly predictable in the coming days.



9. Some individual stocks like Palantir have seen recent decreases in value.
10. The Dow Jones Industrial Average went down on Wednesday.
11. Investors are not concerned about government policies affecting the market.
12. The upcoming job report is anticipated to provide surprises for investors.

Gap-Fill

14. The three major stock averages are on track for a second week of _____.
15. Investors are closely watching for any _____ in the job report on Friday.
16. With uncertainty about government policies and economic data, the market could be _____ in the coming days.
17. Some individual stocks like Palantir, which has gone up a lot recently, were down for the third day in a row, while another company, Advanced Micro Devices, saw a drop after a _____ by HSBC.
18. Overall, the market could be _____ in the coming days.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Possible future Federal Reserve rate cuts 2. Dow Jones Industrial Average 3. Inflation 4. Negative news 5. Advanced Micro Devices 6. Job report

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 14. losses 15. surprises 16. unpredictable 17. negative rating

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What economic phenomenon refers to a general increase in prices and a decrease in the purchasing



value of money?

- Option: Decrease
- Option: Inflation
- Option: Unemployment
- Option: Stagnation

2. What term is used when two or more companies combine to form a single larger company?

- Option: Explosion
- Option: Breakdown
- Option: Merger
- Option: Expansion

3. Which of the following terms describes the condition of being without a job or work?

- Option: Employment
- Option: Salary
- Option: Unemployment
- Option: Compensation

4. What term is used to describe oil in its natural state before it has been refined or processed?

- Option: Refined
- Option: Processed
- Option: Natural
- Option: Crude

5. What term refers to the charge for the privilege of borrowing money typically expressed as a percentage?

- Option: Fee
- Option: Interest
- Option: Tax
- Option: Deposit

6. What term represents ownership in a corporation and represents a claim on part of the corporation's assets and earnings?

- Option: Bond
- Option: Stock
- Option: Debt
- Option: Investment

7. In finance what does the term "yield" typically refer to?

- Option: Price
- Option: Quantity
- Option: Yield
- Option: Demand



8. What word is used to describe a category of business activity?

- Option: Market
- Option: Industry
- Option: Segment
- Option: Sector

9. In financial terms what do "gains" usually represent?

- Option: Losses
- Option: Expenses
- Option: Profits
- Option: Gains

10. What term describes the effect or influence of one thing on another?

- Option: Cause
- Option: Action
- Option: Impact
- Option: Result

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. In finance the _____ is the income return on an investment such as the interest or dividends received.

12. The company was sued for _____ business practices that disadvantaged their competitors.

13. The detective collected _____ from the crime scene to build a case against the suspect.

14. She was _____ to speak at the prestigious conference due to her expertise in the field.

15. Despite the lack of concrete proof many people were _____ in the existence of the mythical creature.

16. The new study _____ that regular exercise can improve cognitive function in older



adults.

17. The political candidate held a _____ to energize supporters before the upcoming election.

18. The stock _____ tracks the performance of a group of stocks representing a particular market.

19. The directions were so _____ that many participants got lost during the team-building exercise.

20. The company introduced new packaging to make their product more visually _____ to consumers.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The dance routine had intricate and synchronized that impressed the audience.
22. The film received a positive from critics praising the acting and screenplay.
23. Farming in that region a variety of crops due to the fertile soil and favorable climate.
24. His progress in learning the new language impressed his teachers.
25. The investigative journalist published a detailed on government corruption.
26. The company is a former employee for leaking confidential information to competitors.
27. The city's economy is driven by manufacturing and production facilities.
28. The insurance company processed the driver's for the car accident damages.
29. There was no clear linking the suspect to the crime scene.
30. The new policy had a positive on the company's profitability.



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Inflation 2. Merger 3. Unemployment 4. Crude 5. Interest 6. Stock 7. Yield 8. Industry 9. Gains 10. Impact

Gap-Fill: 11. yield 12. unfair 13. evidence 14. invited 15. believing 16. proves 17. rally 18. index 19. confusing 20. appealing

Matching sentence: 1. movements 2. review 3. yields 4. steady 5. report 6. suing 7. industrial 8. claims 9. evidence 10. impact

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

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