



Wall Street Indexes Dip as Record Year Closes!

Description

Today, U.S. stock indexes are down, ending a successful year of gains. The S&P 500 and Dow Jones are falling, while Nasdaq is also down.

Energy stocks like Exxon Mobil and Chevron are doing well, but technology stocks like Nvidia and Apple are dropping.

Bond yields and crude oil prices are mixed. In Europe, indexes are mostly up. Asian markets have mixed results.

A strong economy, consumer spending, and job market have driven U.S. market gains this year. Companies like Nvidia and Super Micro Computer have seen prices soar.

The Federal Reserve's actions, including interest rate cuts, have impacted the market. Inflation concerns remain high.

Bitcoin and gold have also had a great year. Markets will close for New Year's Day, with important economic updates coming later in the week.

Finally, the NYSE and Nasdaq will close on Jan. 9 to honor the late former President Jimmy Carter.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Indexes** /'ɪn,dɛksəz/ (noun): Statistical measures that reflect the performance of a group of stocks or markets.
2. **Yields** /ji:ldz/ (noun): The income returned on an investment often expressed as a percentage.
3. **Crude** /kru:d/ (adjective): In a raw or unrefined state often referring to oil.
4. **Inflation** /ɪn'fleɪʃən/ (noun): The rate at which the general level of prices for goods and services rises eroding purchasing power.
5. **Impact** /'ɪm.pækt/ (verb): To have a strong effect on someone or something.
6. **Gains** /geɪnz/ (noun): An increase in wealth or resources typically referring to profits in financial contexts.

Vocabulary quizzes

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



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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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