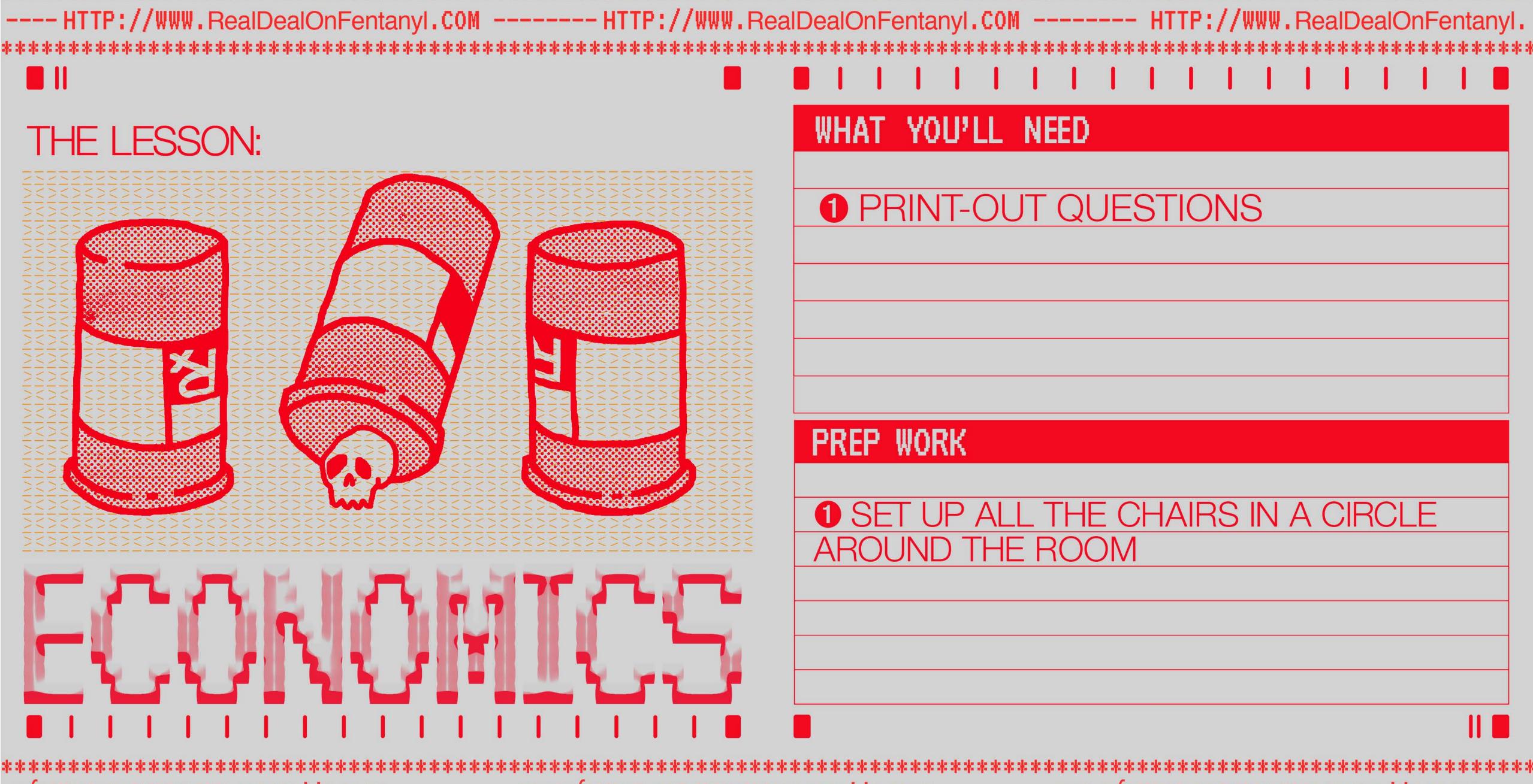


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- ① What is fentanyl?
- Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is 50x stronger than heroin. It can be made illegally and used to make fake pills that look like medication.
- ② Out of all the overdose deaths in 2020 for people aged 14-23 what percentage of them involved fentanyl?
- 2 The answer is 76%. It can be made illegally and used to make fake pills that look like medication. Other drugs, like cocaine, heroin and meth are also often laced with fentanyl. Let's break down why this number is so high and why it's still rising.
- 3 What kind of drugs do you think fentanyl can be laced in?
- **3** All kinds of drugs. Things like cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin. But not just that, it is also pressed into pills that resemble prescription medications. Things people take for anxiety, focus, and pain.

Q&A CONT.

- ④ Who out of these 3 options do you think is making drugs laced with fentanyl? A. pharmaceutical company / B. Drug dealer / C. Drug supplier
- The answer is a dealer AND a supplier. Before drugs get to a dealer, it will have passed through multiple hands. Each of those hands wanting to make more money than the one before. Please know that pills that are prescribed to you by a doctor and filled by a pharmacist are not at risk of being laced with fentanyl.
- 5 Why are these dealers making more money?
- Suppliers are lacing the drugs with fentanyl. It's cheap, potent and profitable. By doing so, they are able to stretch their product by corrupting it with fentanyl. Fentanyl is also highly addictive meaning the consumer will keep coming back for more, raising demand for dealers making them more money too.
- 6 Why would anyone sell fake drugs that have lethal doses of fentanyl in them?
- **6** MONEY! Period. And most of the time, dealers of all kinds don't know what's in the drugs they're selling. They don't care. They're making money off of fake drugs.



The students will walk into class and see their chairs in a circle around the room. Tell the students to pick a random seat wherever they choose.

STEP 2

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Prompt the students to get comfortable and explain the purpose of today's conversation.

Select a stydent to read **QUESTION 1** out loud.

TALKING POINT

STEP 1

FENTANYL IS MADE ILLEGALLY AND MIXED INTO DRUGS AND MADE INTO FAKE PILLS.

TALKING POINT JUST LIKE MANY OF US DIDN'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION, MOST OF THE TIME, DEALERS DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT'S IN THE DRUGS THEY'RE SELLING.

ALL THEY CARE ABOUT IS THE MONEY.

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STEP 3

Repeat this process until all of the questions have been read. Encourage students to engage in open dialogue along the way.

Continue to remind them the seriousness of this topic. Students should understand that because drugs change hands so many times before they get to their consumer, they can altered at any time.

TALKTNE POMNT

IN 2020, FENTANYL WAS INVOLVED IN 76% OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS FOR PEOPLE AGES 14-23. Even if you trust a friend, it can be impossible to know where a pill or drug has been before it reached them. The only safe pills are ones that are prescribed to you by a doctor.

STEP 4

At the end of the lesson, invite the class to talk about any feelings they might be having after learning about how dealers often don't care about the lives of their buyers.

CONVERSATIONALLY DELIVER THESE CLOSING REMARKS:

The truth of the matter is, drugs travel far. Dealers are okay with selling laced drugs with fentanyl to make more money. And the main thing is, a dealer likely doesn't know what's in their supply – and they don't care. What might look like a prescription drug, might not be. It all boils down to money.

Now that you have this knowledge, share it with your friends too.



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KEY TAKEAWAYS

Fentanyl is cheap, potent, and profitable - so suppliers use it to make fake pills that look real and "lace" it into other drugs to extend their supply.

Dealers might not even know what's in the product they are selling. They are not testing the products they sell - they don't care to know the details.

Even if you trust a friend, fake pills and other drugs change hands too many times to know what is in them. The only safe pills are ones that are prescribed to you by a doctor.

