

ECONOMIC CARTOON 25



THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: HANGING TOGETHER

Perhaps the most significant trend of the twentieth century was globalization. Near the end of the twentieth century people began to speak of “the global economy,” as international trade reached record levels. Asian economic troubles caused stock markets around the world to tumble in 1997. Although the United States economy remained strong, this cartoon reflected the concern of many economists at the time.

Directions: Study the cartoon below. Then answer the questions that follow.



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EXAMINING THE CARTOON

Multiple Choice

- What does the cartoon imply about the Asian economy?
 - that it is dependent on the European economy
 - that it is crashing
 - that it is prospering
 - that it is stagnant
- What might the rope symbolize?
 - economic ties, like trading
 - political ties, like treaties
 - social ties, like travel
 - geographic ties, like shared borders
- What view of the global economy does the cartoonist express?
 - that Americans are opposed to it
 - that it can be dangerous
 - that most countries benefit from it
 - all of the above

Critical Thinking

- Analyzing the Cartoon** What is the significance of the fact that each walking figure is both holding the rope and has it around his neck?

- Expressing Your Opinion** Do you agree with the cartoonist’s opinion of the global economy? Explain.
