

The food bank

Instructions

Read and listen to the resources cited below. Afterwards, answer the provided questions using a few sentences for each question. Submit your answers to Gauchospace before we meet to discuss the reflection.

Stories

Planet Money, [The Free Food Market](#)

Canice Prendergast, [How food banks use markets to feed the poor](#) (pages 1-13)

Questions

Jesus Lopez, the warehouse manager for the Santa Barbara Food Bank has asked for your help to decide whether the California Association of Food Banks should pursue a similar market as the one adopted by Feeding America. He'd love your take on the following questions:

1. How did the central allocation of food result in economic inefficiencies?
2. Why was the introduction of a market able to resolve these issues?
3. How did this particular market account for concerns over inequities across food banks?
4. Would you personally consider the introduction of the food market a success? Which aspects would you consider to be particularly important if a similar market were to be implemented elsewhere?
5. What other (environmental?) settings can you think of that might benefit from the introduction of a market?