

## Act I, Scene I

### How much is \$10,000 and what could it buy?

The Younger Family has just received a check for \$10,000. Everyone has a different idea of how the money would best help the family. Obviously \$10,000 went a lot further in 1959 when the play was published than it would today, but how much further?

Your task is to compare prices of basic items of 1959 and 2015, and ultimately to see how much \$10,000 would be in today's money.

Some websites that might help, but feel free to look at others:

<http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/1959.html>

<http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/pricebasket.html>

<http://www.foodtimeline.org/foodfaq5.html>

<http://www.fiftiesweb.com/pop/prices-1959.html>

**First, look up basic items (choose three of your own):**

|               | 1959 | NOW |
|---------------|------|-----|
| Milk          |      |     |
| Bread         |      |     |
| Gas           |      |     |
| Postage Stamp |      |     |
| Newspaper     |      |     |
| House         |      |     |
| Car           |      |     |
|               |      |     |
|               |      |     |
|               |      |     |

Finally, using the following website, determine how much \$10,000 in 1959 would be worth in today's dollars.

<http://www.measuringworth.com/calculators/ppowerus/>

\$10,000 (1959) = \_\_\_\_\_ (today)