

This is a book of thoughts collected from the elastic workforce on Amazon.com's Mechanical Turk website. "A penny for your thoughts" is an intervention on Mturk.com that promotes independent thinking and interpretation among members of the Mturk community. A human intelligence task (HIT) was placed on Mturk.com that offered a penny in exchange for one unique thought. Over 150 workers were commissioned. The topics shared in the submitted thoughts ranged from worries about the global economy to private thoughts about domestic life, praise and prayers to GOD, and more. A series of books were created to support each theme that arose within the shared thoughts. Anyone can download the series of books from mturkprojects.info. Printing directions are available online, too.

*The theme of this book is **economy**.*

“A penny for your thoughts” is a project conceived and executed by xtine and the Mechanical Turk workforce, who were commissioned with a one dollar grant from ASDF (2009). This project, including thoughts and books, are licensed cc-by-sa. Books are available at mturkprojects.info



I can't believe we are being
asked to pay for this bailout.

Why is the government so
quick to bail out the rich,
but so slow to help the poor?

I hope I have enough
money to pay all of my
bills this month.

I thought today that the rich baby boomers who are coming up for retirement should not be allowed to get their social security if they have a nice pension plan anyway. Any little thing anyone can do to help will help our children and this country in the future. Then I realized that the majority of those baby boomers are self centered and greedy and they put us where we are today and I was sad and angry.

Why should everyone be so deathly afraid of allowing large institutions to fail? I understand that jobs would be lost and credit would be harder to get thus constricting the economy in other areas. However, isn't that the game we all decided to play when we bought houses we couldn't afford and ran credit card bills up while buying "made in China" junk? And then the people on Wall Street should lose everything because they took these bad decisions, bundled them and treated them as safe assets. By not allowing the system to periodically "fail" then we are just pushing the normal correction down the line for someone else to deal with. Final thought and shameless plug...since this thought required a little more effort than the "I need to remember milk" thought... I think a bonus should be given out :)

I need to add some money
to my savings account.

I wonder when the economy is going to improve.

My mortgage is with Lehman Brothers, what can I expect now that they declared bankruptcy?

The SEC has absolutely no clue what they are doing.

With the economy the way it is, I wish we got paid more for this.

How did our economy get so bad?? Will we ever be able to purchase a home for our new family??

My thought for the day: the economy is scaring the hell out of me, so I'm going to pull my money out of the bank that I am currently at and move it to an insured bank account.

I think I'm going to freeze some water bottles to take to the game so I don't have to spend money on concessions. (Credit: Melissa)

America is well on its way to becoming a third world country!

The thought of the government actually passing this bail out package is scary!

I wonder if the financial crisis is real, or even anything at all. Some folks can't get mortgages, but they probably can't pay for them anyways.

(Credit: Lisa)

In tough times, there are a lot of folks saying, “buy guns and gold”. I think barter-able items - like canned meat and vegetables you don’t have to cook, fuel of any kind, bottled water, maybe alcohol - would be far better. If money is worth nothing, you’ve stocked up on stuff that’s hard to buy and can barter what you have for what you need. And if times are good, well, you can actually use those items. If you have a suitcase of gold after a hurricane, you’ll sink or trade it for some very expensive propane. I’d rather have the propane everyone else needs.

How are we going to pay bills when we run out of savings?

I'm so happy to be working.

The current state of the
economy is stressing me out!