

PRIMARY SOURCES

Newspaper Article

Directions: Read the article below. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Euro Arrives

Frankfurt, Germany, Jan. 1, 2002 —
At midnight Monday, the first of more than 300 million Europeans began exchanging their old currencies for the new euro. Fireworks and celebrations marked the beginning of a new era in twelve European countries. Until the end of February, each country will use its own currency and the euro. By March 1, the euro will be the only currency in these countries.

To prepare for this day, officials produced more than 15 billion bank notes and 52 billion coins, but the changeover will take time. Europeans hope that adopting the euro will bring economic stability and prosperity to their nations.

“We will become a greater Europe with the euro,” said EU Commission President Romano Prodi in Vienna. “We shall become stronger, wealthier.”

- 1 According to this article, January 1, 2002, was the first day for _____.
A the European Union
B buying fireworks
C twelve new countries
D using the new euro
- 2 About how many Europeans will exchange currencies?
A 12 million
B 300 million
C 15 billion
D 52 billion
- 3 Officials hope that adopting the euro will _____.
A lower the value of U.S. dollars
B eliminate credit cards
C strengthen Europe’s economy
D prevent future wars

Test Your Knowledge

What are the main goals of the European Union?