

Why We Trade

Read how scarce goods lead people and towns to trade.

SS.3.E.1.1 "Give examples of how scarcity results in trade."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each word or phrase that shows something is scarce or needed. Circle what is traded, then number the two trade examples 1 and 2.

Two Towns, Needed Goods

- ① Pine Creek is a small town with rich soil and warm summers. Many families grow tomatoes, so tomatoes are easy to find there. The town has no large trees for making wood. Families need wood to build shelves and repair fences. Wood is scarce in Pine Creek, which means there is not enough for everyone who wants it.
- ② Across the river, Maple Hill has many large trees but a short growing season. Fresh tomatoes are scarce there. On market day, Pine Creek gardeners carry baskets of tomatoes to Maple Hill. Maple Hill workers bring cut wood to Pine Creek. The two towns trade because each town has something the other town needs and cannot easily get at home.
- ③ Trade can happen between people, too. Lena has extra apples from her family's orchard, but her family needs eggs. Omar keeps chickens and has extra eggs, but he wants apples. Lena trades apples for eggs with Omar. The apples and eggs move to people who need them. Scarcity helps explain why they choose to trade instead of trying to make everything themselves.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Pine Creek has many tomatoes. What scarce item does Pine Creek receive through trade?

2 Maple Hill has many large trees. What scarce item does Maple Hill receive through trade?

3 How does scarcity cause Pine Creek and Maple Hill to trade?

4 How does the trade between Lena and Omar help both people?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create two new examples of trade. In each row, name a person or place with a scarce need, tell what they trade, and tell what they get.

PERSON OR PLACE AND SCARCE NEED	WHAT THEY TRADE	WHAT THEY GET

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each word or phrase that shows something is scarce or needed. Circle what is traded, then number the two trade examples 1 and 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Pine Creek has many tomatoes. What scarce item does Pine Creek receive through trade?	Pine Creek receives wood.
2	Maple Hill has many large trees. What scarce item does Maple Hill receive through trade?	Maple Hill receives fresh tomatoes.
3	How does scarcity cause Pine Creek and Maple Hill to trade?	Pine Creek needs scarce wood, and Maple Hill needs scarce tomatoes. Each town trades something it has for something it needs.
4	How does the trade between Lena and Omar help both people?	Lena gets eggs her family needs, and Omar gets apples he wants.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

PERSON OR PLACE AND SCARCE NEED	WHAT THEY TRADE	WHAT THEY GET
Desert Camp has scarce water.	dates	water
Lake Town has scarce salt.	fish	salt

Accept any realistic examples in which a person or place trades a good it has for a scarce good it needs or wants. The trade item and the received scarce item should make sense together.