

Trade in Town

See how willing trades can help both people.

SS4E1.d "Explain how voluntary exchange helps both buyers and sellers (e.g., Gold Rush mining towns)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what the buyer receives in each trade, circle what the seller receives, and write a 1 beside each voluntary trade. These marks will help you see how both people can benefit.

Choices in a Gold Rush Town

- ① In 1850, many people traveled to California hoping to find gold. Mining camps quickly became towns. Miners needed food, boots, tools, and places to sleep. A store owner named Rosa brought flour, beans, shovels, and blankets by wagon. She did not force miners to buy from her. Each person could choose whether her prices and goods were worth the money.
- ② Rosa wanted money because she had paid for the wagon trip and supplies. A miner named Eli wanted a sturdy shovel because his old one broke. Eli looked at Rosa's shovels and decided one was worth three dollars. Rosa agreed that three dollars was enough for the shovel. They traded willingly. Eli received a tool he wanted, and Rosa received money she could use to buy more supplies.
- ③ Voluntary exchange happens when buyers and sellers both choose to trade. The buyer gives money for a good or service that seems useful. The seller gives the good or service because the money seems useful. In a mining town, a baker could sell bread to hungry miners. The miners got meals, while the baker earned money to purchase flour and keep the bakery open.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What did Eli give Rosa, and what did he receive from her?

2 How did Rosa benefit when she sold the shovel to Eli?

3 Why was the trade between Eli and Rosa voluntary?

4 How did both the baker and the miners benefit when bread was sold?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Invent a voluntary exchange in a Gold Rush mining town. Write three sentences that name the buyer and seller, tell what they trade, and explain how each person benefits.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline what the buyer receives in each trade, circle what the seller receives, and write a 1 beside each voluntary trade. These marks will help you see how both people can benefit. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did Eli give Rosa, and what did he receive from her?	Eli gave Rosa three dollars and received a sturdy shovel.
2	How did Rosa benefit when she sold the shovel to Eli?	Rosa received money that she could use to buy more supplies.
3	Why was the trade between Eli and Rosa voluntary?	Eli chose that the shovel was worth three dollars, and Rosa agreed that three dollars was enough for the shovel.
4	How did both the baker and the miners benefit when bread was sold?	The miners got meals. The baker earned money to buy flour and keep the bakery open.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A miner paid a laundress one dollar to wash his muddy clothes. The miner benefited because he received clean clothes. The laundress benefited because she earned money to buy soap and food.

Accept any realistic mining-town trade in which both people choose to exchange goods, services, or money. The response must clearly state a benefit for the buyer and a different benefit for the seller.