Choices and Rules

Identify how private choices and government action work together in Australia.

SS6E10.c "Describe the economic system used in Australia."

NAME ______________________ DATE ____________

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show private people or businesses making choices, and circle details that show the Australian government acting in the economy.

Australia's Mixed Market Economy

1 Australia uses a mixed market economy. In this system, people and businesses make many economic choices, while the government also has important roles. A family can choose where to shop, what phone plan to buy, or whether to save money. Business owners can decide what products to sell, how many workers to hire, and what prices to charge. Most businesses are privately owned. They try to earn profits by providing goods and services that customers want.

2 Competition helps shape many choices in Australia. When several businesses sell similar items, they may improve quality, offer lower prices, or create new features to attract buyers. Consumers can compare choices and spend their money where they wish. However, the government sets and enforces laws. For example, laws can protect workers, require safe products, and limit unfair business practices. These rules do not remove all private choice. Instead, they set boundaries for buying, selling, and working.

3 Government action also appears in services that are paid for partly through taxes. Australia's government helps fund public schools, roads, health care, and other services. It can provide payments or support to some people who are unemployed, older, or facing other needs. At the same time, Australians still own property, start businesses, and choose many jobs and purchases. Because private decision-making works alongside government rules and services, Australia is not a command economy or a completely free market. It is a mixed market economy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two groups make many economic choices in Australia's economy?

2. Give two examples from the passage of choices that private businesses can make.

3. Name one way the government regulates the economy and explain what it protects or limits.

4. Why is Australia not a completely free market economy?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine Harbor Town wants to use an economic system like Australia's. Write three sentences that describe one private business choice, one government rule or service, and why the town has a mixed market economy.

Choices and Rules

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that show private people or businesses making choices, and circle details that show the Australian government acting in the economy. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two groups make many economic choices in Australia's economy?	**People or consumers, and businesses.**
2	Give two examples from the passage of choices that private businesses can make.	**Businesses can decide what products to sell, how many workers to hire, and what prices to charge. Any two are acceptable.**
3	Name one way the government regulates the economy and explain what it protects or limits.	**The government can protect workers, require safe products, or limit unfair business practices. The response should name a matching purpose.**
4	Why is Australia not a completely free market economy?	**The government sets and enforces laws and helps fund services through taxes.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In Harbor Town, Maya owns a bakery and chooses which breads to sell and what prices to charge. The town government checks that food is safe and uses taxes to support the public library. Private business choices and government services make Harbor Town a mixed market economy.

Accept equivalent examples of private choice, government regulation, or publicly funded services that fit the passage. For the open response, look for all three required parts and a clear explanation that private choices and government action operate together.