GRADE 6 · SS6E3.d

Resources at Work

Trace how natural resources shape jobs, trade, and income.

SS6E3.d "Describe the role of natural resources in a country's economy."

NAME ______________________________ DATE ______________

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each natural resource. Number each statement that tells how a resource affects jobs, trade, or money, so you can trace its economic role.

Natural Resources and National Economies

1 Natural resources are materials people take from nature, such as soil, forests, minerals, water, and oil. Countries use these resources to make goods, provide energy, and earn money. In Canada, large forests supply trees for lumber, paper, and other wood products. Workers cut, transport, mill, and sell the wood. Each step creates jobs. When Canadian companies sell wood products to other countries, the sales bring export income into Canada's economy. They also support truck drivers and port workers.

2 Chile shows how a mineral can shape an economy. The country has major copper deposits, and copper mining is an important industry. Mining companies hire workers and buy equipment and services. Copper is shipped abroad and used in products such as electrical wires. Money from copper exports can help businesses and the government pay workers, buy goods, and fund public services. However, world copper prices can rise or fall, changing the money Chile earns each year.

3 Relying heavily on one resource can create risks. A drought can reduce harvests, a forest fire can damage timber, and lower prices can shrink export income. Resource use can also affect land and water if it is poorly managed. Countries can reduce some risks by processing resources into higher-value goods, protecting resources, and building other industries. For example, turning fruit into juice or furniture-grade wood into cabinets can add value and support more jobs than selling raw materials alone.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Trace how Canada's forests create both jobs and export income.

2. Describe two ways copper mining affects Chile's economy.

3. If world copper prices fall, how could Chile's economy be affected?

4. Why can processing a natural resource help a country's economy more than selling the raw resource?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine that Isla Verde has fertile soil and grows cacao beans. Write three sentences that explain how the soil and cacao can affect jobs or trade, name one risk, and suggest one choice that could strengthen its economy.

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each natural resource. Number each statement that tells how a resource affects jobs, trade, or money, so you can trace its economic role. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Trace how Canada's forests create both jobs and export income.	**Workers cut, transport, mill, and sell wood products, creating jobs. Companies sell the products to other countries, bringing export income into Canada.**
2	Describe two ways copper mining affects Chile's economy.	**Mining companies hire workers and buy equipment and services. Copper exports bring money that can support businesses, workers, goods, and public services.**
3	If world copper prices fall, how could Chile's economy be affected?	**Chile could earn less money from copper exports.**
4	Why can processing a natural resource help a country's economy more than selling the raw resource?	**Processing can add value to the resource and support more jobs, such as jobs making juice or cabinets.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Isla Verde's fertile soil lets farmers grow cacao, creating jobs on farms and in transport. Selling cacao beans to other countries brings export income, but a plant disease could reduce the harvest. The country could make chocolate locally, which adds value and creates factory jobs.

Accept equivalent explanations that connect a natural resource to jobs, exports, income, processing, or economic risk. For the open task, accept realistic ideas that include all three required parts.