

Trade Connections

How specialized production leads countries to trade

SS6E5.a "Explain how specialization encourages trade between countries."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each good or activity a country specializes in. Circle the words or phrases that show how trade helps countries get other goods.

Why Countries Trade

- ① Countries have different climates, resources, workers, and equipment. These differences lead countries to specialize, or focus on producing goods they can make well or efficiently. Chile has large copper deposits and mines. It sells copper to other countries for use in wires, phones, and buildings. Chile does not make every product its people need. By earning money from copper sales, Chile can buy goods, such as machinery or fuel, that other countries produce more easily.
- ② Canada specializes in several products, including wheat grown on wide prairie farms. Canadian farmers export some wheat to countries that need more grain. In return, Canada imports goods that other places specialize in producing, including tropical fruit from Latin American countries. Bananas grow best in warm, wet climates, so countries such as Ecuador can grow and export them efficiently. Trade lets both Canada and Ecuador obtain products that are harder or less efficient to produce at home.
- ③ Specialization does not mean a country produces only one item. Mexico has factories that make vehicles and vehicle parts, and it trades with many countries. A factory may buy steel from another country, use it to make parts, and sell those parts abroad. Each country gains because it can concentrate resources on work it does well, then trade for other goods. This exchange links producers and consumers across Latin America, Canada, and the rest of the world.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does Chile specialize in, and what condition helps Chile produce it?

2 How do Chile's copper sales make it possible for Chile to get other needed goods?

3 Explain how Canada's wheat and Ecuador's bananas encourage trade between the two countries.

4 How does the Mexico factory example show that specialization can involve trade with more than one country?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create a three-sentence trade example using two made-up countries. Tell what each country specializes in, what it trades, and how each country benefits.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each good or activity a country specializes in. Circle the words or phrases that show how trade helps countries get other goods. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does Chile specialize in, and what condition helps Chile produce it?	Chile specializes in copper. Chile has large copper deposits and mines.
2	How do Chile's copper sales make it possible for Chile to get other needed goods?	Chile earns money by selling copper, then uses that money to buy goods such as machinery or fuel from other countries.
3	Explain how Canada's wheat and Ecuador's bananas encourage trade between the two countries.	Canada can export wheat, while Ecuador can export bananas. Each country can trade for a product that is harder or less efficient to produce at home.
4	How does the Mexico factory example show that specialization can involve trade with more than one country?	A Mexican factory may import steel from another country, make vehicle parts, and sell the parts abroad. The factory trades to get materials and to sell its specialized product.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Solana has sunny farms and specializes in oranges. Montara has forests and specializes in lumber, so Solana trades oranges for lumber. Each country gets a needed product without trying to produce it less efficiently.

Accept any logical example in which two countries specialize in different goods or services and trade for what the other produces. The explanation should connect specialization to a benefit from trade.