Economy Control Check

Compare private choices and government roles in three European economies.

SS6E7.c "Compare the basic types of economic systems found in the United Kingdom, Germany, and Russia."

NAME ______________________ DATE ______________

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In paragraphs 2 and 3 only, underline each sentence that describes a country, write UK, G, or R beside it, and circle a word or phrase that shows private business or government control.

Who Makes Economic Choices?

1 Countries answer three big questions about an economy: What goods and services will be made, how will they be made, and who will receive them? In a market system, households and businesses make many choices through buying, selling, and prices. In a command system, the government directs major choices. Most modern nations are mixed economies, combining private business decisions with government rules, services, or ownership. The amount of government influence can differ widely within one country.

2 The United Kingdom has a mixed, mainly market economy. Most shops, farms, and companies are privately owned, so producers respond to what consumers want and to prices. The government collects taxes, sets safety and competition rules, and provides public services such as education and health care. Germany also has a mixed economy, often called a social market economy. Private businesses compete there, while government programs and rules help protect workers, consumers, and the environment there.

3 Russia's economy is also mixed, but the government has more control over major industries than in the United Kingdom or Germany. Private businesses operate in many areas, including retail and restaurants. However, the state owns or strongly influences important energy, transportation, defense, and banking companies. This state role reflects Russia's history as part of the Soviet Union, which used a command economy. Today, Russia uses markets as well as government direction, so it is not a pure command economy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What basic economic type do the United Kingdom and Germany share? Give one detail from the passage that supports your answer.

2. How is the Russian government's role in the economy different from its role in the United Kingdom and Germany?

3. Why is Germany's economy called a social market economy in the passage?

4. Why is Russia not a pure command economy today?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Complete the table to compare all three economies. Use a specific detail from the passage in each government-role cell.

COUNTRY	ECONOMIC SYSTEM	PRIVATE BUSINESS ROLE	GOVERNMENT ROLE

Economy Control Check

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In paragraphs 2 and 3 only, underline each sentence that describes a country, write UK, G, or R beside it, and circle a word or phrase that shows private business or government control. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What basic economic type do the United Kingdom and Germany share? Give one detail from the passage that supports your answer.	**Both have mixed economies. In both countries, private businesses operate, while the government also provides rules, programs, or services.**
2	How is the Russian government's role in the economy different from its role in the United Kingdom and Germany?	**Russia's government has more control over major industries and owns or strongly influences key companies. The United Kingdom and Germany rely more on privately owned businesses.**
3	Why is Germany's economy called a social market economy in the passage?	**Private businesses compete in Germany, while government programs and rules help protect workers, consumers, and the environment.**
4	Why is Russia not a pure command economy today?	**Private businesses operate in many areas, and Russia uses markets as well as government direction.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

COUNTRY	ECONOMIC SYSTEM	PRIVATE BUSINESS ROLE	GOVERNMENT ROLE
United Kingdom	Mixed, mainly market	Most companies are privately owned.	The government sets rules and provides public services.
Germany	Mixed, social market	Private businesses compete.	Programs and rules protect workers, consumers, and the environment.
Russia	Mixed with stronger state control	Private businesses operate in retail and restaurants.	The state owns or strongly influences major energy, transportation, defense, and banking companies.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the United Kingdom and Germany as mixed market economies and Russia as a mixed economy with stronger state control. In the table, require an accurate comparison detail for each country, not necessarily the sample wording.