

Trade Strengths

How different specialties create exchanges between countries.

SS6E8.a "Explain how specialization encourages trade between countries."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB PART 1: READ AND MARK Circle the first mention of Spain, Sweden, and Italy. Underline the product or industry named in the same sentence as each circled country, and write T beside each sentence that names a country and a good it sells or imports.

Different Strengths, Connected Countries

- ① Countries do not all produce the same goods equally well. Specialization happens when a country focuses on making goods or providing services it can produce efficiently or in large amounts. In Europe, Spain's sunny climate and farms support major harvests of oranges, olives, and other crops. Sweden has large forests and a strong paper industry. These different strengths matter because land, climate, natural resources, workers' skills, and factories are not distributed evenly. A country can specialize instead of trying to make every product for itself.
- ② Specialization encourages trade because countries need goods that other places make well. Spain can sell olive oil to Swedish buyers. Sweden can sell paper to Spanish businesses that package foods or print materials. Each country earns money from what it sells and uses some of that money to buy products it does not specialize in making. Both countries have more choices than they would have if they produced only goods made inside their own borders. Trade connects their different strengths.
- ③ Trade is not a sign that one country has failed to produce enough. It can be a practical choice. Italy is known for industries that make fashion goods and machinery. Italian companies can export some of these products while importing Spanish olive oil or Swedish paper. In this exchange, each country focuses resources on work it does well, then trades for other goods. Specialization creates reasons for countries to depend on one another as buyers and sellers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 PART 2: SHORT ANSWER What does Spain specialize in, and what good does it trade to Swedish buyers?

2 Why might Spanish businesses buy paper from Sweden instead of trying to make all their own paper?

3 What are two benefits countries receive when they specialize and trade, according to the passage?

4 How does Italy's trade show that specialization encourages trade? Name one kind of product Italy can export and one product it can import.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

PART 3: YOUR TURN Asteria has skilled bicycle factories but little farmland. Bellara has fertile farmland and few factories. Write three sentences that identify each country's specialization, describe one trade between them, and explain how both countries benefit.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

PART 1: READ AND MARK Circle the first mention of Spain, Sweden, and Italy. Underline the product or industry named in the same sentence as each circled country, and write T beside each sentence that names a country and a good it sells or imports. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	PART 2: SHORT ANSWER What does Spain specialize in, and what good does it trade to Swedish buyers?	Spain specializes in crops such as olives, and it trades olive oil to Swedish buyers.
2	Why might Spanish businesses buy paper from Sweden instead of trying to make all their own paper?	Sweden has a strong paper industry. Spain can focus its resources on goods it produces well and trade for paper.
3	What are two benefits countries receive when they specialize and trade, according to the passage?	They earn money by selling their specialized goods, and they can use money to buy products they do not specialize in making. They also have more choices.
4	How does Italy's trade show that specialization encourages trade? Name one kind of product Italy can export and one product it can import.	Italy can export fashion goods or machinery because those are Italian industries. It can import Spanish olive oil or Swedish paper.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Asteria could specialize in bicycles, and Bellara could specialize in crops. Asteria could trade bicycles to Bellara for food. Each country gets a needed product while focusing its resources on what it produces well.

Accept answers that correctly connect different resources or skills to specialization, an exchange of goods, and a benefit for both countries. For the open response, accept reasonable farm products from Bellara and a clear bicycle-for-food trade.