Resources at Work

Trace how natural resources affect European economies.

SS6E9.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 in the passage. Circle each phrase that tells how a resource affects jobs, trade, energy use, or money in a country's economy.

Nature and National Economies

1 Natural resources are useful materials that come from nature. In Europe, they can shape what people produce, sell, and buy. Norway has large reserves of oil and natural gas beneath the North Sea. Companies drill wells, move the fuels by pipeline or ship, and sell much of them to other countries. This trade brings money into Norway's economy. It also creates jobs for engineers, ship crews, and workers who maintain equipment on offshore platforms there.

2 In Finland, forests are an important resource. Trees are cut under rules designed to help forests regrow. Mills turn wood into lumber, paper, and other products. Selling these goods at home and abroad supports factory and transportation jobs. Forests also provide berries, wildlife habitat, and places for recreation. Because one resource has several uses, leaders must decide how to balance income today with keeping the forest useful in the future for later generations as well.

3 Iceland uses heat from inside Earth, called geothermal energy, as a natural resource. Hot water and steam help provide heat for many buildings and produce some electricity. Using this local energy can reduce the need to import coal, oil, or gas. However, economies should not depend on only one resource. Prices can change, supplies can decline, and mining or drilling can damage land or water if it is poorly managed. Careful planning helps resources support an economy over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do Norway's oil and natural gas help its economy?

2. Explain how Finland's forests support more than one kind of economic activity.

3. How does geothermal energy affect Iceland's need for imported fuels?

4. Why does the passage say an economy should not depend on only one natural resource?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Complete the table for three European countries not named in the passage. For each country, name a natural resource, give two ways it supports the economy, and name one challenge or careful-management need.

EUROPEAN COUNTRY	NATURAL RESOURCE	TWO ECONOMIC EFFECTS	CHALLENGE OR MANAGEMENT NEED

ANSWER KEY **Resources at Work** GRADE 6 · SS6E9.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each natural resource in the passage. Circle each phrase that tells how a resource affects jobs, trade, energy use, or money in a country's economy. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do Norway's oil and natural gas help its economy?	**Norway sells much of the oil and natural gas to other countries, bringing money into its economy and creating jobs.**
2	Explain how Finland's forests support more than one kind of economic activity.	**Wood is made into lumber, paper, and other products that support factory and transportation jobs. Forests also support recreation and provide berries.**
3	How does geothermal energy affect Iceland's need for imported fuels?	**It can reduce Iceland's need to import coal, oil, or gas.**
4	Why does the passage say an economy should not depend on only one natural resource?	**Prices can change, supplies can decline, and resource extraction can damage land or water if it is poorly managed.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

EUROPEAN COUNTRY	NATURAL RESOURCE	TWO ECONOMIC EFFECTS	CHALLENGE OR MANAGEMENT NEED
Sweden	Forests	Timber and paper products are sold, and mills provide jobs.	Replant trees and protect forest habitats.
Portugal	Cork oak forests	Cork products are exported, and harvesting and factories provide jobs.	Protect cork oak forests from wildfire.
Poland	Coal	Mining and power production provide jobs and energy.	Reduce air pollution and plan for lower coal use.

Accept equivalent explanations that connect a resource to production, jobs, trade, energy savings, or income. For Part 3, accept accurate European examples and reasonable management needs, even when students choose different countries or resources.