

Canada Shapes Choices

Read how geography connects trade and settlement.

SS6G5.a "Describe how Canada's location, climate, and natural resources impact trade and affect where people live."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each detail about Canada's location, climate, or resources, and circle each result that tells how trade or settlement is affected.

Geography at Work in Canada

- ① Canada lies north of the United States and reaches the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic oceans. Its long border with the United States connects Canadian cities, roads, railways, and pipelines to a major trading partner. Trucks and trains carry cars, machines, food, and other goods across the border. Many Canadians live in southern cities near this border. These places have milder weather than the far north and are close to jobs, markets, and transportation routes.
- ② Climate also shapes settlement and trade. Much of northern Canada has long, very cold winters, permafrost in some areas, and few roads. Building homes and moving goods there can cost more. The southern regions have warmer summers, longer growing seasons, and more connected highways and rail lines. Farms in southern Canada grow crops such as wheat and canola, which can be shipped to other countries. Cold weather does not stop all trade, but it can make transportation harder.
- ③ Canada has natural resources that people use and sell. Forests provide lumber and paper products. Mines supply minerals such as nickel, gold, and potash. Oil, natural gas, and flowing water can provide energy. Resource towns may grow near mines, forests, dams, or oil fields because workers need housing and services. Railways, pipelines, ports, and roads help move resources to factories and buyers. Thus, Canada's location, climate, and resources influence both trade and where people choose to live.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why do many Canadians live in southern cities near the United States border? Give two reasons from the passage.

2 How can northern Canada's climate make trade more difficult?

3 Choose one natural resource named in the passage. What does it provide, and how can it reach buyers?

4 Compare southern and northern Canada. Which area is more likely to have many large settlements, and why?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create a realistic plan for a new Canadian community. In four sentences, name its location, climate, and one resource, then explain how these factors would affect trade or where people live.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each detail about Canada's location, climate, or resources, and circle each result that tells how trade or settlement is affected. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why do many Canadians live in southern cities near the United States border? Give two reasons from the passage.	These cities have milder weather than the far north and are close to jobs, markets, and transportation routes.
2	How can northern Canada's climate make trade more difficult?	Long, very cold winters, permafrost in some areas, and few roads can make building infrastructure and moving goods more costly and difficult.
3	Choose one natural resource named in the passage. What does it provide, and how can it reach buyers?	Answers vary. Example: Forests provide lumber or paper products, which can be moved by railways, roads, or ports.
4	Compare southern and northern Canada. Which area is more likely to have many large settlements, and why?	Southern Canada is more likely to have many large settlements because it has milder weather, longer growing seasons, and more connected transportation routes.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Harbor Pine would be on Canada's Pacific coast, where a port can connect ships to trade routes. Cool, wet winters would require strong roads and covered storage, but the coast would be easier to reach than the far north. Nearby forests would provide lumber for sale, and ships and trucks could carry it to buyers. Workers and their families would likely live near the port, forest jobs, and services.

Accept equivalent explanations that accurately connect location, climate, or resources to trade or settlement. For the open response, look for all three factors and clear cause-and-effect reasoning.