Growth Factor Clues

Read evidence of economic growth factors across five Asian countries.

SS7E9 "Describe factors that influence economic growth and examine their presence or absence in China, India, Japan, South Korea and North Korea"

NAME ______________________ DATE ____________

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each phrase that gives evidence about a growth factor in a named country, then write the factor name in the margin.

Why Some Economies Grow

1 An economy grows when it can produce more goods and services over time. Important growth factors include natural resources, educated and healthy workers, physical capital such as roads, ports, machines, and reliable electricity, entrepreneurs who start or improve businesses, and stable rules that protect property and contracts. A country does not need every resource to grow, but shortages can slow production. Governments can invest in schools, health care, transportation, and predictable laws to strengthen several factors.

2 China has a large labor force, expanding transportation networks, major manufacturing equipment, and entrepreneurs who build businesses and adopt new ideas. Its coal and other resources supply some industry, although pollution and an aging population create challenges. India has a young, growing labor force and many technology and business entrepreneurs. Its democratic legal system generally protects contracts, while uneven roads, electricity, and access to quality education can limit growth in some areas across the country.

3 Japan has few domestic natural resources, yet its highly trained workers, advanced factories, dependable infrastructure, and predictable legal system support high-value production. South Korea also relies on skilled workers, technology, busy ports, and rules that support trade and investment. North Korea has some mineral resources and educated workers, but state control, international isolation, sanctions, and weak infrastructure restrict private entrepreneurship, trade, investment, and reliable electricity. These limits make sustained economic growth difficult there over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Name one human-capital strength and one physical-capital challenge described for India.

2. Japan has few domestic natural resources. What two other growth factors in the passage help Japan produce high-value goods?

3. What factor related to rules supports economic growth in South Korea, and how does it help?

4. Name one growth factor North Korea has. Then explain two limits that make growth difficult there.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences comparing Japan and North Korea. Explain how the presence or absence of growth factors helps explain why their economies have different opportunities for growth, using at least one detail about each country.

ANSWER KEY **Growth Factor Clues**

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each phrase that gives evidence about a growth factor in a named country, then write the factor name in the margin. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name one human-capital strength and one physical-capital challenge described for India.	**Human-capital strength: a young, growing labor force. Physical-capital challenge: uneven roads or electricity.**
2	Japan has few domestic natural resources. What two other growth factors in the passage help Japan produce high-value goods?	**Any two: highly trained workers, advanced factories, dependable infrastructure, or a predictable legal system.**
3	What factor related to rules supports economic growth in South Korea, and how does it help?	**Rules that support trade and investment help South Korea by encouraging trade and investment.**
4	Name one growth factor North Korea has. Then explain two limits that make growth difficult there.	**North Korea has mineral resources or educated workers. Limits include state control, international isolation, sanctions, weak infrastructure, restricted private entrepreneurship, restricted trade or investment, and unreliable electricity.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Japan shows that natural-resource shortages do not prevent growth when other factors are strong. Its trained workers and advanced factories help it make high-value products. North Korea's mineral resources do not overcome weak infrastructure and limits on trade and entrepreneurship.

Accept accurate comparisons that identify factors as present, limited, or absent only when supported by the passage. In the open response, accept different valid factor choices if the student uses a detail about both Japan and North Korea and explains the comparison.