

Moving Georgia Forward

How transportation links businesses, workers, and markets

SS8E1 "Explain how the four transportation systems (road, air, water, and rail) of Georgia contribute to the development and growth of the state's economy."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one phrase for each transportation system that shows how it helps Georgia's economy. Number your evidence 1 for road, 2 for rail, 3 for water, and 4 for air.

Connections That Build the Economy

- ① Georgia's economy depends on moving people and goods efficiently. Roads link farms, factories, stores, ports, and neighborhoods. Truck drivers carry peaches, poultry, carpet, lumber, and other products to customers and distribution centers. Interstate highways, including I-75, I-85, and I-20, connect Georgia with nearby states and major markets. Reliable roads also help workers reach jobs and allow visitors to travel to hotels, restaurants, and attractions. When trucks and travelers can move quickly, businesses can sell more and spend less time waiting.
- ② Georgia has an extensive rail network that moves large amounts of freight across the state and nation. Rail cars can carry heavy materials, such as stone, chemicals, and metal, to factories and construction sites. They also move finished goods from manufacturers toward markets and ports. Because trains haul many tons at once, rail can lower transportation costs for some businesses. Rail connections support Georgia's manufacturing and logistics industries, where workers store, sort, repair, and ship goods.
- ③ Water transportation gives Georgia businesses a route to global markets. At the Port of Savannah, containers are loaded onto and unloaded from ships. Imports can supply stores and factories, while Georgia exports can reach customers overseas. Air transportation adds speed. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport carries passengers and air cargo, helping companies connect with customers and suppliers in other places. Fast flights support tourism and business travel, while air cargo helps time-sensitive products move quickly. Together, roads, rail, water, and air systems help Georgia businesses trade, hire workers, and grow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How do roads help Georgia businesses sell goods and support local jobs?

2 Why can rail transportation lower costs for some Georgia businesses?

3 How does water transportation at the Port of Savannah connect Georgia's economy to other countries?

4 What economic activities does air transportation support, and why is speed important?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Invent a Georgia business that sells a product outside its local area. Write four sentences explaining how it would use two transportation systems and how those systems could help it sell goods, reach customers, or support jobs.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one phrase for each transportation system that shows how it helps Georgia's economy. Number your evidence 1 for road, 2 for rail, 3 for water, and 4 for air. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do roads help Georgia businesses sell goods and support local jobs?	Roads move products to customers and distribution centers. They also help workers travel to jobs and visitors reach businesses such as hotels and restaurants.
2	Why can rail transportation lower costs for some Georgia businesses?	Trains can haul many tons of heavy freight at once, which can lower transportation costs.
3	How does water transportation at the Port of Savannah connect Georgia's economy to other countries?	Ships bring imports that supply stores and factories, and they carry Georgia exports to customers overseas.
4	What economic activities does air transportation support, and why is speed important?	Air transportation supports tourism, business travel, and connections with customers and suppliers. It moves time-sensitive cargo quickly.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A Dalton flooring company receives heavy materials by rail. It sends finished flooring by truck on interstate highways to stores in neighboring states. Rail can move large loads at a lower cost, and roads can deliver products to many customers. More orders could help the company hire warehouse workers and drivers.

Accept answers that accurately connect each transportation system to a stated economic effect from the passage. For the open response, accept different businesses and transportation choices if the student clearly explains two systems and a logical effect on sales, customers, or jobs.