Who Else Is Affected?

How communities respond when economic choices affect others

7.E.2 "Identify ways that societies deal with helpful and harmful externalities in Africa, Asia, and the Southwest Pacific."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the effect on people outside each activity, circle the response to that effect, and write "helpful" or "harmful" beside each case.

Beyond the Buyer and Seller

1. An externality is a side effect of a choice that reaches people outside the decision. It can help or hurt them. On a rainy day in Kenya, a plastic bag tossed onto a street can block a drain. The shopper is done with the bag, but nearby families may face flooded paths and dirty water. In 2017, Kenya banned many plastic shopping bags, including their manufacture and use. The rule pushes shops and customers toward reusable bags. It also aims to reduce a cost that buyers and sellers once left to others.

2. In Nepal, villagers in community forest groups manage nearby woods together. Members set rules for gathering wood and protect young trees so the forest can keep growing. Forest care helps the people doing the work, but its effects can reach farther. Roots hold soil in place, and trees can slow rainwater flowing toward farms downhill. Farmers who are not members of the group may gain from less erosion. By giving local groups a role in protecting forests, society supports work whose benefits spread beyond the group.

3. Along Australia's Great Barrier Reef, fertilizer washed from farms into rivers can reach the sea. Extra nutrients can harm reef ecosystems, affecting fishers and tourism workers who did not buy or use the fertilizer. In Queensland, rules require many farmers in reef catchments to carefully manage fertilizer use and keep records. Support for improved farming methods also helps reduce runoff. These steps ask farms to prevent pollution before it reaches the reef, rather than leaving coastal communities to bear its effects.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why is the discarded bag in Kenya a harmful externality, and how has Kenya responded?

2. How can Nepal's community forest care help people outside the forest group, and what do group members do to support that benefit?

3. Who may be harmed when fertilizer reaches the Great Barrier Reef, and what is one way Queensland responds?

4. Which response in the passage supports a helpful externality rather than reducing a harmful one? Explain your choice.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent an activity in Africa, Asia, or the Southwest Pacific that is not in the reading. In four sentences, describe its helpful or harmful effect on someone outside the activity, propose a response, and explain how that response could change the effect.

ANSWER KEY

Who Else Is Affected?

GRADE 7 · 7.E.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the effect on people outside each activity, circle the response to that effect, and write "helpful" or "harmful" beside each case. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why is the discarded bag in Kenya a harmful externality, and how has Kenya responded?	**Nearby families may face flooded paths and dirty water even though they did not use the bag. Kenya banned many plastic shopping bags.**
2	How can Nepal's community forest care help people outside the forest group, and what do group members do to support that benefit?	**Downhill farmers may gain from less erosion. Group members set rules for gathering wood and protect young trees.**
3	Who may be harmed when fertilizer reaches the Great Barrier Reef, and what is one way Queensland responds?	**Fishers or tourism workers may be affected. Queensland requires many farmers in reef catchments to carefully manage fertilizer use and keep records.**
4	Which response in the passage supports a helpful externality rather than reducing a harmful one? Explain your choice.	**Nepal gives local groups a role in protecting forests. Their care can reduce erosion for downhill farmers outside the group.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In a town in Indonesia, commuters replace car trips with bike rides. People who do not bike breathe cleaner air because fewer cars produce exhaust. The town could add safe bike lanes to make biking easier. More people might bike instead of drive, spreading the clean-air benefit.

Accept other accurate effects and responses supported by the passage. For Part 3, look for a plausible effect on someone outside the activity and a response that could change that effect.