Regions on the Move

Compare U.S. regions through land, work, and the movement of goods.

4.C.2.1.E "Analyze the human and physical characteristics of the United States of America using the Five Themes of Geography (location, place, human-environment-interaction, movement..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the passage. Underline one physical feature in each region, circle one way people use the land or move goods, and number the five regions as you find them.

A Lunch Tray Across America

1 A lunch tray can tell a story about U.S. regions. Geographers compare regions by asking where they are, what they are like, how people use the land, and how goods move. In the Northeast, near the Atlantic Ocean, winters are cold and many people live in cities. In the Southeast, farther south, a warmer climate and long growing season help farmers raise peaches.

2 The Midwest lies between the Northeast and the West. Its broad plains and rich soil help farmers grow corn. In the Southwest, deserts receive little rain, so some farmers bring water to fields through canals to grow crops. Both regions produce food, but they use different physical conditions. The Midwest has wide areas of farmland, while many Southwest farms depend on water brought from rivers or reservoirs.

3 The West includes mountains and the Pacific coast. Its coastal ports move goods by ship. Trucks can carry Southeast peaches to city stores in the Northeast. Trains can carry Midwest corn toward western ports. These routes connect regions with different land, weather, and jobs. A place's location and physical features can shape what people grow, where they work, and how goods reach others.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the Northeast and Southeast differ in location and climate?

2. Compare how Midwest and Southwest farmers use their physical surroundings to grow crops.

3. How do trucks and trains connect the regions in the passage? Name the goods and their destinations.

4. Compare the Southeast and the West. How does a physical feature of each region support a different kind of work?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan a new food delivery between two regions in the passage that are not already linked by a delivery. In three sentences, compare their physical features, explain how people use a feature in at least one region, and describe what food could travel between them and how.

ANSWER KEY

Regions on the Move

GRADE 4 · 4.C.2.1.E

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the passage. Underline one physical feature in each region, circle one way people use the land or move goods, and number the five regions as you find them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the Northeast and Southeast differ in location and climate?	**The Northeast is near the Atlantic Ocean and has cold winters. The Southeast is farther south and has a warmer climate.**
2	Compare how Midwest and Southwest farmers use their physical surroundings to grow crops.	**Midwest farmers grow corn in rich soil on broad plains. Because Southwest deserts get little rain, some farmers bring water to fields through canals.**
3	How do trucks and trains connect the regions in the passage? Name the goods and their destinations.	**Trucks carry Southeast peaches to Northeast city stores. Trains carry Midwest corn toward western ports.**
4	Compare the Southeast and the West. How does a physical feature of each region support a different kind of work?	**The Southeast's warm climate and long growing season help farmers raise peaches. The West's Pacific coast has ports where people move goods by ship.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Southeast has a warm climate and a long growing season, but the Southwest has dry deserts. Southeast farmers grow peaches, while some Southwest farmers bring water to their fields through canals. Trucks could carry Southeast peaches to stores in the Southwest.

Accept accurate comparisons and delivery plans supported by the passage. For Part 3, the route must connect a pair of regions not already connected by a delivery in the passage.