Trade Takes Shape

How government choices change work, buying, and trade

6.C.6.2.B "Describe how government policies affect economic activities within a nation, as well as determine trade relationships."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the two government actions, circle one effect of each action on buying or work, and write 1 beside a good Maruva sells to Lendo and 2 beside a good Lendo sells to Maruva.

Cocoa, Chocolate, and Trade

1. In the fictional coastal nation of Maruva, many families grow cocoa beans. Local shops turn some beans into chocolate, but most chocolate-making machines come from its neighbor, Lendo. Maruva sells cocoa beans to Lendo, and Lendo sells machines to Maruva. This trade gives growers another place to sell their crop and gives shops equipment they cannot make easily at home. A busy port connects the two nations. When storms damage the port road, shipments slow, and farmers may wait longer to get paid.

2. Maruva's government wants more chocolate made inside the country. It places a tariff, a tax on chocolate brought in from other nations. Imported chocolate may cost more in Maruva's stores, so some shoppers may choose chocolate made by local shops instead. Those shops may hire more workers and buy more cocoa from Maruva's farmers. But families who prefer imported chocolate may have to pay more. The tariff affects finished chocolate, not the machines from Lendo, so shops can still buy those machines without this new tax.

3. The government also pays to repair the port road. Trucks can then carry beans to ships more quickly, making it easier for Maruva's growers to sell cocoa to Lendo. If Lendo's factories can count on these beans, they may keep buying from Maruva. Meanwhile, Maruva's shops continue to buy Lendo's machines. The tariff might reduce chocolate imports, but it does not end all trade. Each policy changes which goods move, who buys them, or how easily goods reach buyers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How could the tariff change work for Maruva's chocolate shops? Explain why.

2. How could repairing the port road affect Maruva's trade with Lendo?

3. What does each nation sell to the other, and how does this trade help Maruva?

4. Why might the tariff reduce some imports without ending trade between Maruva and Lendo?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine that Nira grows rice and trades rice to Tavi for water pumps. Invent a government policy not used in the passage, then write three or four sentences explaining how it could change work or buying in Nira and trade with Tavi.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 6 · 6.C.6.2.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the two government actions, circle one effect of each action on buying or work, and write 1 beside a good Maruva sells to Lendo and 2 beside a good Lendo sells to Maruva. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How could the tariff change work for Maruva's chocolate shops? Explain why.	**The shops may hire more workers because the tariff could make imported chocolate cost more, leading some shoppers to buy local chocolate.**
2	How could repairing the port road affect Maruva's trade with Lendo?	**Beans could reach ships more quickly, making it easier for Maruva's growers to sell cocoa to Lendo.**
3	What does each nation sell to the other, and how does this trade help Maruva?	**Maruva sells cocoa beans to Lendo, and Lendo sells machines to Maruva. Maruva's growers gain another buyer, and its shops get equipment they cannot easily make at home.**
4	Why might the tariff reduce some imports without ending trade between Maruva and Lendo?	**The tariff applies to imported chocolate, not Lendo's machines. Maruva can still buy machines from Lendo and sell cocoa beans there.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Nira's government gives rice farmers money to buy water pumps. More farmers may buy pumps from Tavi and grow more rice with reliable water. Nira could then sell more rice to Tavi, so trade in both directions may increase.

Accept other reasonable effects supported by the passage. For Your Turn, look for a new policy and a clear link between that policy, economic activity in Nira, and trade with Tavi.