From Materials to Goods

Trace manufacturing and construction across three countries.

6.C.6.3.B "Secondary Sector: Production of goods through manufacturing and construction (e.g., United States of America's steel industry, Argentina's meat-processing, Mexico's automotive exports)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline materials workers use and circle goods they make. Write M beside one manufacturing action and C beside one construction action.

Making Things, Building Places

1. A train delivers iron ore and coal to a steel mill in the United States. At some mills, workers use heat and coal to turn iron from the ore into steel. At another factory, workers shape some of that steel into beams. A construction crew then bolts the beams together to build the frame of a new school. The mill and factory manufacture goods, while the crew uses those goods in construction. Both activities are part of the secondary sector because workers make or build useful things from materials.

2. In Argentina, cattle ranchers raise animals that are sent to meat-processing plants. There, workers cut beef into portions, package it, and keep it cold so it can travel safely. Some packaged beef is sold in Argentina, and some is shipped to buyers in other countries. Raising cattle happens before factory production. The plant's cutting and packaging are manufacturing because workers turn an agricultural product into goods ready for sale. Refrigerated trucks move the goods, but driving a truck does not itself manufacture them.

3. In Mexico, an auto plant receives parts such as tires, seats, and glass. Workers and machines join the parts to make cars. Some finished cars travel to buyers in other countries, so they are exports. The cars are goods made by manufacturing, even when they cross a border after leaving the plant. Compare this with the school frame in the United States: workers make steel beams in factories, but they build the frame at a construction site. The secondary sector includes both ways of producing goods and structures.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do workers in the United States turn materials into a school frame? Name one manufacturing step and one construction step.

2. Why is meat processing in Argentina part of the secondary sector, while raising cattle is not?

3. How do Mexico's auto workers create goods that become exports? Name one part they use and tell where some finished cars go.

4. Why does driving a refrigerated truck not count as manufacturing, even when it carries packaged beef?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a raw material and imagine a good a factory could make from it, then a structure builders could create using that good. In three sentences, explain the two production steps and why each is part of the secondary sector.

ANSWER KEY

From Materials to Goods

GRADE 6 · 6.C.6.3.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline materials workers use and circle goods they make. Write M beside one manufacturing action and C beside one construction action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do workers in the United States turn materials into a school frame? Name one manufacturing step and one construction step.	**Mill workers make steel from iron ore, and factory workers shape steel into beams. A construction crew bolts the beams together to build the school frame.**
2	Why is meat processing in Argentina part of the secondary sector, while raising cattle is not?	**Plant workers cut and package beef into goods ready for sale. Ranchers raise the cattle before factory production.**
3	How do Mexico's auto workers create goods that become exports? Name one part they use and tell where some finished cars go.	**Workers join parts such as tires to make cars. Some finished cars go to buyers in other countries.**
4	Why does driving a refrigerated truck not count as manufacturing, even when it carries packaged beef?	**Driving the truck moves the beef. It does not turn materials into a new good.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A workshop cuts logs into wooden boards, a manufactured good. A construction crew uses the boards to build a footbridge. Both steps belong to the secondary sector because workers make a good and build a structure from materials.

Accept other passage-supported examples of materials, goods, and production steps. For Your Turn, look for a plausible raw material, a manufactured good, a structure built from that good, and an explanation of both secondary-sector activities.