Goods on the Move

Trace trade links across the Eastern Hemisphere

7.C.8.4 "Examine indicators of economic interdependence and world trade, including why nations are concerned with the balance of trade, and explain major trade patterns among regions of the Eastern Hemisphere."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two trade routes between regions, circle two clues that economies depend on trade, and put a star beside the sentence explaining why a trade deficit can concern leaders.

A Bicycle and a Bigger Trade Network

1. Think about a bicycle assembled in Europe. Its frame might be made with metal from Africa, while its gears could come from East Asia. The parts and the finished bicycle cross borders because no region produces everything at the same cost or in the same amount. Trade makes these places interdependent: a delay at an East Asian gear factory can slow work at a European bicycle plant. Shipping activity, imported parts, and jobs linked to exports are clues that economies depend on trade.

2. Across the Eastern Hemisphere, several major trade patterns connect regions. West Asia sends large amounts of oil and gas to East Asia and Europe, where fuel powers transport and factories. East Asia exports electronics and machinery to Europe, Africa, and other regions. Africa exports minerals and farm products, including cocoa, to Europe and Asia, while importing manufactured goods. These flows do not mean every country in a region sells the same products. They show how supplies, factories, and buyers in different places rely on one another.

3. A country's balance of trade compares the value of its exports with the value of its imports. If imports cost more than exports earn, the country has a trade deficit. Leaders may worry if a large deficit lasts for years because the country may need to borrow money or draw down savings to pay for imports. But a deficit is not always a crisis: imported machines can help businesses grow. A surplus, when exports earn more than imports cost, can support jobs, yet trade partners still rely on each other.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How could a delay at an East Asian gear factory affect bicycle workers in Europe? What does this show about trade?

2. Trace one trade route for oil or gas from West Asia. Name its destination and one use described in the passage.

3. How do the goods exported from Africa and East Asia differ in the passage? Name one region that receives goods from both.

4. Why might leaders worry about a long-lasting trade deficit, and why might it not be a crisis?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a country in Africa sells $60 million in farm goods to Europe and buys $75 million in machines from East Asia. In 3 to 4 sentences, explain its balance of trade, how these trade links show interdependence, and one possible benefit or concern for the country.

ANSWER KEY

Goods on the Move

GRADE 7 · 7.C.8.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two trade routes between regions, circle two clues that economies depend on trade, and put a star beside the sentence explaining why a trade deficit can concern leaders. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How could a delay at an East Asian gear factory affect bicycle workers in Europe? What does this show about trade?	**The delay could slow work at the European bicycle plant. It shows that producers in different regions depend on one another.**
2	Trace one trade route for oil or gas from West Asia. Name its destination and one use described in the passage.	**West Asia sends oil and gas to East Asia or Europe, where fuel powers transport and factories.**
3	How do the goods exported from Africa and East Asia differ in the passage? Name one region that receives goods from both.	**Africa exports minerals and farm products, while East Asia exports electronics and machinery. Europe receives goods from both.**
4	Why might leaders worry about a long-lasting trade deficit, and why might it not be a crisis?	**The country may need to borrow money or use savings to pay for imports, but imported machines could help businesses grow.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The country has a $15 million trade deficit because its imports cost more than its exports earn. Its farmers depend on European buyers, while its businesses depend on machines from East Asia. Leaders might worry about paying for imports if this gap continues. Still, the machines could help businesses make more goods.

Accept either East Asia or Europe as the destination in question 2. For Part 3, look for the correct $15 million deficit, a clear link between trading partners, and a plausible benefit or concern.