

Trade Direction Detectives

Part 2: Pick two items, then explain the trade direction that proves each choice.

WG.6.d "explaining important economic characteristics, including the distribution of economic activities and global trade."

NAME _____

DATE _____

IMPORTS

Imports are goods a country brings in from another country. The buying country is importing.

The United Kingdom brings in wine from France.

EXPORTS

Exports are goods a country sends to another country. The selling country is exporting.

New Zealand sends dairy products to China.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Part 1: Read each trade statement and circle IMPORTS or EXPORTS for the country named first.

1. South Korea sells smartphones to Mexico.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

2. Italy buys natural gas from Algeria.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

3. Canada buys bananas from Ecuador.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

4. Brazil sells coffee to Germany.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

5. Norway sells salmon to France.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

6. India buys crude oil from Saudi Arabia.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

7. Kenya sells cut flowers to the Netherlands.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

8. Australia sells iron ore to China.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM #

HOW I KNEW

ITEM #

HOW I KNEW

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Part 3: Write one new IMPORTS example and one new EXPORTS example. Name the country that brings in or sends out the goods.

IMPORTS

EXPORTS

CHALLENGE

Write one two-country trade statement that includes both an import and an export. Mark the import with I and the export with E. Then apply the idea to this regional case: A 2025 USDA report identifies Kostanay, Akmola and North Kazakhstan as major wheat-growing areas. It also records Kazakhstan sending wheat and wheat flour to Uzbekistan in 2024. Both countries are in Central Asia. Name the exporter and importer, state the direction of the goods, and explain how this trade connects wheat farming with buyers across a border. Use separate paper if needed.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	South Korea sells smartphones to Mexico.	EXPORTS	South Korea sends smartphones to another country.
2	Italy buys natural gas from Algeria.	IMPORTS	Italy brings natural gas into its country.
3	Canada buys bananas from Ecuador.	IMPORTS	Canada brings bananas into its country.
4	Brazil sells coffee to Germany.	EXPORTS	Brazil sends coffee to another country.
5	Norway sells salmon to France.	EXPORTS	Norway sends salmon to another country.
6	India buys crude oil from Saudi Arabia.	IMPORTS	India brings crude oil into its country.
7	Kenya sells cut flowers to the Netherlands.	EXPORTS	Kenya sends cut flowers to another country.
8	Australia sells iron ore to China.	EXPORTS	Australia sends iron ore to another country.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **IMPORTS:** Spain imports machinery from Germany.
- **EXPORTS:** Colombia exports bananas to the United Kingdom.

Challenge: The United States exports wheat (E) to Mexico, which imports the wheat (I). Regional response: Kazakhstan is the exporter; Uzbekistan is the importer. Wheat and wheat flour move from Kazakhstan to Uzbekistan, connecting Kazakhstan's wheat-growing economy with a foreign market.

For Part 2, students should identify whether the first country brings goods in or sends goods out. Accept accurate examples that clearly name a country, a good, and the direction of trade. Require the regional explanation as well as the original response. Regional source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Kazakhstan Grain and Feed Annual (2025), production geography and Appendix 1.