

Finn's Global Trading Adventure

Learning objective: To understand the concept of trade and how goods move around the world.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below. Use full sentences where appropriate.

Finn the dolphin spends his days swimming through the busy shipping lanes of the world's oceans. He watches massive cargo ships carry containers filled with items from every corner of the globe. This is called trade—the act of buying, selling, or exchanging goods. When a country sells items to another, it is known as an export. When they bring items in, it is an import. For example, a farmer in the UK might export delicious apples to a country with a warmer climate, while importing exotic bananas that cannot grow in British soil. Finn often sees ships carrying electronic parts, clothes, and fresh food. These goods are paid for using different types of currency, like the British pound (£). Without trade, we would only be able to use items made in our own country. Today, the global supply chain ensures that people can access products they need, even if those items travelled thousands of miles across the sea to reach them. Finn loves knowing that every ship he passes is helping people connect across borders, making the world feel a little smaller and more connected.

Word bank: Import · Export · Trade · Currency · Global · Supply chain

1. According to the text, what is the difference between an import and an export? (2 marks) (2 marks)

2. What does Finn observe that cargo ships are carrying? (2 marks) (2 marks)

3. Why might a country need to import goods from elsewhere instead of producing everything locally? (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. Explain why the author describes the world as feeling 'smaller' because of trade. (3 marks) (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Is it better for a country to rely on its own products or to trade with other nations? (3 marks) (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of the world. Sketch a large cargo ship in the middle of the ocean and draw lines showing items moving from one country to another, like bananas coming to the UK and apples leaving it.



Extension challenge: Research an item in your classroom, such as a pencil or a piece of clothing. If possible, look at the label to see where it was made. Write a short diary entry from the perspective of that item, describing its journey from the factory to your school desk. Include the challenges it might have faced crossing the ocean!