

Global Connections: The Journey of Goods

Learning objective: To understand the concepts of imports, exports, and the global trade network.

Use your geographical knowledge to answer the following questions about how countries trade goods and why this is important for our daily lives. Think about how Finn the dolphin might map these routes across the world's oceans.

Word bank: Import · Export · Trade · Supply chain · Globalisation · Currency · Economic · Transport

1. Define the terms 'import' and 'export'. Why might a country need to import items that they cannot produce themselves? (2 marks)

2. Max is looking at a list of goods. If the UK sells £500 worth of wool to France, is this an import or an export for the UK? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the benefits of transporting goods by ship versus by aeroplane. Which is more suitable for heavy, non-perishable items like machinery? (3 marks)

4. Justify why many countries trade with each other rather than trying to grow or make everything they need within their own borders. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to the price of a tropical fruit, like a banana, if the trade route from its country of origin was suddenly blocked? Use your knowledge of supply and demand. (3 marks)

6. Explain why the geographical location of a country, such as having a long coastline with deep-water ports, makes it easier for them to participate in global trade. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of the world and label one trade route. Include a ship or a plane carrying a product from one continent to another. Label the 'importing' country and the 'exporting' country.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a trader in the year 2024. Write a short diary entry describing the journey of a crate of tea or coffee from a farm in a warm climate to a supermarket shelf in the UK. Describe the different modes of transport used and the challenges you might face along the way.