Geography Assessment: Understanding Global Trade

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of how goods are traded globally, the importance of imports and exports, and the journey of products from source to consumer.

Read each question carefully. Write your answers clearly in the spaces provided. Ensure you use geographical terms where appropriate.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the routes of cargo ships across the Atlantic Ocean. He notices that many countries do not produce everything they need themselves. Instead, they buy resources from other nations. For example, a country might sell its surplus wheat to another country, while simultaneously buying tropical fruits that cannot grow in its own climate. This exchange of goods and services is essential for modern life.

Word bank: Export · Import · Supply chain · Trade · Globalisation · Distribution · Fairtrade · Currency

1. Define the terms 'import' and 'export' in your own words. (2 marks)

2. Finn observes a ship carrying cocoa beans from a warm climate to the UK. Is this an import or an export for the UK? Explain why. (2 marks)

3. Why might a country choose to buy products from another country rather than producing them locally? Give two reasons. (4 marks)

4. Max the monkey is calculating the cost of a fairtrade banana. If one banana costs £0.20, how much would a crate of 50 bananas cost? Show your working. (3 marks)

5. Describe the 'supply chain' of a product. Start from the raw material and end with the product reaching the shop shelf. (4 marks)

6. Explain why 'Fairtrade' is important for farmers in developing countries. Think about how it affects their quality of life and the price they receive for their goods. (5 marks)

7. Name one item that the UK often exports to other countries. (2 marks)

8. Identify one challenge that cargo ships might face when transporting goods across the ocean. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a simple map showing two countries. Use arrows to show an 'export' leaving one country and an 'import' arriving in the other. Label the goods being traded.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Imagine you are a trader. Write a short diary entry describing the journey of a crate of tea from a farm in a distant country to a supermarket in your local town.