

1.5 GEOGRAPHY'S ROLE IN THE ECONOMY

How does the geography of a place affect economic production, distribution, and consumption?

<p>C3 Framework Indicator</p>	<p>D2.Geo.4.6-8. Explain how cultural patterns and economic decisions influence environments and the daily lives of people in both nearby and distant places.</p> <p>D2.Geo.7.3-5. Explain how cultural and environmental characteristics affect the distribution and movement of people, goods, and ideas.</p> <p>D2.Geo.8.3-5. Explain how human settlements and movements relate to the locations and use of various natural resources.</p> <p>D2.Geo.11.6-8. Explain how the relationship between the environmental characteristics of places and production of goods influences the spatial patterns of world trade.</p>	
<p>Staging the Compelling Question</p>	<p>This inquiry links the geography of Germany to its economy and resources. Using mapping exercises, students will develop a sense of the connection between the geography of a country or region and its economy and the economic relationship between Germany and its neighbors in the EU as it relates to resources and trade.</p>	
<p>Supporting Question 1</p>	<p>Supporting Question 2</p>	<p>Supporting Question 3</p>
<p>What resources are available for trading between Germany and its neighbors?</p>	<p>What are the major economic activities of Germany and its neighbors?</p>	<p>How does trade help to foster cooperative relationships between countries?</p>
<p>Formative Performance Task</p>	<p>Formative Performance Task</p>	<p>Formative Performance Task</p>
<p>Using the maps in the resources, students will draw and label the major resources of Germany and its neighbors.</p>	<p>Students will complete the Germany Map Challenge: Economic Activity of Germany and the EU using the listed resources.</p>	<p>Students will note two major resources that their country can export and two major resources their country would need to import to support their people. Students will then choose one or two partners (countries) whom they can trade with.</p>
<p>Featured Sources</p>	<p>Featured Sources</p>	<p>Featured Sources</p>
<p>Source A: Handout 1.5.1</p> <p>Source B: Germany's Economic Activity</p> <p>Source C: Natural Resources Map of Europe</p>	<p>Source A: Handout 1.5.2</p> <p>Source B: Handout 1.5.3</p> <p>Source C: Germany's Economic Map</p> <p>Source D: Natural Resources of Europe Map</p>	<p>Source A: Completed Map of Germany (Formative Performance Task 1)</p> <p>Source B: Natural Resources of Europe Map</p>
<p>Summative Performance Task</p>	<p>Argument: Construct an argument (e.g., detailed outline, poster, essay) that addresses the compelling question using specific claims and relevant evidence from historical or contemporary sources while acknowledging competing views.</p> <p>Extension: With the trading partner(s) from Formative Performance Task 3, each group should create a formal trading agreement.</p>	
<p>Taking Informed Action</p>	<p>Understand: Your region or state contains natural resources and geographic features that contribute to economic activity.</p> <p>Assess: What businesses and jobs in your area use natural resources?</p> <p>Act: Arrange to interview some of the people who work there to discuss how the existing natural resources benefit the business. If possible, arrange a tour of the facilities.</p>	

❓ COMPELLING QUESTION

- How does the geography of a place affect economic production, distribution, and consumption?

INQUIRY OVERVIEW

This inquiry links the geography of Germany to its economy and resources. Using mapping exercises, students will develop a sense of the connection between the geography of a country or region and its economy, and the economic relationship between Germany and its neighbors in the European Union (EU) as it relates to resources and trade.

TEACHER BACKGROUND

With its central location, its large population (83 million), and strong economy (fourth largest in the world), Germany has always played an important role on the European continent. In 1952, West Germany, France, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg established the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). It was designed to integrate the steel and coal industries in Western Europe after WWII. In 1957, the ECSC members signed the Treaty of Rome, which in part established the European Economic Community (EEC), the precursor to the European Union (EU). Today, the EU is a unique economic and political partnership among twenty-seven European countries that are working together for peace and prosperity. The member states of the EU have established common institutions to which they have delegated some of their sovereignty, so that decisions on specific matters of joint interest may be made democratically at the European level. What started as an economic partnership has matured into a union that works together on numerous levels, including agriculture, energy, fundamental rights, and employment.



The roots of the EU lie in the Second World War. Europeans were determined to prevent the killing of innocent people and material destruction from ever happening again. The initial steps were to foster economic and commercial cooperation. Since then, the EU has developed into a huge single market, with the euro as the common currency in many of its member states. Today the EU comprises twenty-seven countries and approximately 448 million people, and it deals with a wide range of issues important to daily life, such as education and health. The EU actively promotes human rights and democracy, and in its environmental policy sets ambitious targets such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 55 percent by 2030. As a result of the elimination of border controls, it is now possible for people to travel freely within most of the EU. It has also become much easier to live and work in another EU country. Germany supports the idea that in the increasingly interdependent world of the twenty-first century, it is essential that every European citizen be to work together with people from other countries in a spirit of respect.

After a referendum, the United Kingdom (UK) left the EU on January 31, 2020. Both the EU and the UK have felt the political and economic impact of "Brexit" (Britain exit). This is especially true for Germany, as the UK is one of its top four trading partners. The UK and EU are still in the negotiation phase (as of 2021), and the true implications of Brexit are still unclear. With Brexit, the EU has lost over 10 percent of its population and an important trading partner.

► Source

- European Union. (2021). Official Website of the European Union. https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en.

 **TIME:** Two to three 45-minute classes

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

- Map of Germany (**Handout 1.5.1**)
- Germany Map Challenge: Economic Activity of Germany and the EU (**Handout 1.5.2**)
- Germany Map Challenge: Economic Activity of Germany and the EU Answer Key (**Handout 1.5.3**)
- Barone, A. (2021, 19 May). "How a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Works." *Investopedia*, www.investopedia.com/terms/f/free-trade.asp.
- Daniel Feher. (n.d.). Germany Map. Free World Maps. <https://www.freeworldmaps.net/europe/germany/germany-map.jpg>.
- Geography.name. (n.d.). Natural Resources of Europe. Retrieved April 21, 2021, from <https://geography.name/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/32542342-640x449.webp>.
- Quizlet. (n.d.). Germany's Economic Activity. Retrieved January 28, 2021, from <https://quizlet.com/224990945/week-1-map-skills-vocab-diagram/>.



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INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

Break the class into small groups and randomly assign each group a different ecosystem (e.g., desert, rainforest, coastline, plain, etc.). Ask each group to brainstorm how people would meet their basic human needs of food, shelter, and clothing in their ecosystem and to make a list of resources in their ecosystem that they believe are valuable enough to trade. After sharing their lists of resources, they must decide who would make the best trading partners for their group and explain why.

SUPPORTING QUESTION 1

What resources are available for trading between Germany and its neighbors?

► Formative Performance Task

Using the Germany's Economic Activity Map and the Natural Resource of Europe Map, have students draw and label the major resources of Germany and its neighbors on **Handout 1.5.1**.

In the same small groups used in the **Introductory Activity**, students should compare completed maps and discuss the following questions:

- Which resources are the most numerous?
- Which resources are rare?
- Which resource(s) are the most economically valuable?
- How do Germany's resources compare to those of its neighbors? What are the similarities and differences?

► Resources

- Map of Germany (**Handout 1.5.1**)
- Geography.name. (n.d.). Natural Resources of Europe. Retrieved April 21, 2021, from <https://geography.name/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/32542342-640x449.webp>.
- Quizlet. (n.d.). Germany's Economic Activity. Retrieved January 28, 2021, from <https://quizlet.com/224990945/week-1-map-skills-vocab-diagram/>.

❓ SUPPORTING QUESTION 2

What are the major economic activities of Germany and its neighbors?

► Formative Performance Task

Either independently or with a partner, students will complete the Germany Map Challenge: Economic Activity of Germany and the EU (**Handout 1.5.2**) using the resources listed below.

Based on student learning needs, the teacher may model how to complete questions on the Map Challenge worksheet.

► Resources

- Germany Map Challenge: Economic Activity of Germany and the EU (**Handout 1.5.2**)
- Germany Map Challenge: Economic Activity of Germany and the EU Answer Key (**Handout 1.5.3**)
- Geography.name. (n.d.). Natural Resources of Europe. Retrieved April 21, 2021, from <https://geography.name/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/32542342-640x449.webp>.
- Quizlet. (n.d.). Germany's Economic Activity. Retrieved January 28, 2021, from <https://quizlet.com/224990945/week-1-map-skills-vocab-diagram/>.

❓ SUPPORTING QUESTION 3

How does trade help to foster cooperative relationships between countries?

► Formative Performance Task

Assign each student a different country in the EU. Using what they have learned and the completed map (**Handout 1.5.1**) from **Formative Performance Task 1**, ask students to write down two major resources that their country can export and two major resources that their country would need to import to support their people.

Students will then choose one or two partners (countries) whom they can trade with to get the resources they need. Students should be prepared to defend their selection of partner(s).

Ask students the following to help reflect on the trading activity: "What was the biggest challenge when trying to find another country to trade with?"

As a class, discuss the importance of cooperation in order to build strong economies.

► Resources

- Map of Germany (**Handout 1.5.1**) completed in **Formative Performance Task 1**
- Geography.name. (n.d.). Natural Resources of Europe. Retrieved April 21, 2021, from <https://geography.name/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/32542342-640x449.webp>.

☑️ SUMMATIVE PERFORMANCE TASK

How does the geography of a place affect economic production, distribution, and consumption?

Construct an argument (e.g., detailed outline, poster, essay) that addresses the compelling question, using specific claims and relevant evidence from contemporary sources while acknowledging competing views.

EXTENSION (OPTIONAL) TASK

With the trading partner(s) from **Formative Performance Task 3**, each group should create a formal trading agreement. They should describe how the group is going to ensure a fair and cooperative economic relationship.

Students may wish to view the video on Free Trade in the resources below prior to starting this task.

► Resource

- Barone, A. (2021, 19 May). "How a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Works." *Investopedia*, www.investopedia.com/terms/f/free-trade.asp.

TAKING INFORMED ACTION

Understand: Your region or state contains natural resources and geographic features that contribute to economic activity.

Assess: What businesses and jobs in your area use natural resources?

Act: Arrange to interview some of the people who work there to discuss how the existing natural resources benefit the business. If possible, arrange a tour of the facilities.

CONCEPTS LIST

- Trade
- Economic activity
- Resources
- Land use
- Cooperation
- Energy
- Treaty
- European Union (EU)
- Production
- Distribution
- Consumption
- Sovereignty
- Ecosystem
- Tariff