

TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION

What is the definition of trade?

Trade is the buying and selling or bartering of goods and services. Trade is also referred to as commerce. Five thousand years ago people in cities had to trade for food. They needed to devise ways to travel to trade goods and services. The ancient Romans built the first roads to make trade easier. Technology has made trade between cities and countries much faster and safer.

What are the basic forms of transportation?

Transportation - People can walk, ride an animal, bicycle, and drive vehicles such as car, van, truck. Buses, trolleys, trains, subways, boats, ships, submarines, airplanes, helicopters, and spacecraft are forms of transportation.



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What are some forms of transportation that help countries trade with one another?

Shipping is the movement of goods and services. We ship by land, sea, and air. Freight hauling services include large trucks which carry goods over highways. We also load truck trailers on railroad flatcars or on ships. The goods do not have to be disturbed until they reach the factory or distribution center.



Ports - places in harbors where ships can load and unload. Large goods such as cars, trucks, and great amounts of textiles and foods are shipped across oceans.

Airports - places where passenger airplanes and jets carrying air freight can load and unload. Mail goes much faster and perishable goods can go long distances without spoiling.



The **Transcontinental Railroad** opened in 1869. By 1917, there was more than 250,000 miles of railroad track crisscrossing the US. Today there is even more track. Trade within the US, Canada, and Mexico is fast and efficient by rail.



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Interstate - ways that allow vehicles to move goods faster because of wide lanes and no cross traffic. Bridges and ramps keep the traffic moving.

Pipelines - giant pipes carry oil, gas, or water underground

International trade - buying and selling goods and services between countries

Import - to bring resources and products from one country into another

Export - to send products and resources to other countries

Free Market - people choose what to produce and what to buy. Farmers decide which crops to plant. Factories decide which goods to produce. Stores decide which products to sell.

Barter - trade goods and services without using money

Try this!

How do you get to school? How does milk get to your grocery store?
Where do the fruit and vegetables available in your markets come from?



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