

VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING

TEST ITEM SET

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

2008 History and Social Science Standards of Learning

Released Spring 2014

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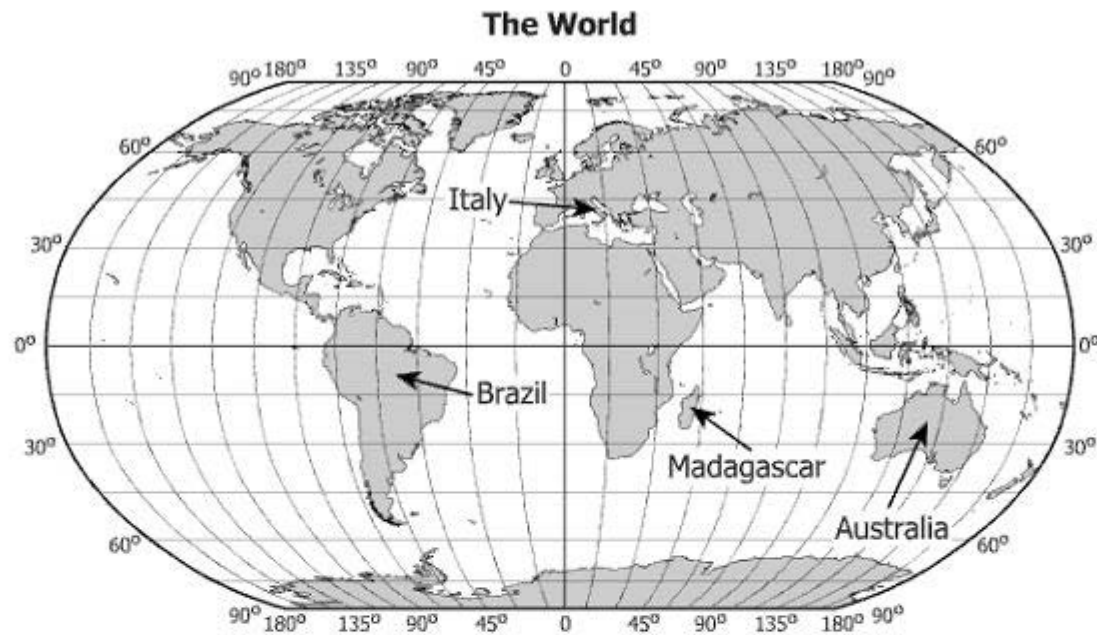
SAMPLE

Temperature and precipitation are characteristics of —

- ☐ **A** longitude
- ☐ **B** climate
- ☐ **C** vegetation
- ☐ **D** latitude

Which climate best characterizes the high latitudes?

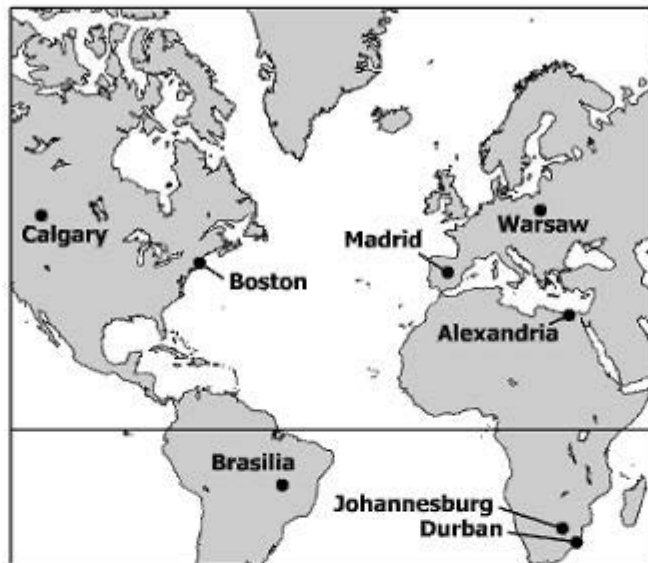
- ☐ **A** Tropical
- ☐ **B** Subarctic
- ☐ **C** Humid continental
- ☐ **D** Marine west coast



Which country contains the latitude and longitude 15°S, 45°W?

- ☐ **A** Brazil
- ☐ **B** Italy
- ☐ **C** Madagascar
- ☐ **D** Australia

Selected Cities of the World



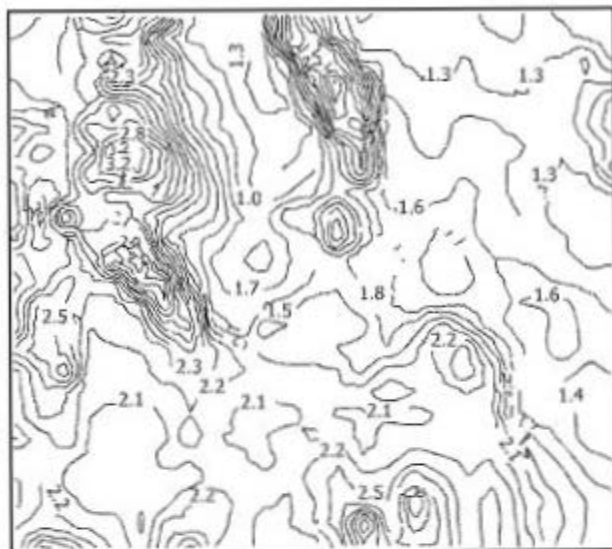
Which two cities have opposite seasons?

- ☐ **A** Boston and Madrid
- ☐ **B** Warsaw and Alexandria
- ☐ **C** Calgary and Durban
- ☐ **D** Johannesburg and Brasilia

Jimmy knows the route from his house to his school, and can name each street along the way.

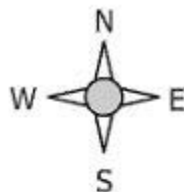
This statement is an example of —

- ☐ **A** absolute location
- ☐ **B** a primary source
- ☐ **C** a thematic map
- ☐ **D** mental mapping



This type of map is used to show —

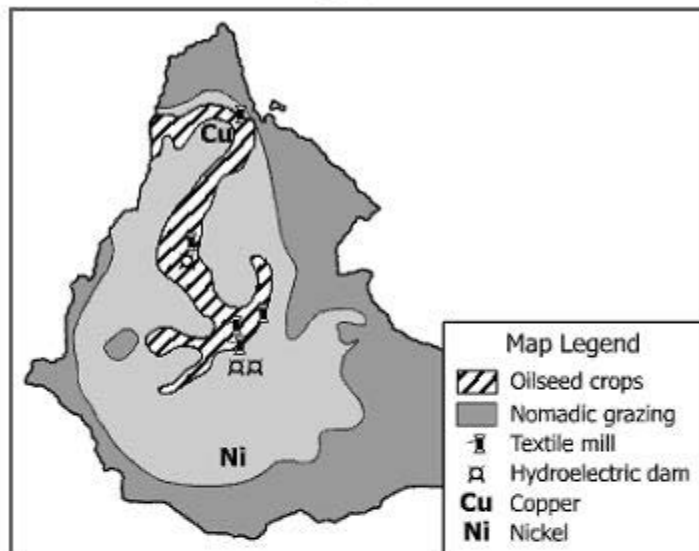
- ☐ **A** elevation
- ☐ **B** population
- ☐ **C** natural resources
- ☐ **D** political boundaries



This symbol identifies which feature of a map?

- ☐ **A** Orientation
- ☐ **B** Contour
- ☐ **C** Distance
- ☐ **D** Projection

Ethiopia, 1976



On this map, industrial activity is represented by —

- ☐ A shades
- ☐ B lines
- ☐ C symbols
- ☐ D letters



© Adasira Tiso/Getty Images #AB12883

Which weather phenomenon is shown in this photograph?

- ☐ **A** Tornado
- ☐ **B** Hurricane
- ☐ **C** Blizzard
- ☐ **D** Mistral

Northeast Africa



Which major river system is shown on this map?

- ☐ A Indus
- ☐ B Nile
- ☐ C Amazon
- ☐ D Danube

Matryoshka Dolls

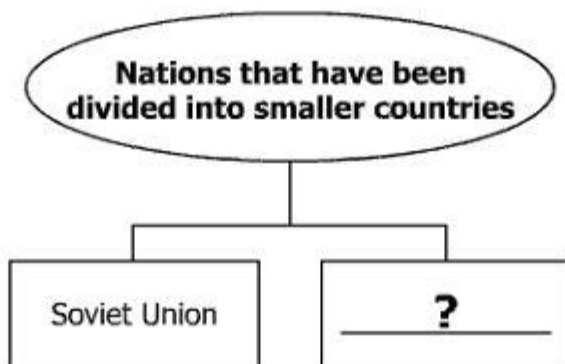


These dolls are a traditional cultural craft in —

- ☐ A Russia
- ☐ B Southeast Asia
- ☐ C France
- ☐ D Latin America

Mexico is linked more to Central and South America than to North America because of the way geographers define —

- ☐ **A** political regions
- ☐ **B** physical regions
- ☐ **C** economic regions
- ☐ **D** cultural regions



Which country best completes this diagram?

- ☐ **A** Mexico
- ☐ **B** Yugoslavia
- ☐ **C** Portugal
- ☐ **D** Chile

The Ob River



This river flows northward into the —

- ☐ **A** Pacific Ocean
- ☐ **B** Indian Ocean
- ☐ **C** Arctic Ocean
- ☐ **D** Atlantic Ocean

Angkor Wat

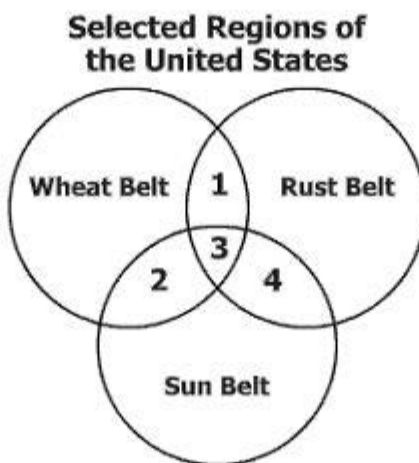


This archaeological site revealed important information about the —

- ☐ **A** traditional dwellings of Central America
- ☐ **B** architectural structures of the Middle East
- ☐ **C** ancient kingdoms of West Africa
- ☐ **D** religious history of Southeast Asia

Which name do western societies commonly use for the Arabian Gulf?

- ☐ **A** Gulf of Aden
- ☐ **B** Red Sea
- ☐ **C** Sea of Marmara
- ☐ **D** Persian Gulf



Which description is matched with the correct section of this diagram?

- ☐ **A** Section 1 represents economic regions.
- ☐ **B** Section 2 represents political regions.
- ☐ **C** Section 3 represents ethnic regions.
- ☐ **D** Section 4 represents climate regions.

The separation of Northern Ireland from the Republic of Ireland is an example of —

- ☐ **A** immigrants trying to adapt to a new government
- ☐ **B** language differences affecting growth in a region
- ☐ **C** all citizens agreeing to a political process
- ☐ **D** religion as a dividing force in a region

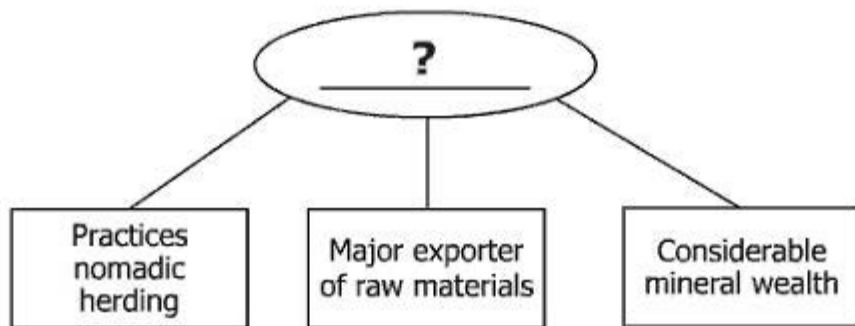
Tiled Roof



© Ian Hamilton/Stockphoto #6731081

In which region is this type of roof most commonly used?

- ☐ **A** Canadian Shield
- ☐ **B** Northern Mongolia
- ☐ **C** Mediterranean
- ☐ **D** Scandinavia



Which geographic region best completes this diagram?

- ☐ **A** North America
- ☐ **B** Sub-Saharan Africa
- ☐ **C** Western Europe
- ☐ **D** Southeast Asia

Which structure is known primarily as a national seat of government?

- ☐ **A** Eiffel Tower
- ☐ **B** Kaaba
- ☐ **C** Kremlin
- ☐ **D** Taj Mahal

Cultural Icons

Windmill



© Jasp Herd/Stockphoto
#2291153

Colosseum



© Jeremy Vascyl/Stockphoto
#4312617

Eiffel Tower



© S. Greg Parnas/Stockphoto
#4603075

Big Ben



© alamy/Stockphoto #4210316

These structures are associated with the continent of —

- ☐ **A** North America
- ☐ **B** Australia
- ☐ **C** Europe
- ☐ **D** South America

Which city is a center of culture and trade located in Canada?

- ☐ **A** Inuvik
- ☐ **B** Toronto
- ☐ **C** Santiago
- ☐ **D** Chicago

Conflicts between the Hutu and Tutsi have occurred in —

- ☐ **A** Liberia
- ☐ **B** Zambia
- ☐ **C** Botswana
- ☐ **D** Rwanda

Which religion is practiced by the majority of India's population?

- ☐ **A** Buddhism
- ☐ **B** Christianity
- ☐ **C** Hinduism
- ☐ **D** Judaism

Agricultural terracing most directly affects which landform?

- ☐ **A** Mountains
- ☐ **B** Deserts
- ☐ **C** Plains
- ☐ **D** Deltas

**Places of Origin for
Foreign Students in the
United States, 2008–2009**

Rank and Country	Total
1. India	103,260
2. China	98,235
3. South Korea	75,065
4. Canada	29,697
5. Japan	29,264

Which conclusion can be drawn from this table?

- ☐ **A** Educational opportunities in the United States are a push factor.
- ☐ **B** Most foreign educations are superior to those in the United States.
- ☐ **C** Educational opportunity pulls Asian students to the United States.
- ☐ **D** Most foreign students in the United States are European.

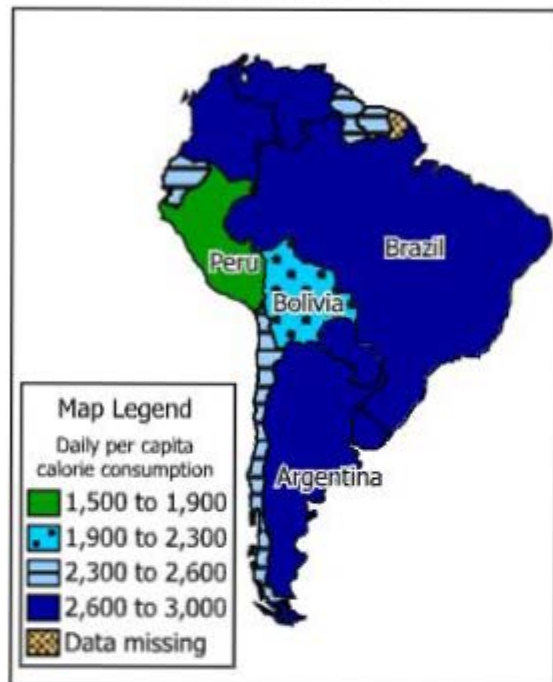
Factors That Influence _____ ?

- Warfare
- Climate
- Technology

Which phrase best completes the title of this list?

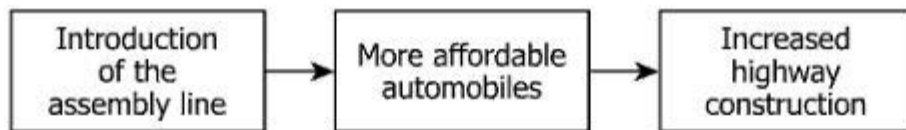
- ☐ **A** Public Education
- ☐ **B** Religious Beliefs
- ☐ **C** Official Languages
- ☐ **D** Population Distribution

South America



This map supports the conclusion that malnutrition is most likely to occur in which country?

- ☐ A Peru
- ☐ B Brazil
- ☐ C Bolivia
- ☐ D Argentina



The information shown in this diagram led to the expansion of —

- ☐ **A** rural areas
- ☐ **B** family farms
- ☐ **C** suburbs
- ☐ **D** canals

Which country is most likely to experience an earthquake?

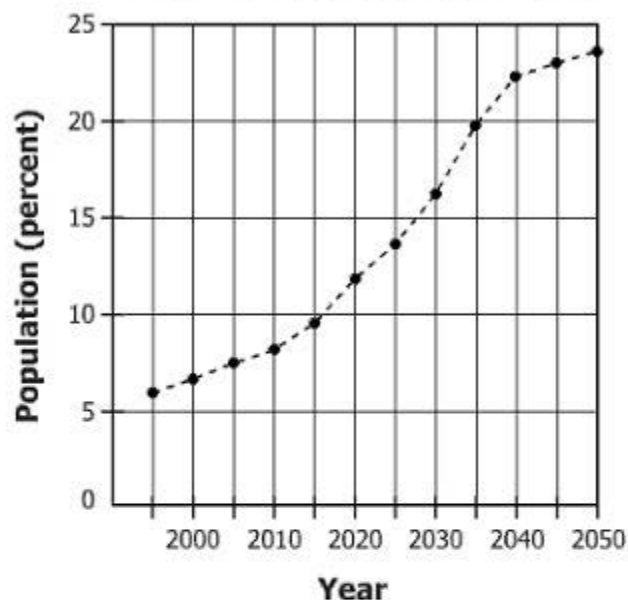
- ☐ **A** England
- ☐ **B** France
- ☐ **C** Brazil
- ☐ **D** Japan

Two-thirds of Israel is desert. However, fruits and vegetables grown in Israel are sold around the world. The Israelis invented an underground irrigation system that takes water straight to the roots of the plants.

This information is an example of how technology —

- ☐ **A** influences agricultural production
- ☐ **B** alters climate conditions
- ☐ **C** increases energy usage
- ☐ **D** affects transportation patterns

**Percent of China's Population
Over 65 Years Old, 2000–2050**



Which change to China's population between 2000 and 2050 does this graph project?

- ☐ **A** China's total population will decrease.
- ☐ **B** China's overall birthrate is expected to increase.
- ☐ **C** Less than half of China's population will be under the age of 65.
- ☐ **D** The number of Chinese people over the age of 65 will increase.

**Popular Music Forms
in the United States**

- Calypso
- Merengue
- Reggae
- Salsa

These items represent examples of —

- ☐ **A** ethnic bias
- ☐ **B** domestic production
- ☐ **C** religious diversity
- ☐ **D** cultural diffusion

A construction company would seek the assistance of geographers in order to —

- ☐ **A** find adequate construction materials
- ☐ **B** locate suitable construction sites
- ☐ **C** develop advanced construction methods
- ☐ **D** identify qualified construction workers

Urbanization

Advantages	Disadvantages
Increased diversity	Increased sprawl
Greater educational opportunities	<u> ? </u>

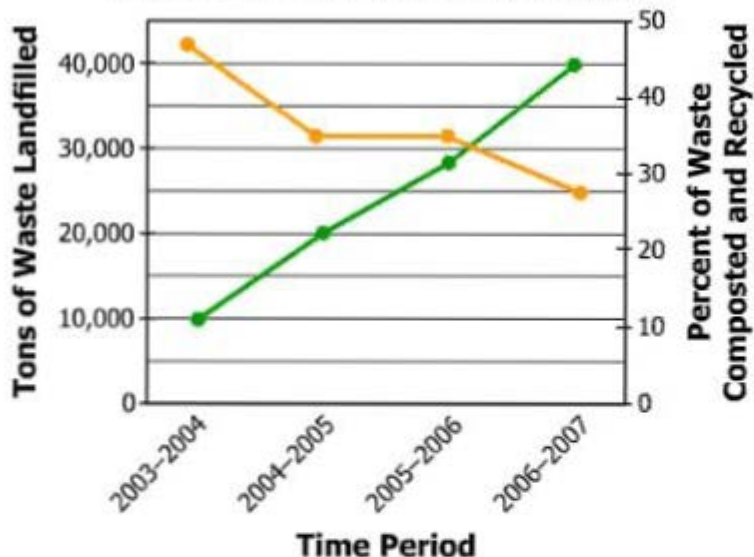
Which characteristic best replaces the question mark?

- ☐ **A** Expanded regional trade
- ☐ **B** Greater career opportunities
- ☐ **C** Increased air pollution
- ☐ **D** More cultural centers

What is an advantage to building a city at a confluence site?

- ☐ **A** Decreased regional conflicts
- ☐ **B** Improved technological innovations
- ☐ **C** Reduced risk of natural disasters
- ☐ **D** Increased access to trade routes

**Waste Recycled, Composted and Landfilled,
South Staffordshire, United Kingdom**



Key	
■	Waste Landfill
■	Waste Composted and Recycled

Which statement is best supported by this graph?

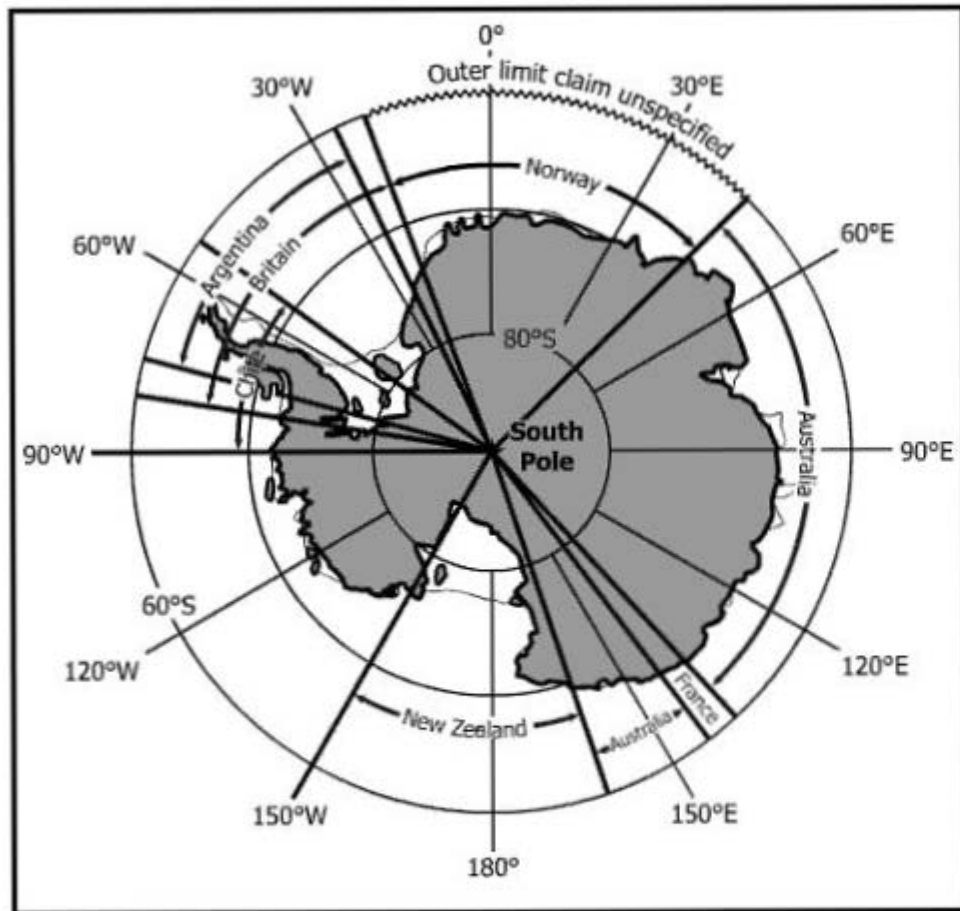
- ☐ **A** The amount of waste in landfills increased.
- ☐ **B** People became more involved in recycling.
- ☐ **C** The amount of waste composted decreased.
- ☐ **D** Government funding was reduced for recycling.



Which factor explains the division described in this headline?

- ☐ **A** A dispute over national independence
- ☐ **B** A conflict over natural resources
- ☐ **C** A dispute over immigration laws
- ☐ **D** A conflict over religious toleration

Antarctica Treaty, 1996



According to this map, which country does **NOT** have a territorial claim to Antarctica?

- ☐ A Britain
- ☐ B France
- ☐ C Norway
- ☐ D China

Which spatial division would normally regulate public bus transportation routes?

- ☐ **A** Election district
- ☐ **B** Regional district
- ☐ **C** State government
- ☐ **D** Federal government

Which factor is most responsible for increasing life expectancy in many less industrialized nations?

- ☐ **A** Declining birth rates
- ☐ **B** Availability of health insurance
- ☐ **C** Access to primary education
- ☐ **D** Improved health care programs

Which is a resource that allows nations to develop a high per-capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP)?

- ☐ **A** State-owned farms
- ☐ **B** Humanitarian aid
- ☐ **C** Skilled workforce
- ☐ **D** Governmental restrictions



Which phrase best describes the subject of this newspaper headline?

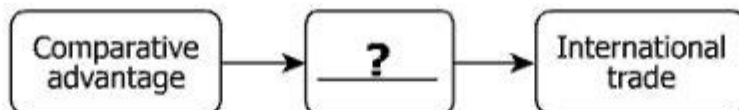
- ☐ **A** Differences in culture
- ☐ **B** Tariff reductions on consumer goods
- ☐ **C** Unequal distribution of natural resources
- ☐ **D** Internationalization of product assembly

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries

Advantages	Disadvantages
<u> ?</u>	Difficulty agreeing on the same policies

Which advantage best completes this diagram?

- ☐ A Limited foreign regulations
- ☐ B Reduced reliance on foreign trade
- ☐ C Increased global influence
- ☐ D Similarity of government systems



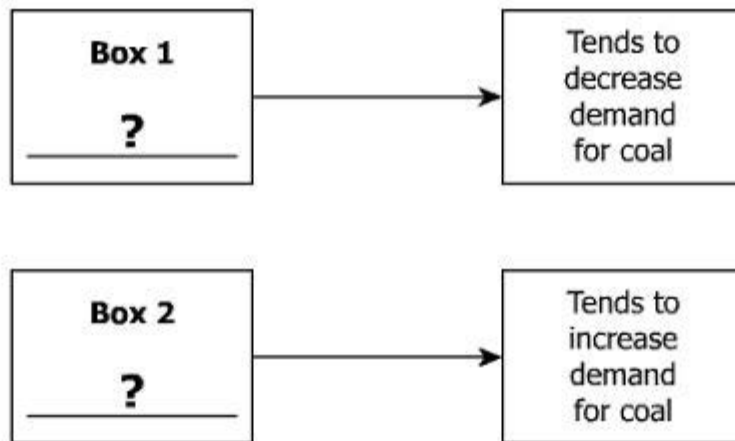
Which phrase best completes this diagram?

- ☐ **A** Manual labor
- ☐ **B** Limited communication
- ☒ **C** Diverse economy
- ☐ **D** Specialized production

Which is an advantage for a small, developing country in joining an economic union?

- ☐ **A** Closing of inefficient industries
- ☐ **B** Access to natural resources with restrictions
- ☐ **C** Replacing family farms with agribusinesses
- ☐ **D** Greater access to international markets

Factors in the Demand for Coal as a Resource



Which factor is matched with the correct box?

- ☐ A Environmental Concerns in Box 1
- ☐ B Population Growth in Box 1
- ☐ C Agricultural Output in Box 2
- ☐ D Medical Innovation in Box 2

**Selected Economic
Activities in Australia**

Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
Mining	Manufacturing	?

Which activity best completes this table?

- ☐ **A** Banking
- ☐ **B** Canning
- ☐ **C** Fishing
- ☐ **D** Ranching

Outsource: to contract out business, often to foreign companies

One reason some companies choose to participate in this practice is the —

- ☐ **A** lack of essential services
- ☐ **B** opportunity to lower production costs
- ☐ **C** need to establish labor unions
- ☐ **D** support for new technologies

Economic Activities and Land Use



Which economic activity is correctly placed on this diagram?

- ☐ A Banking in 1
- ☐ B Ranching in 1
- ☐ C Shopping in 2
- ☐ D Manufacturing in 2

Which statement best explains why nations must trade?

- ☐ **A** All nations belong to free trade agreements.
- ☐ **B** All nations seek out new production methods.
- ☐ **C** No nation has all necessary resources.
- ☐ **D** No nation can employ all of its laborers.

World Geography
Released Test Item Set Spring 2014
Answer Key

Sequence Number	Correct Answer	Reporting Category	Reporting Category Description
1	B	001	Physical Geography
2	A	001	Physical Geography
3	C	001	Physical Geography
4	D	001	Physical Geography
5	A	001	Physical Geography
6	A	001	Physical Geography
7	C	001	Physical Geography
8	B	001	Physical Geography
9	B	001	Physical Geography
10	A	002	Regional Geography
11	D	002	Regional Geography
12	B	002	Regional Geography
13	C	002	Regional Geography
14	D	002	Regional Geography
15	D	002	Regional Geography
16	A	002	Regional Geography
17	D	002	Regional Geography
18	C	002	Regional Geography
19	B	002	Regional Geography
20	C	002	Regional Geography
21	C	002	Regional Geography
22	B	002	Regional Geography
23	D	002	Regional Geography
24	C	002	Regional Geography
25	A	003	Human Geography
26	C	003	Human Geography
27	D	003	Human Geography
28	A	003	Human Geography
29	C	003	Human Geography
30	D	003	Human Geography
31	A	003	Human Geography
32	D	003	Human Geography

Sequence Number	Correct Answer	Reporting Category	Reporting Category Description
33	D	003	Human Geography
34	B	004	Political and Urban Geography
35	C	004	Political and Urban Geography
36	D	004	Political and Urban Geography
37	B	004	Political and Urban Geography
38	A	004	Political and Urban Geography
39	D	004	Political and Urban Geography
40	B	004	Political and Urban Geography
41	D	005	Economic Geography
42	C	005	Economic Geography
43	D	005	Economic Geography
44	C	005	Economic Geography
45	D	005	Economic Geography
46	D	005	Economic Geography
47	A	005	Economic Geography
48	A	005	Economic Geography
49	B	005	Economic Geography
50	A	005	Economic Geography
51	C	005	Economic Geography

