



Instructions

Lesson six: Instructions for pupils

1) Go to the Business Insider website to find the map of your focus area:

www.businessinsider.com/every-countrys-highest-valued-export-2014-5?IR=T

2) Choose 4 or 5 different highest-value exports.

3) Go to Google World Map to check which country's highest-value export it is:

www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=zuVUPD-N5sEk.k2vCIsDw8gtQ

4) Consider how the physical and human geography of each country determines its highest-value export and complete the activity sheet.

Extension Task: Use Britannica Kids website <http://kids.britannica.com> to research more about the country's geography, imports, and exports. Use the two case study fact cards (USA and Liberia) below to compare the highest-valued exports of the USA and Liberia. Read your card to your partner and fill in the table below comparing the geography of the two countries, relating to their highest-valued exports.

Country	Highest-valued exports	Geographical features of the country
USA	Capital Goods	1) 2) 3) 4)
Liberia	Rubber	1) 2) 3) 4)



Case study: United States of America, North American continent

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- The human geography of the USA determines its highest-value export: **capital goods (air crafts, motor vehicle parts, computers, telecommunications equipment).**
- The USA has the natural resources and climate to produce primary goods (e.g. grains, dairy, sugar, copper) so does produce and export these. But, the country's **highest-value** export is not from primary products such as these.
- North America makes the most money from exporting high value and complicated manufactured products.
- It is a **more developed country**, with a highly educated population who have had the opportunity to attend university to learn the skills needed to produce products such as computers and air crafts which are sold at high prices.
- The global companies based in North America have money for research, expensive machinery for manufacturing.
- Transport links, technology and communication systems in the country are good also makes it an attractive place for big companies to base themselves.



Case study: Liberia, African continent

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- The physical and human geography of Liberia determines its highest-value export: **rubber**. Rubber comes from the rubber tree which produces a milky white sap (latex rubber).
- Rubber trees require a specific climate: evenly distributed levels of rainfall, a high monthly average temperature (25-28 degrees Celsius), high humidity, bright sunshine and no strong winds.
- Education in Liberia was greatly affected by the Liberian Civil War which lasted total of 14 years. Although it ended in 2003, the country and services are still recovering; supplies are low and there is a shortage of qualified teachers.
- In 2010 the literacy rate (percentage of population who can read) was estimated at 60.8%. The majority of Liberian people work in agriculture and the production of primary products such as rubber and iron.
- The rubber plantations in Liberia are largely owned by global companies. These plantations provide regular salaries and formal employment to Liberian people but the wages are low and the rubber is sold before it is processed into more valuable manufactured items such rubber gloves, balloons and tyres.