

People need many things. In some countries, people can get much of what they need. But they still need to get things from other countries. If you look at the labels of food in the grocery store, it is like a geography lesson. You will find foods that come from many other places. Long ago, people used to just eat what they could grow or find in their own area. Today, people can get foods from all around the world.

Much more than food comes from different countries. For example, in the United States we do not have any rubber trees. Those trees need a warm, hot climate. So we get rubber from other countries. One country that sells rubber is Brazil. So if you have a ball or even an eraser that is made of rubber, it started out on a tree in a warm country. Factories in the United States use rubber to make tires.

When a country gets something from another country, it is an import. In Canada it is too cold to grow lemons. So people in Canada get lemons that come from the United States and other countries. They import the fruit. So if you buy lemonade in Canada, it comes from another country. When a country sells something to another country it is an export.

Canada has a lot of electricity. Canada has great rivers. People built dams across them. A dam is like a wall. The dam has wheels on it. Those are water wheels. When the water rushes through them, it turns the wheels. The wheels make electricity when they turn. Canada uses electricity to make things.

Some Canadian factories make aluminum. That is a useful metal. It takes a lot of electricity to make it. But the Canadians do not have bauxite. That is an ore. That is something found under the ground. Canadian factories get it from mines. But the mines are not in Canada. They are in Jamaica.

If you have a bicycle, it may be made from aluminum. And it probably has rubber tires. That bicycle may have been made in the United States. But its parts come from other places. That one bicycle may have parts from Brazil, Canada, Jamaica, and the United States.

The same kinds of connections are part of many cars. Long ago, cars were made mostly in the United States. Now cars are made in many countries. But wherever they are made, they have parts from different places.

*Directions: Choose the best answer for each question*

1. What is something the United States imports?

- a. rubber
- b. tires
- c. lemons
- d. everything

2. What is something that the United States exports?

- a. rubber
- b. lemons
- c. aluminum
- d. tea

3. Which of these is something people mine?

- a. aluminum
- b. gasoline
- c. bauxite
- d. rubber

4. What is the difference between an import and an export?

- a. A country sells exports. It buys imports.
- b. A country buys exports. It sells imports.
- c. A country need to export many things.
- d. A country needs to import many things.

5. *Write your own answer to this question.*

What is one way to classify foods?

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**TEACHER NOTES: Develop Students' Skills: Exercise Thinking**

These questions have not been validated, so decisions about student's achievement should not be made based on their responses. They are intended to exercise skills. Recommended activities include: students work in pairs to choose the best response; give students the questions without the responses so they generate their own answers; students make up additional questions; students make up questions like these for another passage.

**Answers:** *You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.*

Item	1	2	3	4
Answer	a	b	c	a

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.

5. Students may suggest other ways such as dairy, meat, but should base their answer on the text. Then they can say by where it comes from.

**Skill: Locate and classify information      5<sup>th</sup> Grade Assessment**

**FICTION: Our Lemons**

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I got up early. I promised I would help pick the lemons before I went to school. My family has more than 20 lemon trees. My father has a job in town. He works at the post office. He delivers mail. But the lemon trees help us make money.

We live in southern California. It is warm most of the time. So the lemon trees stay green all year round. We have a big grove of lemon trees.

My father says California grows the most lemons of any place in the world. Every day we check the lemons to see if they are about two inches big. When they get that big, they are ready to pick.

They still are green when we pick them. We put them into baskets. Most people think they are yellow when they grow. But they turn yellow after we pick them and put them in the baskets. There are always baskets of lemons outside our house. When they start to turn yellow, my father takes the basket of lemons into town. He sells them to stores.

The lemons grow all year. Every day, there are some to pick. So we always have a job to do. Some times of year there are more lemons. Those weeks we work all day on Saturday and Sunday to get the lemons. My father may have to make a few trips into town with the lemons.

Once my father let one lemon stay on the tree. He wanted to see how big it would get. First it turned yellow. Then it turned orange like a pumpkin. It got as big as a pumpkin, too. Finally, it was so big and heavy it fell off. I tasted it, but I didn't like it. My father said, pick them when they're green and small. They will taste better. They are like other citrus fruits. You want to pick grapefruit, oranges, and lemons when they are green.

Down the road from us is a really big lemon grove. They have hundreds of trees. Workers pick them and put them into crates. Then they take them to the train station. They ship them with oranges they grow, too. They send them to far away places. By the time they get to where they are going, they turn yellow. There are people who buy them all over the world.

My mother says that lemons are great but not by themselves. She would like us to grow apples, but my father says that we can't do that, the weather is not right. But when he goes to the store he comes back with apples. Those apples grow in Washington state.

My mother says our kitchen has foods from many places. She likes to drink tea from China. She puts our lemons into it and some sugar. She says the sugar comes from Brazil. So there are three countries in that one cup.

*Directions: Choose the best answer for each question*

6. What are two places the father works?

- a. in the city and on the farm
- b. at the post office and in the grove
- c. in the house and at the office
- d. with the truck and with the lemons

7. What are two ways the lemons get to other places?

- a. by truck and by train
- b. by boat and by car
- c. in crates and in cars
- d. with oranges and with grapefruit

8. What are two ways to tell about the father's jobs?

- a. He drives and he plants.
- b. He picks and he packs.
- c. He picks and he delivers.
- d. He gives people lemonade and letters.

9. Which of these are all citrus?

- a. lemons, oranges, apples
- b. pineapples, apples, oranges
- c. oranges, lemons, fruit
- d. lemons, oranges, grapefruit

10. *Write your own answer to this question.*

How is growing lemons like growing oranges?

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**Answers:** *You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.*

Item	6	7	8	9
Answer	b	a	c	d

Question 10 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.

10. They both are citrus fruits. They both should be picked when they are green