

5.9 The Global System of Agriculture

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on the **global system of agriculture** 全球农业体系.

You must be able to:

- explain how food is now traded in global supply chains
- define **food export dependence** 粮食出口依赖
- explain **fair trade** 公平贸易
- state one benefit and one risk of global food trade

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Global supply chains

Food now moves through **global supply chains**: a crop grown in one country is processed in another and sold worldwide, linking distant producers and consumers.

■ Export dependence

Some countries rely heavily on exporting one or two farm commodities. This **export dependence** makes them vulnerable to world price swings.

■ Fair trade

Fair trade aims to pay producers in poorer countries a fairer, more stable price, improving their livelihoods.

2 Practice

2.1 Explain what a global food supply chain is.

[2]

2.2 Explain the risk of depending on one export crop. [2]

2.3 A cooperative sells coffee under a fair-trade label.

(a) State the aim of fair trade. [1]

(b) State one benefit to the farmers. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A country whose economy depends on exporting a single farm commodity is vulnerable to [1]

- **A** stable prices
 - **B** world price swings for that commodity
 - **C** too much crop diversity
 - **D** low transport costs
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3.2 Fair trade primarily aims to [1]

- **A** lower all food prices
 - **B** give producers in poorer countries a fairer price
 - **C** end global trade
 - **D** increase monoculture
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3.3 Fresh fruit in a winter supermarket was grown on another continent.

(a) State what this shows about the food system. [1]

(b) State one drawback of such long supply chains. [1]

4 Go further

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- work through the **5.9 The Global System of Agriculture** lesson on the **Learn** page;
 - read the **Agriculture and Rural Land-Use** section of the AP Human Geography handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 food is grown, processed, and sold across different countries, linking distant producers and consumers.

2.2 the economy relies on one commodity; a fall in its world price can badly hurt the country.

2.3 (a) to pay producers a fairer, more stable price. (b) higher/steadier income and better livelihoods.

3.1 B. reliance on one export exposes it to that crop's price swings.

3.2 B. fair trade secures a fairer price for producers.

3.3 (a) it is globalized —food travels far through global supply chains. (b) high transport emissions, spoilage risk, or dependence on distant producers.