


TRADE ROUTES.





HISTORY

This is the port of Veracruz, in Mexico. Ports are an important economic center in coastal areas. 

Is there an important port in your country? *Children's own answers.*

 **Look at the picture.**
What means of transportation do you see? *Ships and cars.*

1 Match and answer.

Places of production



corn field



jeans factory

Places of commerce



clothes store



food market

How do these products get there?

Possible answers: They go by truck, train, plane.

TRACK 1



2 Listen, read, and number.

Trade Routes

Trade routes are pathways used to transport products from places of production to places of commerce.

Roads (1), **rivers** (2), **ocean** (3), and **air** (4) are the different modes by which products can travel.



3



2



4



1



3 Listen, read, and complete.



Famous Routes in History

Combined land and waterway routes

Some routes combine transportation by land and water. A very famous example is the **Incense Route**, which linked the Mediterranean World to Africa, Arabia, and India. This route was a channel for trading mainly spices and incense.

Land routes

These routes are mostly on land. The **Silk Road** joined the Eastern and Western worlds, with the trade of silk and other products.

Maritime routes

These are mainly by sea. The **Spice Route** got its name from the transportation of spices (cinnamon, pepper, ginger) from Asia and Northern Africa to Europe.



This map shows a land route. This is one of the routes of the Silk Road.

GLOSSARY



cinnamon



ginger



incense



silk



pepper

4 Read the text again and answer.

1 Which products were transported using these routes? *Spices, incense, silk.*

2 Why were these products transported from one place to another?

Possible answer: They could not be produced everywhere.

TRACK 3



5 Listen, read, and match.

Routes and Cities

When trade routes are very busy, cities that are on these routes can grow bigger and new cities can be created. Commerce in these areas also increases and cultural exchanges happen. For example, people learn different languages and assimilate customs from distant regions.

Important places on a trade route tend to have a **bigger population**. Places that are isolated tend to have very **small populations**.

The environment around a major route changes, too. The landscape around cities with intense commerce is less natural and more man-made. Outside trade routes, the environment tends to be more natural as there is less impact from human activity.



Gjogv, Faroe Islands, Denmark.



Istanbul, Turkey.

a It is a city of 15 million inhabitants.

2

d It was on the Silk Road.

2

b It is a village of 49 inhabitants.

1

e The landscape is more natural.

1

c It connects to only one road.

1

f The landscape is more man-made.

2

TRACK 4



6 Listen, read, and answer.

Modern Routes

Nowadays, **railway routes**, **road networks**, **river and maritime routes** and **air transport** are the ways to transport people and products from one place to another.

This is how we have access to products made in other places. And this is part of a process called **globalization**.

Globalization is the integration and interaction among people around the world.



China's road network.

1 What is globalization? *It is the integration and interaction among people around the world.*

2 Give three examples of the effects of globalization on your life.

Possible answers: learning English, buying imported products, traveling abroad.



7 Do research. Choose one of the options. Then complete the chart with your notes.

- 1 Amber road
- 2 Pre-Colombian route
- 3 Salt route
- 4 Tea route
- 5 Trans-Saharan trade route

name	
time	
type of route	
cities on the route	
products	
curiosities	



8 Interview a classmate that chose another route. Then swap roles.

What do you like the most about your classmate's route?

Children's own answer.