

## Geography and Trade in South America

Many South American nations have found that working together results in greater economic opportunity. Partly this is because they face similar challenges and possibilities. A common factor influencing many of the region's economies is geography. South America's physical geography presents the region with both transportation barriers and transportation corridors.

**BARRIERS** - South America's transportation barriers have interfered with trade and contacts with other cultures. For example, Portuguese explorers had trouble penetrating the dense Amazon rain forest. Because of this, they built their settlements along the coastline. Today, rain forests and rugged regions such as the Andes still prevent easy travel across the continent.

**CORRIDORS** - South America also has transportation corridors, such as the Amazon River system. Before the Europeans arrived, Native Americans canoed along the Amazon and its tributaries. Today, oceangoing vessels enter the Amazon system on Brazil's north coast. They carry goods such as food, clothing, and tools. They bring back lumber, rubber, animal skins, Brazil nuts, and other raw materials for shipment overseas.



DAR Levels 7-9/10

Strategy: Ways to Learn Word Meanings

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Did the student have difficulty identifying important unknown words? Y or N

Explain:

What ways does the student use to learn word meanings?

- Dictionary
- Online dictionary
- Word processing program
- Thesaurus
- Glossary
- Ask somebody
- Guess based on context
- Guess based on word parts
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Did the student have difficulty identifying the appropriate meaning of the target word? Y or N

Explain:

<p><b>During this activity, the student seemed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Actively engaged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat engaged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Passively cooperative</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Not interested</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</li> </ul>	<p><b>Additional Comments:</b></p>
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