Name:	Date:
Name:	Date:

Formative Assessment: Commodities and Advantages

Instructions: In small groups, research 1 of the following commodities/economic resources and fill in the corresponding table using the "Coffee" example as guidance. Prepare to share your information so the class can fill in their blank sections.

Coffee (example from class)

Which nations have the comparative and/or absolute advantage?

Equatorial countries such as Columbia, Ethiopia, Brazil, and Sumatra

How do factors of production influence the advantages?

Land: A hot, humid climate and long growing seasons give these nations an advantage.

Labor: People with fewer skills can learn how to harvest coffee easily, while others can specialize in the finer methods of grading the coffee, storing it, or shipping it.

Capital: These nations build mills and machinery for harvesting, drying, and packaging coffee beans for transport. What would happen if a country lost its comparative advantage?

If other nations produced coffee beans, the amount of wealth generated from its production would drop in these producing nations.

How does trade benefit these countries?

These countries have a worldwide market to sell their goods, and other nations are able to access this relatively rare good. The good is in high demand, which can bring wealth to the producing nations.

Citations: A. J. Jacobs, "The Life Cycle of a Cup of Coffee," TED-Ed.

© 2025 Cato Institute

Electronics Manufacturing

Which nations have the comparative and/or absolute	How do factors of production influence the advantages?	What would happen if a country lost its comparative
advantage?	intuctice the davantages.	advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these countries?
		Countries:
	Capital:	
	odpitat.	

	T	I
Which nations have the	How do factors of production	What would happen if a
comparative and/or absolute	influence the advantages?	country lost its comparative
advantage?		advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these
		countries?
	Capital:	

Which nations have the	How do factors of production	What would happen if a
comparative and/or absolute	influence the advantages?	country lost its comparative
advantage?		advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these
		countries?
	Capital:	
	I and the second se	I control of the cont

Which nations have the	How do factors of production	What would happen if a
comparative and/or absolute	influence the advantages?	country lost its comparative
advantage?		advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these
		countries?
	Capital:	

Which nations have the	How do factors of production	What would happen if a
comparative and/or absolute	influence the advantages?	country lost its comparative
advantage?		advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these
		countries?
	Capital:	

Pharmaceuticals

Which nations have the	How do factors of production	What would happen if a
comparative and/or absolute	influence the advantages?	country lost its comparative
advantage?		advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these
		countries?
	Capital:	
	I and the second se	I control of the cont

Which nations have the	How do factors of production	What would happen if a
comparative and/or absolute	influence the advantages?	country lost its comparative
advantage?		advantage?
	Land:	
	Labor:	
		How does trade benefit these
		countries?
	Capital:	