

Year 8 Geography

We will continue to look at China, specifically this week at China's economy and the production capacity it has. The same as last week, try to complete all the work but if you don't – don't worry. Do what you can.

Activity 1:

Try to find three things in your home that are 'Made in China.' You will find this perhaps on a tag, a label or at the bottom of an appliance. Write these down in a list. Are they similar e.g. all technology or all clothing?

Activity 2:

Read through the below headlines and make a list of all the products and services that are mainly now 'Made in China.'

China will this year (2007) replace Germany as the world's second largest trader with US\$2.1 trillion in foreign trade and may overtake the world's largest trader, the United States, by 2010, says a senior Chinese researcher.

China's output of 70,000 buses last year accounted for 22.6 percent of the world's annual production and this indicated that the country was on the way to become a major bus manufacturing centre of the world.

"We have seen the Chinese pulp and paper industry grow from being really quite small, relatively insignificant in world terms, to being the second largest in the world, second only to the United States," he said. "So it is now an enormously significant user of forest resources.

Beijing, China - In an attempt to rival global companies in the car manufacturing industry, two of China's biggest carmakers, Shanghai Automotive Industries Corp. and Nanjing Automobile Corp. have agreed to form an alliance. The two firms have agreed to a "comprehensive cooperation" on design, production and sales of new cars, said Nanjing Auto in a statement.

China, which produced 123 million tons of steel in 1999, is already the world's largest producer of steel by a rapidly growing margin. By the end of 2000, this margin was roughly 20-30 million tons per year.

Chinese factories are flooding the world with cheap goods, everything from televisions and DVD players to bicycles and children's pyjamas. At a time when most of the global economy is on its knees, Chinese exports have rocketed by 20% so far this year, while its economy is expanding by nearly 8%.

Low wages and weak enforcement of environmental rules have attracted overseas manufacturers looking to produce leather goods, electronics, metal products, toys and other goods for export. With about 8,000 toy factories, China now stands as the world's largest toy manufacturer, producing 75% of world toys. It exports toys to more than 100 countries and regions. In 2002, China's toy exports were worth US\$9.9 billion. In 1996, China sold \$600 million worth of weapons to a variety of developing countries which made it the 5th largest exporter after the USA, the UK, France and Russia.

Activity 3

Problem 1: In the past, China has concentrated on making cheap copies of products but now it is looking to spend money on research and development. Read through this article and write a short paragraph that summarises what China is mainly doing to improve retail production.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/8353909.stm>

China has many large companies that are well known in China but now it wants to get its brand names known overseas. Look at the short BBC online news clip and use the example of Lenovo to explain why the Chinese want people to recognise their brands and how they are trying to achieve this aim. See if you can find out if Lenovo has become more popular in China since this clip was published in 2012.

Chinese computer manufacturer Lenovo fights to get its brand better known

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/technology-20608157/lenovo-quest-to-be-cool-in-china>

Activity 4:

Brainstorm the consequences of the current rapid industrialisation in terms of the sustainability i.e. what resources are needed and where do they all come from to make these products? This links in with the next lesson so have it ready.

Any questions – get in touch. Enjoy and stay safe.