

Made in China?
Exploring China's increasing economic influence in the United States.

Lesson Plan: The students will collect and analyze information concerning China's increasing influence as a trading partner with the United States.

Level/Class: These are middle school students of limited English in a year long geography class. Throughout each lesson, many examples and activities will be given to help them understand the content as well as translation of key concepts when needed.

Performance Standard: SS7E10

Time: This lesson will take one block period of 90-100 minutes.

Materials needed:

Classroom items , handouts, paper and pencils

Objectives:

TSW define import, export, trading partners, commodity, raw materials, finished products, supply and demand.

TSW compare China's major imports and exports.

TSW compare the data concerning China's major trading partners.

TSW give examples of how China is becoming more influential trading partner with the United States.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed informally on their participation in class discussions.

Students will be formally assessed on completion of assignments and answers to questions and quiz.

Procedure:

- A. As an introduction to the lesson, the students will be divided into two groups and given 5 minutes list as many classroom items which were made in China they can find. The group that collects the most items will when a bag of Japanese peanuts (made in China). The students will discuss the types of items they have found and how they are used.
- B. The students will define raw materials, finished products, trading partners, commodity, import, export, supply and demand and answer teacher questions concerning those terms.
- C. The students will list the major imports and exports of China and distinguish between raw resources and finished products. Students will draw conclusions based on the data they are given.
- D. The students will compare/contrast import/export data from 2004 and 2007. The students will discuss the trends they see in the data.
- E. The students will watch the Brainpop video on supply and demand. The students will discuss how supply and demand influences prices for goods and services. The students will discuss possible reasons as to why U.S. demand for products from China has risen over the past 3 years and what effect it has on our economy.

References:

<http://www.brainpop.com>

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/IB98014.pdf>

<http://www.census.gov/trade>



Made in China Scavenger Hunt and Vocabulary

Name:

Part 1: The class will be divided into two groups. The groups will be given 5 minutes to find and list Chinese products found in this classroom. The team with the most items listed will get a special prize. Remember that you are looking for products made in China (Hong Kong is also acceptable.)

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Part 2: In your notebook, define the following terms as they relate to economics.

1. raw materials:

2. finished products:

3. trading partners:

4. imports:

5. exports:

6. supply:

7. demand:

8. commodity:



Part 1: Use the tables below to answer the questions.

Major Chinese Imports, 2002-2004
(\$ billions)

Commodity	2002	2003	2004
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts: sound recorders and reproducers, television recorders and reproducers, parts and accessories.	26.4	41.9	61.4
Boilers, machinery, mechanical appliances and parts.	21.2	29.8	38.6
Crude oil	12.8	19.8	33.9
Plastics	17.4	21.0	28.1
Organic chemicals	11.2	16.0	23.8

Source: Global trade Atlas

Major Chinese Exports, 2002-2004
(\$ billions)

Commodity	2002	2003	2004
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts: sound recorders and reproducers, television recorders and reproducers, parts and accessories.	65.2	89.0	129.7
Boilers, machinery, mechanical appliances and parts.	50.9	83.4	118.3
Apparel	36.6	45.8	54.8
Furniture, bedding, lamps	9.9	12.9	17.3
Optical, photo and medical equipment	7.4	10.6	16.3

Source: Global trade Atlas

1. What raw materials did China import from 2002-2004? _____

2. Find the percentage change in imports from 2003 to 2004. Which import showed the greatest percentage increase? Why do you think that has happened? _____

3. How does China's increase in the importing of crude oil affect the United States? _____

4. Look closely at the first two rows of China's imports and exports. Why would China import and export the same commodities? _____



Part 1: View the Brainpop video on Supply and Demand.

Part 2: Take the Brainpop quiz. Quiz score: _____

Part 3: Examine the 2007 charts of the top 10 trading partners of the United States and answer the following questions.

Top 10 US Trading Partners Imports 2007
(\$ Billions)

Trading Partner	Total imports
Canada	312
Mexico	210
Japan	144
China	323
Germany	94
United Kingdom	56
Korea, South	45
Ireland	30
Saudi Arabia	35
Malaysia	32

Source: US Census Bureau

Top 10 US Trading Partners Exports 2007
(\$ Billions)

Trading Partner	Total exports
Canada	213
Mexico	119
Japan	58
China	61
Germany	44
United Kingdom	45
Belgium	22
Netherlands	30
Singapore	23
France	25

Source: US Census Bureau

1. From which country did the US import the most?
2. Does the United States import more from China or export more to China?
3. Why do you think there is such a great demand in the United States for Chinese products?
4. According to official Chinese trade data, the United States imported 169 billion dollars worth of goods from China in 2004. The table above reports the US as importing 323 billion dollars worth of goods in 2007. What is the percentage increase in imports from China from 2004 to 2007? What are the advantages and disadvantages of imported such a high volume of goods?
5. In what ways do you see China influencing the US economy?

