

Name _____

Class _____

Date _____



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SECTION 2 GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS GeoActivity

2.1 COMPARING COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA

Compare Economic Activity

A country's economy is divided into different sectors. The **primary sector** involves the production of raw materials. People who work in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and mining are part of this sector. The **secondary sector** is made up of people who manufacture or process goods, such as furniture or computers. The **tertiary sector** includes people who perform services, such as teachers and members of the government.

1. **Categorize** Write the correct economic sector for each of the exported goods and services in the charts below.

Major Costa Rican Exports, 2009

| PRODUCT | VALUE (U.S. dollars) | SECTOR |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Travel and tourism services | 1,798,700 | |
| Edible fruit and nuts | 1,005,742 | |
| Machinery | 956,656 | |
| Electronic equipment | 917,773 | |
| Computer and information services | 771,050 | |

Source: International Trade Centre

Major Nicaraguan Exports, 2009

| PRODUCT | VALUE (U.S. dollars) | SECTOR |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Travel and tourism services | 345,900 | |
| Coffee, tea, and spices | 328,826 | |
| Meat | 237,415 | |
| Dairy products, eggs, and honey | 128,735 | |
| Seafood | 108,658 | |

Source: International Trade Centre

2. **Compare and Contrast** In what ways does the Costa Rican economy differ from the Nicaraguan economy?

3. **Make Predictions** How do you think Costa Rica's GDP (gross domestic product) would compare to that of Nicaragua? Why?

4. **Make Inferences** What are some of the benefits of having a more diverse economy?

2.2 CHALLENGES IN HAITI

Compare Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Read the passage below. Then use this information and data from Section 2.2 in your textbook to answer the questions that follow.

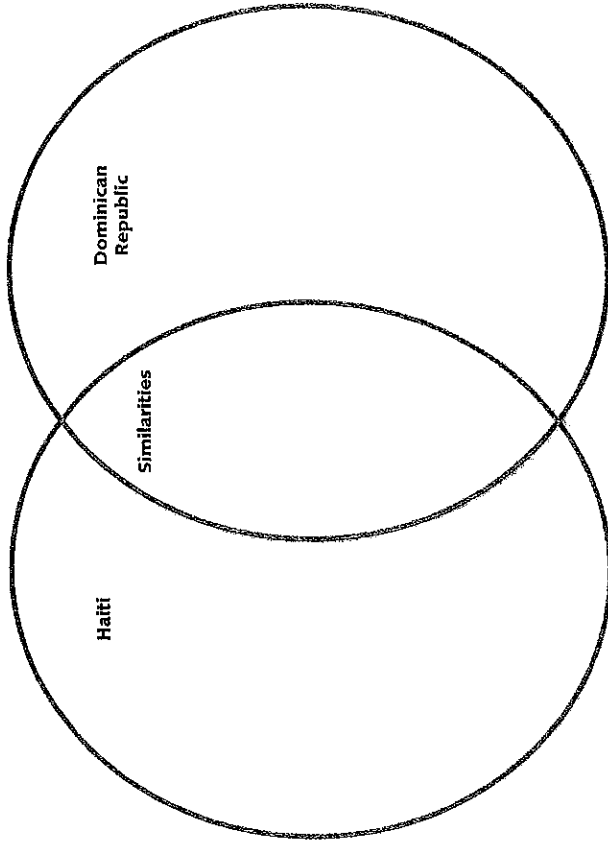
One Island, Two Countries

Haiti and the Dominican Republic are located on the island of Hispaniola. Both countries have had troubled histories, with periods of military rule and political conflict. In 1960, people in both countries lived under dictatorships and similar economic conditions. In recent decades, Haiti has experienced several periods of political instability. As a result, many international businesses have been unwilling or unable to invest there. Today, Haiti cannot grow enough food to feed its population, and the country is the poorest in the Western Hemisphere.

Poverty continues to be a major problem in the Dominican Republic as well, but the country's standard of living today is far greater than it is in Haiti. The GDP per capita in the Dominican Republic is more than six times that of Haiti. The country's political stability has been one of the major factors behind its economic growth. The Dominican government has entered into trade partnerships with other countries, and international companies now do business there. The country has recently had one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

1. Create a Venn Diagram Using the Venn diagram at right, compare Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Write differences in the parts of the circle that do not overlap, and similarities in the area that does overlap.

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2. Analyze Cause and Effect Why have foreign companies and governments been more willing to do business in the Dominican Republic than in Haiti?

3. Make Predictions What would need to happen if Haiti's economy was to grow like the economy in the Dominican Republic?