

Recall:

Think back to what you've learned so far about **international trade**.

Can you tell someone at home about it?

Can you include the words **import** and **export**?

How might these images be linked?



Possible answers:

Bananas can be bought in our local supermarkets. But they don't grow in Britain, so they have to be imported from other countries.



Bananas are imported to Britain. They arrive in shipping containers, then they're transported to shops.

Today we're going to learn about the journey of a banana



All will understand how bananas get to our supermarkets.

Most will investigate what happens to the money we pay for bananas .

Some will begin to explain the benefits and importance of fair trade.

Where do Bananas come from?

Do you know? Can you guess? Can you use the internet to find out?



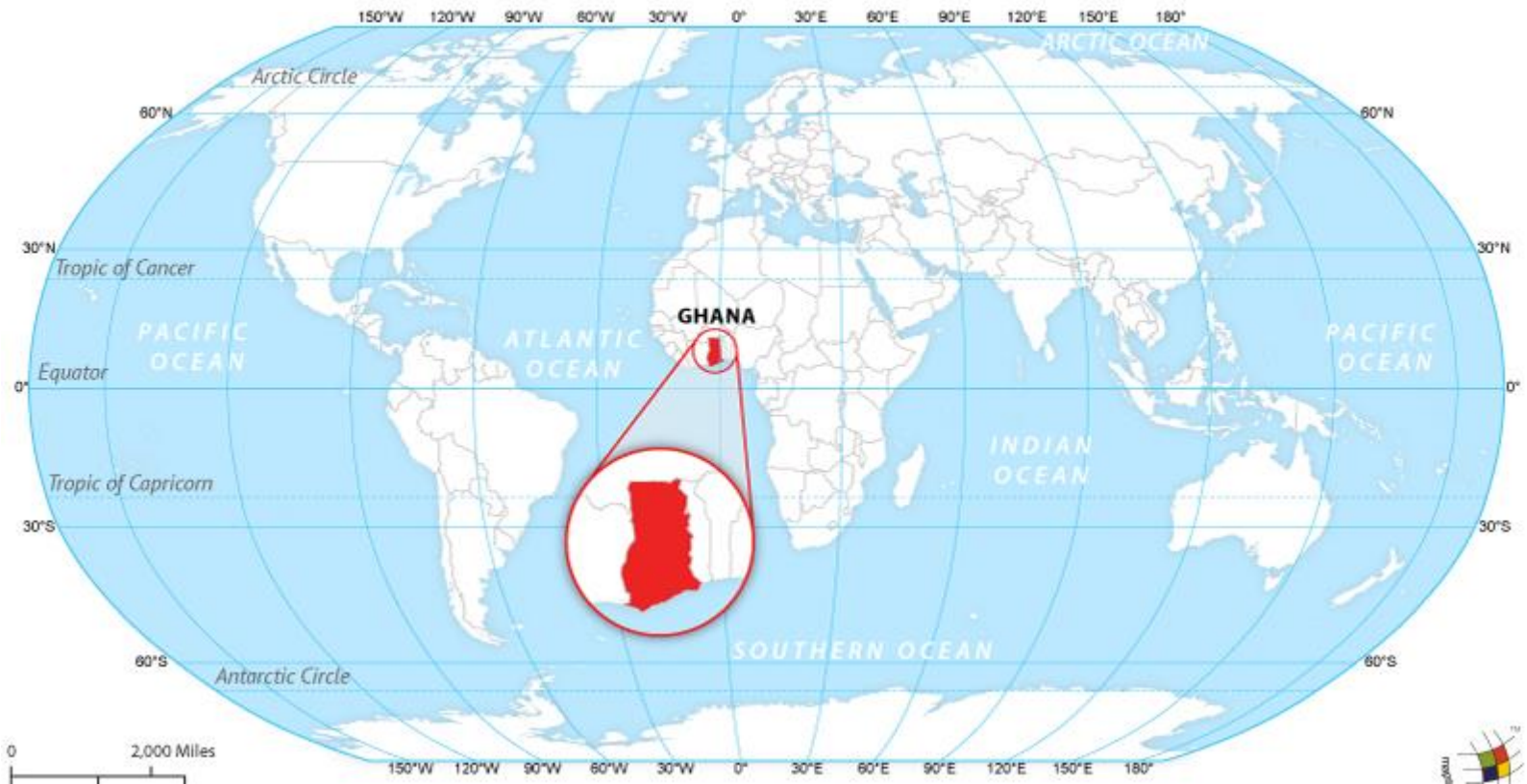
Where do Bananas come from?

Ghana, The Carribean, Columbia, Peru, Guatemala



These countries all have a hot and humid climate – perfect for growing bananas!

We are going to focus on banana production in Ghana.



How does a **banana** get from the tree in Ghana to your house?

Put these pictures into the correct order, showing how the bananas get from the tree to the shelf in the supermarket.



How does a **banana** get from the tree in Ghana to your house?

This is the correct order.



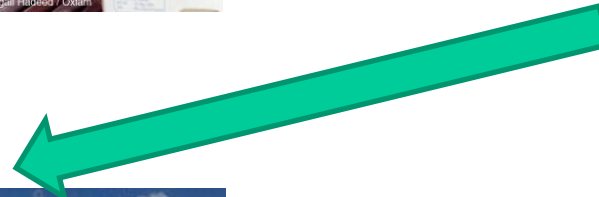
1: A plantation worker picks the bananas from the tree in Ghana



2: The plantation owner packages and prepares the bananas for export.



3: The bananas are packed into shipping containers and transported across the sea in huge trade ships.



VOCABULARY:
A **plantation** is a place where crops are grown on a massive scale – like a crop factory.



4: After they arrive at a port in the UK, they are packed into lorries and transported to supermarkets all over the country.



5: The bananas are sold at supermarkets.

Whenever you buy bananas, the money you pay is shared between all the people who have been involved in the banana's journey.

All of the people involved in producing bananas, exporting them, importing them, transporting them to supermarkets and selling them need to be paid.

Let's look more closely at these jobs. As you read through each one, think about how difficult their job is and how much they have to pay out.

Plantation Worker in Ghana

They work for 14 hours a day in very hot conditions.

They look after the bananas and cut them down when they are ripe.

They carry heavy loads of the bananas to the washing area.

They have poor working conditions.



Plantation Owner in Ghana

They provide all the tools and equipment for their workers.

They have to pay the wages of all their workers.

Each year they have to buy more fertiliser to keep the soil fertile and healthy, which can be expensive.



Importer (UK)

They have to buy massive warehouses to store the bananas when they arrive in the UK.

They have to pay companies to transport the bananas to and from where they want them.

They have to pay tax to the government for bringing the bananas into the country.



Shipper (UK)

They have to buy very expensive cargo ships and maintain them.

They have to pay shipyards to dock their ships there.

They must buy massive refrigerators to keep the bananas from ripening early.

They must buy fuel for their ships.



The Supermarket

They have to pay people to stack the shelves and serve on the tills.

They have to buy lorries to move the products.

They pay electricity for their shops as well as pay for carrier bags and tools.

They have to make a profit on what they sell.



Which job do you think is most important? Which is most difficult ?

Discuss this with someone at home. Can you explain your opinions?

Plantation
worker

Plantation
owner

Importer

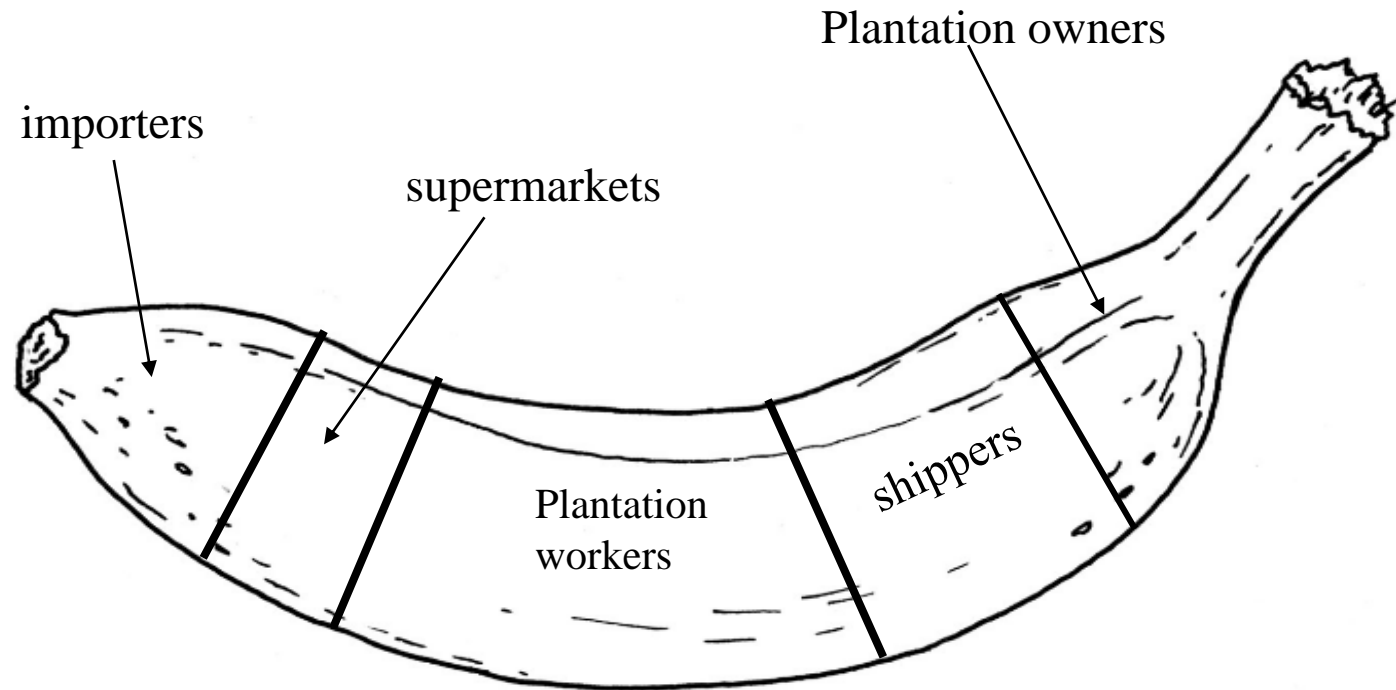
Shipper

Supermarkets

Imagine a bunch of bananas costs £1. How much of the £1 do you think they should each get?

Look at the top section of the sheet. Split the banana picture into 5 sections of different sizes to show how you think the £1 should be shared between the different groups involved in the banana's journey.

Here's an example:



The biggest section is plantation workers, which means I think they should get most of the money. The smallest section is supermarkets, which means I think they should get the least.

On the next page, you will see how much each group actually gets.

This is how much they actually get. Split the banana on the second part of the sheet to show this.

Plantation Worker	1p
Plantation owner	5p
Shipper	15p
Importer	35p
Supermarket	44p

Even though the bananas are grown in Ghana, and even though the workers on the plantations work so hard for so little money, only 6p of every pound goes to Ghana. The other 94p goes to people in the UK.

Ghana is a less economically developed country. This means that it is a poor country.

The UK is a more economically developed country. This means that it is a richer country.



Does this seem fair to you?

What is your opinion?

Can you explain your reasons?

A lot of people around the world think this is very unfair.

To try to make the way the money is shared more fair, there is a scheme called Fair Trade.

This is the Fair Trade logo:



Whenever you see this logo on a product you buy, it means the money you spend on that product is shared more fairly. More of the money goes to the poorer country where the product is produced. That money is used to pay the workers, improve their working conditions and buy things for local communities.



- In the next lesson, we will look at a case study of how Fair Trade has improved a community in St Vincent (in the Caribbean).