



Name _____

Connected Planet

Directions: Read the passage below about globalization. Then, answer the questions that follow. Use complete sentences for each answer.

The Web of Globalization

When people talk about globalization, they are describing how the world has become more connected through trade, communication, and shared ideas. Hundreds of years ago, trade took months as goods traveled slowly by ship or caravan. Today, products move between countries in days or even hours thanks to airplanes, cargo ships, and digital orders. Technology has made this web of exchange faster and stronger.

The internet has played one of the biggest roles in globalization. A student in Brazil can learn from teachers in Japan, and a designer in Kenya can sell artwork to someone in Canada—all through online platforms. Businesses use digital tools to share data and work together, even when their employees live thousands of miles apart. This constant connection has made the world feel smaller and more immediate.

However, globalization also creates challenges. When goods are made in one country and sold in another, local workers may face competition from cheaper labor abroad. Environmental issues can arise as factories increase production to meet global demand. Still, many believe that cooperation among nations can help solve these problems while keeping the benefits of global trade and technology.

1. What does the term *globalization* mean based on the passage?
2. According to the passage, how has technology changed trade and communication?
3. Give one example from the passage that shows how the internet connects people across countries.
4. What is one challenge or negative effect of globalization mentioned in the text?
5. What is one possible solution to the problems created by globalization?
6. Infer: Why do you think the author says globalization makes the world feel "smaller"?
7. In your opinion, do the benefits of globalization outweigh the challenges? Explain your reasoning.