



Trade Trackers

Directions: Read the three short global news summaries below. Then answer the comprehension questions that follow each one. Use details from the summaries to explain your answers clearly.

Leaders from several countries in Asia recently agreed on a new trade deal that focuses on digital goods and online services. The goal is to make it easier for businesses to sell software, music, and online education across borders. Supporters say this helps smaller companies reach global customers, while critics worry about online security and fair competition.

1. What is the main focus of the new trade deal?
2. Why do supporters believe this deal is helpful?
3. What is one concern that critics have?

A country in Africa has launched a massive project to build solar farms that can power thousands of homes and schools. The government hopes this project will reduce the need for imported fuel and help the environment. Local workers are being trained to install and maintain the technology, which is expected to create many new jobs.

4. What type of technology is being used in this project?
5. How does the project benefit both people and the planet?
6. What new opportunities are being created for local workers?

A new underwater tunnel has opened between two major ports in Europe, cutting shipping times nearly in half. This improvement allows goods such as food, clothing, and electronics to move faster across the continent. However, some experts warn that increased trade might also increase pollution if cleaner shipping methods aren't used.

7. What effect does the new tunnel have on trade?
8. What types of goods are mentioned in the article?
9. What environmental issue do experts warn about?