

# PAIRED TEXTS

## Our Economy

Have you ever wanted a special dessert or a new outfit, but your parents told you "no" because it wasn't something you needed? While clothing and food are considered needs because we must have them to survive, there is a difference between basic needs and luxuries. People *need* food that provides vitamins and minerals for energy. Dessert is not a healthy food. People also need clothes for protection from sun, wind, rain, and cold. Although it would be nice to have a closet full of clothes, it is not necessary. Those would be considered *wants*, just like a new video game or a pet would be. All of these physical items that we can buy when we want or need them are called goods.

Something else a person might pay for to fulfill wants and needs are services. Services are activities that someone performs for money, such as washing cars, babysitting, fighting fires, and teaching. A doctor performs a service that people need: helping to keep people healthy. A waitress performs a service that people want: delivering food and drinks to the table.



The people who create or sell goods and services are called producers. Sometimes producers create goods from raw materials<sup>1</sup>. This is called manufacturing. Producers can even create items from manufactured goods. For example, computers are built from manufactured electronics and plastics. When a company uses manufactured items to create a new product, this is called production. Most companies today use factories to produce their goods because items can be built faster. Occasionally, producers provide services and goods. A farmer plants and harvests (services), and sells food he grew (goods).

The people who pay for these goods and services are called consumers. And guess what? Those consumers are usually producers, too! After all, how did they get money to buy their goods and services? Our economy forms a cycle of production and consumption. People produce to earn money to buy other goods and services.

<sup>1</sup>raw materials: natural items from the earth

## Red Bicycle

Jennifer fell in love with the red bicycle the minute she saw it. She could imagine herself putting flowers in the basket that was attached to the front. She looked at her dad with pleading eyes, "Dad, please! It's so perfect, and it's everything I have ever wanted!"



Her dad smiled. "Everything you've ever wanted, huh?" He put his hand on his chin, as though he was thinking hard. "I'll tell you what. If you can save the money to pay for half of it..."

We have been working through these paired texts and the kids love reading and learning about things they weren't aware of. The questions bring up great discussions and sometimes even research opportunities too! Great resource!

As Jennifer was talking to her dad, she had babysat last Friday! She said she'd done such a great job, she hoped she could come back again next Friday. Jennifer was so excited when she hung up the phone, she jumped up and down! This was the last bit of money that she needed! She could almost feel the wind blowing through her hair as she imagined herself on that red bicycle. She couldn't wait to tell her dad! He was going to be so proud!

# WAYS TO USE THIS RESOURCE:

whole group or small  
group modeling

read and annotate the  
texts together, then  
provide the questions  
for comprehension  
check, allowing  
students to use the  
annotated passages

completely independent  
practice for students  
reading above 4th-5th  
grade level

## OUR ECONOMY

Have you ever wanted a special dessert or a new outfit, but your parents told you "no" because it wasn't something you needed? Things like clothing and food are considered needs because we must have them to survive. There is a difference between basic needs and luxuries, though. People **need** healthy food for energy. Dessert is not a healthy food. People also need clothes for protection from sun, wind, rain, and cold. Although it would be nice to have a closet full of clothes, it is not necessary. Those would be considered wants. New video games or a pet would also be wants. All of these items that we can buy when we want or need them are called goods.

Services also help people get what they want or need. Services are activities that someone performs for money. Examples of services are washing cars, babysitting, fighting fires, and teaching. A doctor performs a service that people need. They help keep people healthy. A waitress performs a service that people want. They bring food and drinks to the table.

The people who create or sell goods and services are called producers. Sometimes producers create goods from **raw materials**. This is called manufacturing. Producers can even create items from manufactured goods. For example, computers are built from manufactured electronics and plastics. When a company uses manufactured items to create a new product, this is called production. Factories help companies produce products quicker than ever before. Sometimes, producers provide both services and goods. A farmer plants and harvests (services), and sells food he grew (goods).

The people who pay for goods and services are called consumers. And guess what? Those consumers are usually producers, too! After all, how did they get money to buy their goods and services? Our economy forms a cycle of production and consumption. People produce to earn money to buy other goods and services!



Raw materials: natural items from the earth.

## RED BICYCLE



Jennifer fell in love with the red bicycle the minute she saw it. She could imagine herself putting flowers in the basket on the front of the bike. She looked at her dad, and said, "Dad, please! It's so perfect! It's all I ever wanted!"

Her dad smiled. "All you ever wanted, huh?" He put his hand on his chin. He was thinking hard. "I'll tell you what. If you can save the money to pay for half of this red bicycle, I'll pay for the other half."

Jennifer did some quick math in her head. "But Dad! That's almost \$100!"

"Well, it sounds like you need to find a way to earn some money!" Jennifer's dad winked at her.

As soon as she got home, Jennifer started to make a plan. She began by thinking of all the things she could do to earn money in her neighborhood. She made a list: walk dogs, wash cars, and babysit. She made flyers on her computer to advertise all of the things she could do. After Jennifer printed the flyers, she handed them out to her neighbors.

It wasn't long before she started getting customers. She even lined up a babysitting job for Friday night! After only one week of work, she earned \$75! But she still needed more to reach her goal.

As Jennifer sat planning, the phone rang. It was the mother of the little girl she had babysat last Friday! She said she'd done such a great job, she hoped she could come back again next Friday. Jennifer was so excited when she hung up the phone, she jumped up and down! This was the last bit of money that she needed! She could almost feel the wind blowing through her hair as she imagined herself on that red bicycle. She couldn't wait to tell her dad! He was going to be so proud!

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Use both texts to answer the following questions.

1. Which sentence **best** summarizes **Red Bicycle**?

- Jennifer was a great babysitter.
- Jennifer wanted a new bicycle, so she earned extra money to buy it.
- Jennifer asked her dad to buy a new bicycle.
- Jennifer loved the red bicycle with the basket on the front.

2. Why do most companies today produce goods in factories?

- It creates more jobs for people to work in factories.
- People don't know how to make goods by hand anymore.
- There aren't enough raw materials to produce goods without factories.
- Factories help companies produce more goods faster.

3. In paragraph 3 of **Our Economy**, what does the word **manufactured** mean?

- grew
- consumer
- created
- wanted

4. Based on the definition of needs in **Our Economy**, which of the following would be a need?

- pet
- vegetables
- bicycle
- ice cream

5. Which of the following would represent a producer providing a service to fulfill people's wants?

- chef
- doctor
- police officer
- freightliner

6. How would you describe Jennifer's character in **Red Bicycle**?

- spoiled
- determined
- bored
- foolish

7. What can the reader conclude after reading **Our Economy**?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Support your answer to the question with evidence from both texts.  
**Explain how Jennifer was a producer and a consumer.**






two styles of articles:  
2-column and full page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Support your answer to the question with evidence from both texts.

Explain how Jennifer was a producer and a consumer.



# TWO LEVELS PROVIDED OF EVERY PASSAGE

on grade level for 4<sup>th</sup>

AND

on grade level for 5<sup>th</sup>

discreet symbols on the  
passages to denote the  
level of passage

the same questions can  
be answered no matter  
the level given

Sometimes producer  
Producers can even  
are built from many  
manufactured items  
today use factors  
Occasionally, products  
(services), and  
The people who  
guess what? They  
money to buy  
and consume  
<sup>1</sup>raw materials

Sometimes producer  
Producers can even  
are built from many  
manufactured items  
companies produce  
both services and  
grew (goods).  
The people who  
Those consumers  
their goods and  
People produce  
<sup>1</sup>raw materials:

- can?
- a. grew
  - b. consumer
  - c. created
  - d. wanted

5. Which of the following  
represent a producer  
service to fulfill people's  
needs?
- a. chef
  - b. doctor
  - c. police officer
  - d. firefighter

7. What can the reader conclude?
- a. All producers that perform  
services are also producers of  
goods.
  - b. Most goods fulfill people's  
needs.
  - c. Most consumers are also  
producers.
  - d. All services performed are  
by producers.





# BUY THE BUNDLE & SAVE!

The bundle includes 39 pairs of passages and their corresponding questions -- more than a year at your fingertips!

I ended up buying this bundle because each of your paired texts resources are so wonderful! I wanted them all! A Must Have ELA resource!

check  
it out!

[illegible]

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