

VII.11

When everything is connected

Globalisation and its impact on people

Jan Hinrichs, Melsungen

Illustrationen von Julia Lenzmann



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Viele Menschen verbinden mit dem Begriff „Globalisierung“ etwas Negatives: der Job, der ins Ausland verlagert wird, oder die Menschen, die in einer immer enger zusammenwachsenden Welt plötzlich zu Konkurrenten auf dem Arbeitsmarkt werden. Die Vorteile der Globalisierung werden dabei häufig verschwiegen: die Erdbeeren, die auch im Winter in den Supermarktregalen stehen, oder der günstig in Fernost produzierte Elektroartikel sind zu Selbstverständlichkeiten geworden. Um sich selbst eine differenzierte Meinung zum Thema „Globalisierung“ bilden zu können, nähern sich Ihre Schüler in dieser Unterrichtseinheit dem Begriff. Unterstützt wird das globale Verständnis durch abwechslungsreiche Materialien wie Texte, Hörbeiträge, Grafiken und Cartoons.

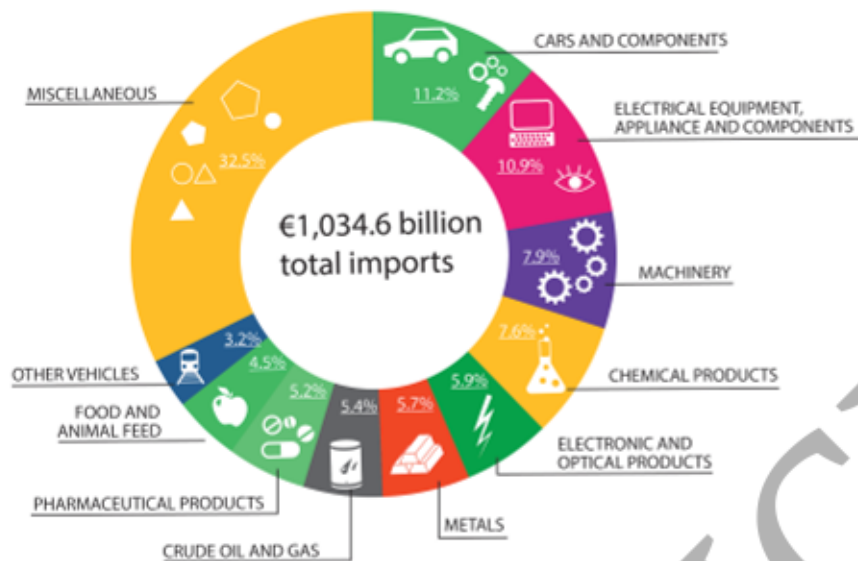
KOMPETENZPROFIL

Niveau:	B1 bis B2 mit entsprechenden Differenzierungsmöglichkeiten
Dauer:	6 Unterrichtsstunden (+Test)
Kompetenzen:	1. Lese- und Hörverstehen: differenzierte Auseinandersetzung mit dem Thema Globalisierung; 2. Textproduktion: korrekte Verwendung diverser Operatoren; 3. Eigene Fehler erkennen und korrigieren; 4. Mediation
Thematische Bereiche:	Globalisierung
Medien:	Lese- und Hörtexte, Grafik, Cartoon, Fotos
Zusatzmaterialien:	Hörtexte, Schaubilder, Cartoon

Germany's imports and exports – overview

M 2

GERMAN IMPORTS IN 2017 (GOODS)



Source: Federal Statistical Office (Destatis); Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi)

GERMAN EXPORTS IN 2017 (GOODS)



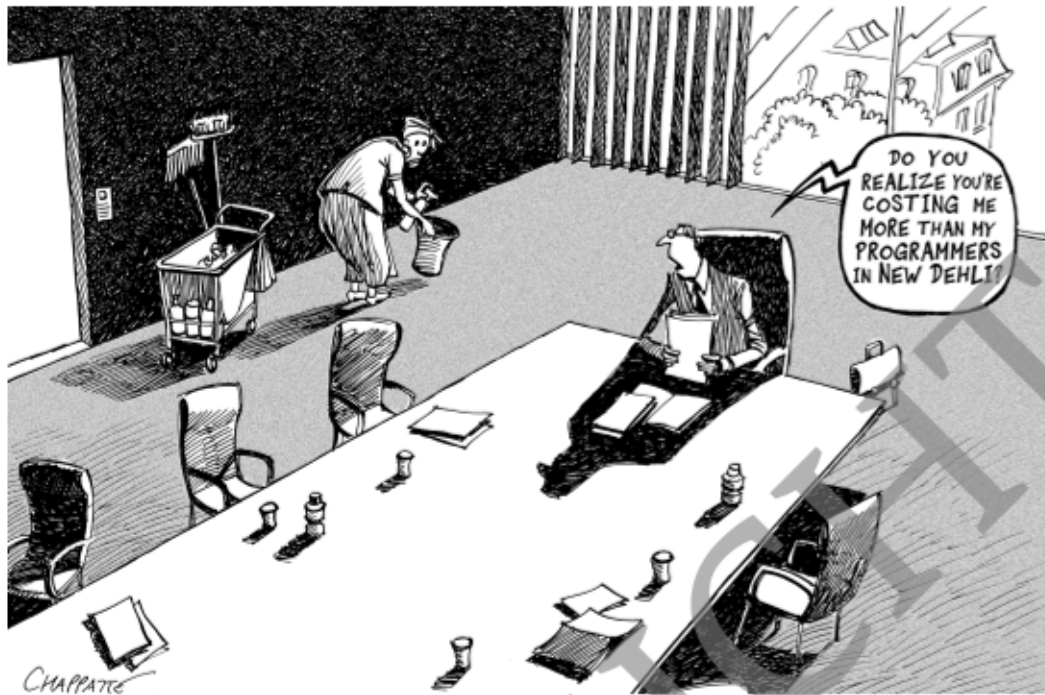
Source: Federal Statistical Office (Destatis); Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi)

Tasks

1. Depict the main differences between Germany's imports and exports by comparing what kind of products the country exports and what it imports. Are there products that are only imported or exported?
2. Explain the reason for these differences. Think about what natural resources Germany has and does not have.

M 3

Outsourcing – a cartoon



Patrick Chappatte, Le Temps, Suisse, www.globecartoon.com

Task

Describe the cartoon and interpret what the author wants to express. The questions below might help you.

Here are some questions to consider:

- Who is the man in the middle of the picture?
- Who is the woman on the right?
- What are the people in the picture doing?
- Where are the people? What kind of room is it?
- What is the man saying to the woman? Why?
- Who are the programmers in New Delhi, India?
- What do you know about their wages?
- Why is no one else sitting at the table?
- Is the man waiting for other people?
- What has all this to do with outsourcing?



Task 2: Mediation

Translate the text below freely into German.

Let's be fair about trade

We are told that low trade barriers¹ is a good thing, but for many people it is not. They still live in great poverty.

"Always low prices" promises Walmart, America's and the world's largest retailer. Consumers in industrialised countries benefit from this, and so sales² rise. Nevertheless, the big retailers do not cut their own profits to reduce prices. They rather pass on those low prices to their suppliers, who outsourced their production to low-wage countries with bad working conditions and low environmental standards long ago. Those manufacturers are forced into competition with each other globally to be the cheapest. So they pass on the cost pressure to their workers.

It happens all over the world because in the era of globalisation most producers are connected to each other. The results are the opposite of freedom. "We used to be well-paid for meeting our targets", Chandrika, a Sri Lankan garment worker reports. "But now the targets are so high we just cannot meet them."

The only way out of this dilemma is to make consumers pay more and to strengthen workers' rights, especially in developing countries.

1 trade barriers: Handelsbeschränkungen – 2 sales: Verkaufszahlen

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Task 3: Writing

- Describe the first picture and interpret its message concerning the issue of globalisation and its consequences for garment workers in developing countries.
- Have a look at the second picture. Discuss if the price charged for a T-shirt (€29) is adequate.

Picture 1



Picture 2



Source: Fairwear Foundation/www.cleanclothes.org

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