

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Using proportional flow-line maps to visualise trade patterns and flows

- Describe the main characteristics of the pattern of international trade for a country or region
- Understand proportional flow-lines and be able to draw them
- Be able to calculate a country's net balance of trade using flow-line maps

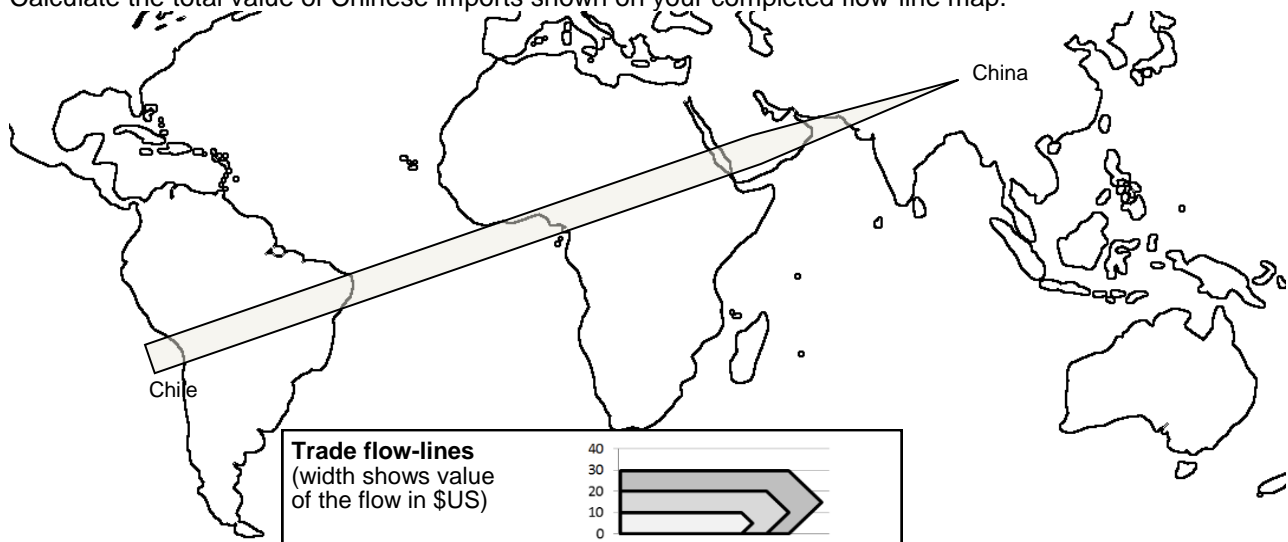
The table below shows some of the world's highest value trade flows in natural resources.

- 1 Your first task is to describe the characteristics of these flows. Remember that this involves more than just producing a list of numbers. For instance, you could calculate the range of values as part of your answer.
- 2 In addition to trade in natural resources, what other types of trade are there?

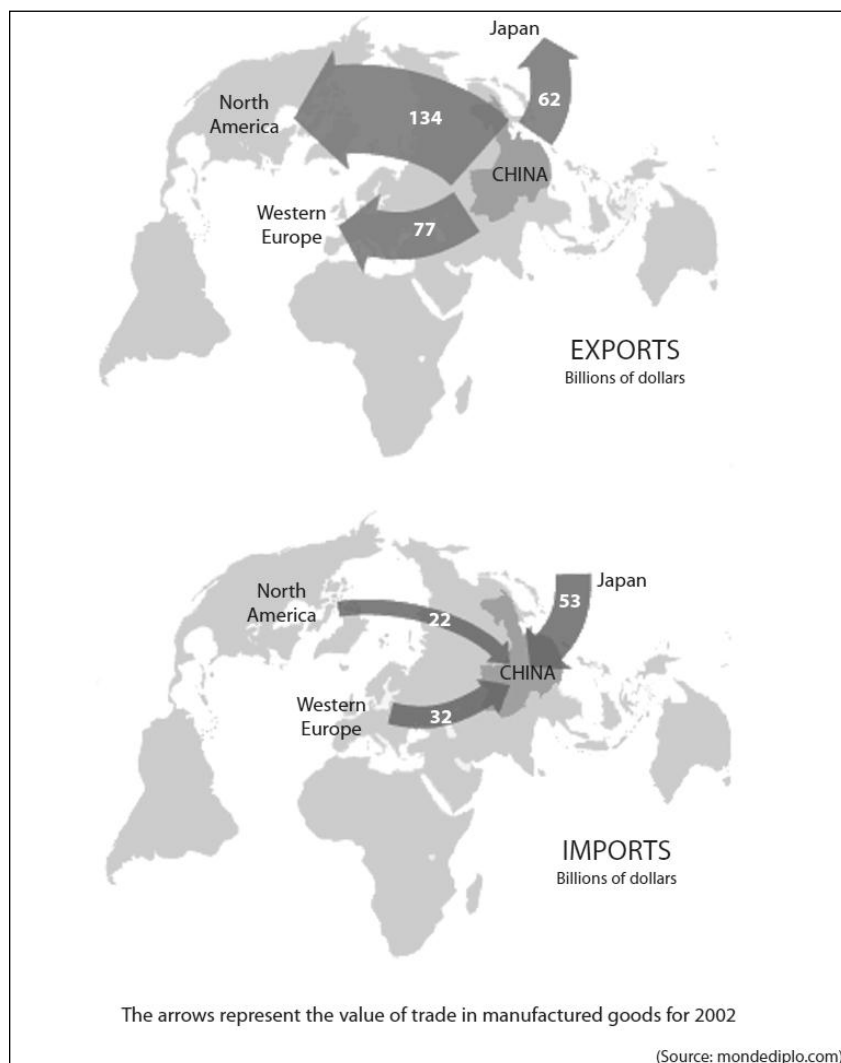
The four largest bilateral trade flows for agricultural produce (2012)			
Type of trade	Exporting country or region	Importing country or region	Value (US\$ billion)
Soybeans	United States	China	11.6
Soybeans	Brazil	China	7.9
Soybeans	Brazil	European Union	5.9
Wine and beer	European Union	United States	5.0
The four largest bilateral trade flows for metals and ores (2012)			
Type of trade	Exporting country or region	Importing country or region	Value (US\$ billion)
Iron ore	Australia	China	30.5
Copper	Chile	China	14.9
Gold	Switzerland	India	14.6
Iron ore	Brazil	China	13.6

Source: 2012, <http://data.worldbank.org/topic/trade>, The World Bank

- 3 Next, draw proportional flow-lines on the world map (below) to show the trade pattern for China using the table above. An example has already been drawn for you showing trade in copper between Chile and China. The width of the arrow is directly proportional to the value of the flow (measured in US\$). Use an atlas to help you locate the countries shown in the table and label them.
- 4 Calculate the total value of Chinese imports shown on your completed flow-line map.



- 5 The graph below shows the pattern of trade imports and exports in manufactured goods for China in 2013. A different map projection has been used. Can you identify the location of the world's major continents? What are the advantages of using this map projection?
- 6 Using the data shown, calculate the net balance of trade (the difference between exports and imports) for:
- trade between China and the USA in 2013
 - trade between China and Japan in 2013.
- 7 What does this tell you about China's involvement in world trade in 2013?
- 8 Try to suggest answers for the following questions.
- Why is a manufacturing nation like China also importing manufactured goods from other places?
 - What does china's need to import some manufactured goods tell you about its level of development?



I can...

- describe international trade patterns
- use and draw proportional flow-line maps
- calculate the net balance of trade.