

Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Activities

Chapter 14: Economic Activities Around Us · Topic 1

Key Concept

Primary activities involve extracting or gathering natural resources, like farming, fishing, mining, and forestry, forming the base of the economy.

Secondary activities involve transforming raw materials into finished products, like manufacturing cars, clothes, or furniture in factories.

Tertiary activities involve providing services rather than making physical products, like teaching, healthcare, banking, and transportation.

As economies develop, they often shift more towards tertiary activities, though all three sectors remain interconnected and essential for a functioning economy.

Quick Revision Notes

- Primary activities extract raw materials, like farming and mining.
- Secondary activities transform raw materials into products.
- Manufacturing cars or furniture is a secondary activity.
- Tertiary activities provide services, not physical products.
- Teaching, healthcare and banking are tertiary activities.
- Economies often shift towards tertiary activities as they develop.
- All three sectors are interconnected.
- All three sectors are essential for the economy.

Practice Questions

- 1 Classify five jobs into primary, secondary or tertiary activities.
- 2 Discuss an example of a primary activity in your area.
- 3 Discuss an example of a secondary activity in your area.
- 4 Discuss an example of a tertiary activity in your area.
- 5 Explain how the three sectors are connected using an example.
- 6 Research how your region's economy has changed over time.