

Due: FRIDAY  
MARCH 4!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT: THE GLOBALIZATION OF AGRICULTURE

### ACTIVITY 2: GLOBAL SOURCES FOR YOUR LOCAL SUPERMARKET

Hundreds of years ago, the vast majority of people ate food they grew, gathered, or caught by themselves or bartered with others in the community. In many places, especially in less-developed countries, this is still true today, but increasingly our food comes from faraway places. But don't take our word for it—go see for yourself.

Here in Activity 2, we ask you to do a little field research while shopping at your local supermarket, and while we're at it, we just might get you to try a new taste! Your assignment is to browse the aisles and look for products that were imported from a country other than the United States and Canada.

Some foods may be imported because the environmental conditions to grow them do not exist in the United States and especially Canada! Others, however, are imported for economic or cultural reasons. Furthermore, it used to be that only nonperishable, packaged food products were imported because perishable products could not survive the lengthy journey. Nowadays, however, cheap and fast long-distance transportation delivers perishable foods to your supermarket while they are still relatively fresh. For this reason, we ask you to find both perishable and packaged imports, some of which have domestic competitors (produced in the United States or Canada), and some of which don't.

**Important:** Questions 2.1 and 2.2 involve a task to be done at your local supermarket, such as browsing the aisles recording data (2.1). *Make sure that you have dealt with these questions before you leave the market. Questions 2.3 and 2.4 can be answered at home.*

2.1. In the following table, list four perishable food products and four packaged food products that were imported from outside the United States and Canada. Perishable products include fruit, vegetables, baked goods, meat, or dairy. Packaged goods may be boxed, bagged, canned, bottled, or contained in any other long-term packaging. Record brand names if any are given, as well as the name of the importer, if different. Also give the name of a similar domestic product, if any are available, and the comparable unit prices (per ounce or per pound).

Product	Country of Origin	Imported Product		Domestic Equivalent	
		Brand Name (if any)	Unit price per ____	Brand Name (if any)	Unit price per ____
Perishable Product (4)					
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
Nonperishable Product (4)					
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					

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2.3. For the imported products that have domestic competitors, speculate as to why people would buy the imported version over the domestic version. Use any clues that you may find (price, label, advertising, season, or quality).

2.4. For the imported products that do not have domestic competitors, speculate as to why not.