

International division of labour a whole country specialises to create a specific and limited range

- Zambia - copper
- Congo - cobalt
- UK - finance
- Bangladesh - textiles
- UK - healthcare
- Brazil - Coffee
- Saudi Arabia - Oil

Primary product dependant countries are where a country is dependant on a natural resources such as land/crops/ores etc

Absolute advantage is if a country is better at making two (or more) goods than another country

- occurs when a country can produce a product using fewer factors of production than another nation

Comparative advantage even if one country is better than making two goods than another country, they can both still benefit from trade if they specialise in what they are comparatively best at (have the lowest opportunity cost in)

x	Mobile phones	Televisions
UK	100	50
US	50	20

World	150	70

Eg to make one more mobile phone in the UK you sacrifice 0.5 TVs

For US one more mobile phone will sacrifice 0.4 TVs

As the US has lower opportunity cost to make TVs, the US should make TVs and the UK phones

Limitations of the comparative advantage theory

- Assumes equal negotiating power between both nations
- “monopsony power” + Primary product dependency
- Transportation costs do not exist
- Factor immobility - occupational immobility - labour/capital - lack skilled areas (theory assumes learning new occupation is instant)
- Assumes no barriers to trades, however there are trading blocks and tariffs
- Assumes constant returns to scale
- Assumes perfect knowledge, which there is not in the real world
- The rates of inflation are ignored
- doesn't take into account non-price competitiveness

- does take into account exchange rates
- R&D investments are ignored

Brazil is the 9th largest economy in the world and they did it with **protectionism**, they refused to export goods when they were growing, which encouraged western companies to build infrastructure, companies and plantations in Brazil in order to get the produce, which grew their economy.

vertical restraint is when a supplier helps you and then you are restrained, eg if Coca-Cola gives a news agent a fridge with huge Coca-Cola logo on it and says they are not allowed to sell Pepsi

Specialisation

Advantages: - Increase productivity and efficiency - Possible improvement in current account - Government spending can be directed into specific areas - Exploit economies of scale

Disadvantage: - Over reliant on one good/service - risk of structural unemployment if the output of the sector fails - specialisation could be in a good/service that is bottom of the value chain (Primary product dependency)