



Micro lesson 3:- Specialization

How many of the following do you think you could do?

- Program a Linux Server
- Design a building
- Win the London Marathon
- Do brain surgery
- Excavate an Egyptian pyramid
- Profit from the stock market



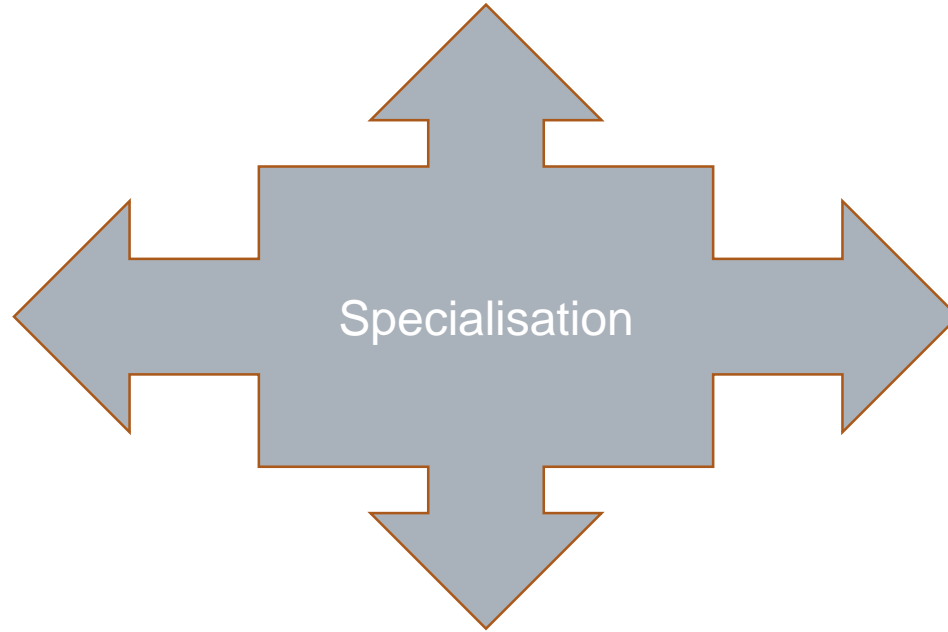
We can't
be experts
at
everything!



Specialisation definition (write this down)

- **This means the concentration by workers, firms, areas or countries on a particular task or a narrow range of products.**
- **It is when we concentrate on a task or**

Specialisation



- Think of examples of specialisation (firms or countries)

A Car

- How many specialist roles are involved in making a car?




A Car

- Designers
- Testers
- Marketing
- Assembly line
- Sales



Specialization happens at all levels of economic activity

- Small scale – tasks split between a family
 - Businesses- split up jobs e.g. in manufacturing chain
 - Large scale- Countries- different countries are good at making different things
- e.g. Bangladesh is a major exporter of textiles (they then trade)
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What do you think the benefits of
specialization are?

What do you think the benefits of specialization are?

- Workers become very practiced at their job- they can therefore produce more
- Countries can trade goods they produce for goods other countries produce (it means they don't have to be good at everything)
- Helps prices of goods stay low- because the cost of producing the good stays low (as workers are producing lots)

Lets check your understanding

- In Madagascar rice yields per hectare increased between 2000 and 2010 without the use of chemicals. This was the result of a new technique called the System of Rice. It involves them being planted earlier, individually and not continually in water. It was developed by Henri De Laudani, an agriculture specialist who drew on the experience of the country's farmers. (4)
- a) Identify two benefits of being able to increase rice yields without the use of chemicals'. (4)
- b) Why are countries which have specialised in a product for some time likely to develop new techniques? (4)



Can you think of any disadvantages of
specialization?

Can you think of any disadvantages of specialization?

- Work can become repetitive and boring, meaning workers may actually produce less.
- This may lead to lots of people leaving their jobs (higher worker turnover) – therefore it may cost businesses lots in training.

Lets check your understanding

- Tobacco is Zimbabwe's largest export, around 30% of export earnings. In 2001 production was disrupted by war veteran invasions, farmer evictions and

- a) Identify another factor that could disrupt the production of tobacco (2)

b) Discuss one factor that could disrupt the production of tobacco (2)



Extension

- [Watch this video to recap specialization](#)
- [Look at division of labour- What is the difference between specialization and division of labour?](#)
- <https://www.tutor2u.net/economics/reference/specialisation>