Stages of Development Activity

Directions: For each country describe whether you think the country is a core, periphery, or semi-periphery country and what stage of development it is currently undergoing. In 2-3 sentences (for each country) explain your reasoning. For fun try to guess the country that is being talked about.

Country 1: R/W:

This former Soviet Republic still largely depends on its neighbor Russia for most of its trade and business. Roughly 30% of this country’s economy is centered on agriculture and manufacturing, but is growing in its development of services. No longer is this country just sending out raw materials, it is mostly exporting out manufactured goods, but still depends on trade to get advanced technological goods. As it grows this country is starting to develop its own trading relationships with nearby Turkey.

Country 2: R/W:

Long gone are this country’s days of being a manufacturing giant. Instead this country primarily depends on the periphery to produce low cost goods and raw materials. Even still this country maintains a highly developed manufacturing industry and they primarily focus on producing technological advanced goods that they primarily sell to core countries like nearby France and Germany. This country’s GDP is the 9th highest in the world (GDP Per Capita is 36th) and almost 80% of it is in the services sector.

Country 3: R/W:

This industrial newcomer is currently making waves in the world market. Although they have one of the highest GDPs (4th) their GDP per capita is extremely low (166th). Their service sector is only 28% of their economy but is quickly growing as it develops more and creates closer ties to the USA and its former colonizer Great Britain. This country is becoming a regional giant, and will certainly continue to grow as it develops its manufacturing capabilities. In order to do this though it must develop its political institutions as right now it is the 94/176 on the most corrupt countries (176 being the worst).

Country 4: R/W:

This Sub-Saharan country ranks low in the GDP (160th) and even lower in the GDP per capita (228th). Its economy is 68% geared towards agriculture alone and its prime export is cotton and tobacco which are produced on large commercial farms, and mined platinum. Most of the manufacturing done in this country is making textiles and cloth. This country has sizeable reserves of Gold, but the government and economy is too unstable to make it lucrative for foreign investors to move in yet. This country’s main trading partner is South Africa who primarily uses it for raw materials.

Country 5: R/W:

Over 85% of this country that is counted in the labor force is involved in Agriculture. This country mostly produces cocoa, coffee, tea, oil, copper, and wood for countries like Australia, China, and Japan. Recently an American firm has begun investing in the country in the hopes of utilizing its oil reserves, but the process is slow and not expected to really develop until 2014. Only 13% of this country’s population lives in urban areas and much of the population still lives in small villages. For their manufactured goods they are almost completely dependent on Australia.