ISTEP

Social Studies
Grade 7

GDP

Practice Set 1
The table below compares the estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita of four countries. Study the information in the table.

### Estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per Capita of Four Countries, 2008

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Source: CIA World Factbook

Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) They might have more people with jobs.
2) They might have less homeless people.
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) They could offer people more jobs.

2) They could lower taxes.

4 pts

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (have more people with jobs) (rubric bullet other reasonable response – more jobs). Note: For credit, the response must be about the current existence of a greater number of jobs. Creating more jobs is a correct response in Task 2.

2) Contains one correct way (less homeless people) (rubric bullet wealth, scoring note).

Task 2:
1) Contains one correct action (They could offer people more jobs) (rubric bullet create more jobs).

2) Contains one correct action (They could lower taxes) (rubric bullets lower business taxes and encourage investment).
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Source: CIA World Factbook

Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) They have more money.

2) They have cleaner places and more homes.
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) They might trade with higher GDP countries.

2) They could make new products and try to sell more.

4 pts

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (They have more money) (rubric bullet greater wealth).

2) Contains one correct way (more homes) (rubric bullet better housing).

Task 2:
1) Contains one correct action (trade with higher GDP countries) (rubric bullet trade).

2) Contains one correct action (make new products to sell) (rubric addendum make new products).
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Source: *CIA World Factbook*

Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) People may have a higher standard of living because they can afford things like indoor plumbing.

2) People may have a higher standard because they can buy more of what they want.
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) The country might raise minimum wage.
2) The country could create more jobs.

---

3 pts

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (can afford things like indoor plumbing) (rubric addendum plumbing).

2) Contains one correct way (People may have a higher standard because they can buy more of what they want) (rubric bullet greater wealth).

Task 2:
1) Does not contain a correct action (raise minimum wage).

2) Contains one correct action (create more jobs) (rubric bullet create more jobs).
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Source: CIA World Factbook

Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) A higher GDP would give the country more money. Therefore, the people would have more.

2) A lower GDP would give the country less money. Therefore, the people would have less.
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) The country could try to sell more of that product.

2) The country could maybe improve the product they want to sell.

3 pts

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (A higher GDP would give the country more money) (rubric bullet wealth).

2) No additional credit. While it contains one correct way, it is essentially the same as 1) above and no additional credit is given (A lower GDP would give the country less money) (rubric bullet wealth and scoring note).

Task 2:
1) Contains one correct action (try to sell more of that product) (rubric bullet trade).

2) Contains one correct action (Maybe improve the product they want to sell) (Rubric Addendum make new products).
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Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) The higher GDP countries would have more valuables.
2) Also, they would probably live in bigger, cleaner houses.
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) One action that a country with a low GDP might take to increase its GDP is better jobs.

2) Another action would be to have less people in that country.

3 pts

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (higher GDP countries would have more valuables) (rubric bullet greater wealth).

2) Contains one correct way (live in bigger, cleaner houses) (rubric bullet better housing).

Task 2:
1) Contains one correct action (One action...is better jobs) (rubric bullet create jobs).

2) Does not contain a correct action (have less people in that country). This is not an action that will increase per capita GDP.
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Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) They will have more money

2) They can get paid more.
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) trade with other countries

2) sell items to other people or countries

2 pts

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (They will have more money) (rubric bullet greater wealth).

2) Does not receive additional credit (They can get paid more). This reflects the same bullet (greater wealth) and so cannot be credited.

Task 2:
1) Contains one correct action (trade with other countries) (rubric bullet trade).

2) Does not receive additional credit (Sell items to other ...countries) This reflects the same bullet (trade) and so cannot be credited.
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Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) With higher GDP more money

2) With less GDP less money
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) Different Items.

2) Raise prices.

Task 1:
1) Contains one correct way (With higher GDP more money) (rubric bullet greater wealth).

2) Does not receive additional credit (With less GDP less money). This reflects the same bullet (greater wealth) and so cannot be credited.

Task 2:
1) Does not contain a correct action (Different items).

2) Does not contain a correct action (Raise prices).
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Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) **The lower income countries cannot afford** the GDP

2) **The higher income countries can afford a higher GDP.**
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) They could make more money.

2) They could invest.

1 pt

Task 1:
1) Does not contain a correct way (lower income countries cannot afford the GDP). This is not a way standards of living differ.

2) Does not contain a correct way (higher income countries can afford higher gdp). This is not a way standards of living differ.

Task 2:
1) Contains one correct action. (They could make more money) (rubric bullet other reasonable response – expansive monetary policy).

2) Does not contain a correct action (They could invest more). For credit, the response needs more specificity – encourage foreign investment, invest in education, etc.
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Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) **Australia has a lower population**

2) **Australia cannot grow food**
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) Grow less food is one of the reasons why

2) Decrease the population is another

---

0 pts

Task 1:
1) Does not contain a correct way (Australia has a lower population). This does not describe a difference in standard of living.

2) Does not contain a correct way (Australia cannot grow food). This does not describe a difference in standard of living.

Task 2:
1) Does not contain a correct action (grow less food is one of the reasons why). This is not an action that will increase per capita GDP.

2) Does not contain a correct action (Decrease the population). This is not an action that will increase per capita GDP.
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Describe TWO ways the standard of living of countries with a higher GDP per capita may differ from the standard of living of those countries with a lower GDP per capita.

1) It would probably be hard to live with the higher GDP or

2) It would be easy to live with the lower GDP
Describe TWO actions that a country with a low GDP per capita might take to increase its GDP per capita.

1) Maybe their actions would start a war.

2) Maybe their actions might turn to peace.

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Task 1:
1) Does not contain a correct way (*It would probly hard to live with the higher GDP*). This is reversed. It would probably be harder to live in a lower GDP country.

2) Does not contain a correct way (*easy to live with the lower GDP*). This is reversed. It would probably be easier to live in a higher GDP country.

Task 2:
1) Does not contain a correct action (*Maybe their actions would start a war*). This is not an action that will increase per capita GDP.

2) Does not contain a correct action (*Maybe their actions might turn to peace*). This is not an action that will increase per capita GDP.