



Secondary Economic Activities

Geography – Junior Cert

Quick Notes

Secondary Economic Activities

These activities involve the processing or manufacturing of the unprocessed raw materials into finished goods. All secondary activities are part of a system – they are made up of inputs, processes and outputs. When companies are choosing a location for their factory or business, they must consider resource materials, labour, transport, markets, services, capital, Government policy and preferences of local communities. Heavy industries involve the processing of heavy and bulky raw materials into finished products e.g. Aughinish Alumina produces alumina from bauxite. Light industry involves the processing of small or lightweight raw materials into finished goods e.g. Intel manufactures computer parts. A footloose industry is one which is not tied down to any one dominant locational factor, they can locate in a wide variety of places. Industries may change location over time to find new resources, new energy sources or new markets. Industrial inertia is when a factory remains in its original location despite the fact that this location is no longer the most economical one. Industrial Development Authority (IDA) is a government run department responsible for the development of industry in Ireland especially in attracting foreign companies. Multinational corporations are large companies which have factories all over the world called subsidiaries. The role of women in industry has changed in developed and developing countries, such as China and Ireland. The world can be classified into regions according to the three levels of industrial development – industrialised are regions containing long established industries, newly industrialised countries are regions with a rapid rate of industrial growth, industrial emergent countries are regions with very little large scale manufacturing. Industrial development has a massive impact on the environment as it causes acid rain to develop. This process can be reduced by car pooling, using alternative sources of energy and mandatory use of clean emission technology in car exhausts.