

Activity 2: Reading

Globalization

Globalization is an ongoing process driven by a combination of political, economic, technological, and sociocultural forces. The process of globalization since World War II has been driven by the planning of politicians to break down borders hampering trade so as to increase prosperity and interdependence and to decrease the chance of future war. The process of globalization has been further accelerated by the global expansion of multinational corporations and the worldwide exchange of new developments in science, technology and in product manufacturing and design. Hence, the term “globalization” is often used to refer to economic globalization, that is, the integration of national economies into the international economy through trade, direct foreign investment, capital flows, migration, and the spread of technology. However, sometimes the term “globalization” is also used to refer to cultural globalization because many people believe that globalization is driven by the worldwide export of western culture through the new mass media: film, radio, television and recorded music. The development of international transport and telecommunication is another driving force which speeds up the process of globalization.

*[More information about globalization can be found at
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Globalization>]*

Globalization has various aspects which affect the world in several different ways. These aspects include:

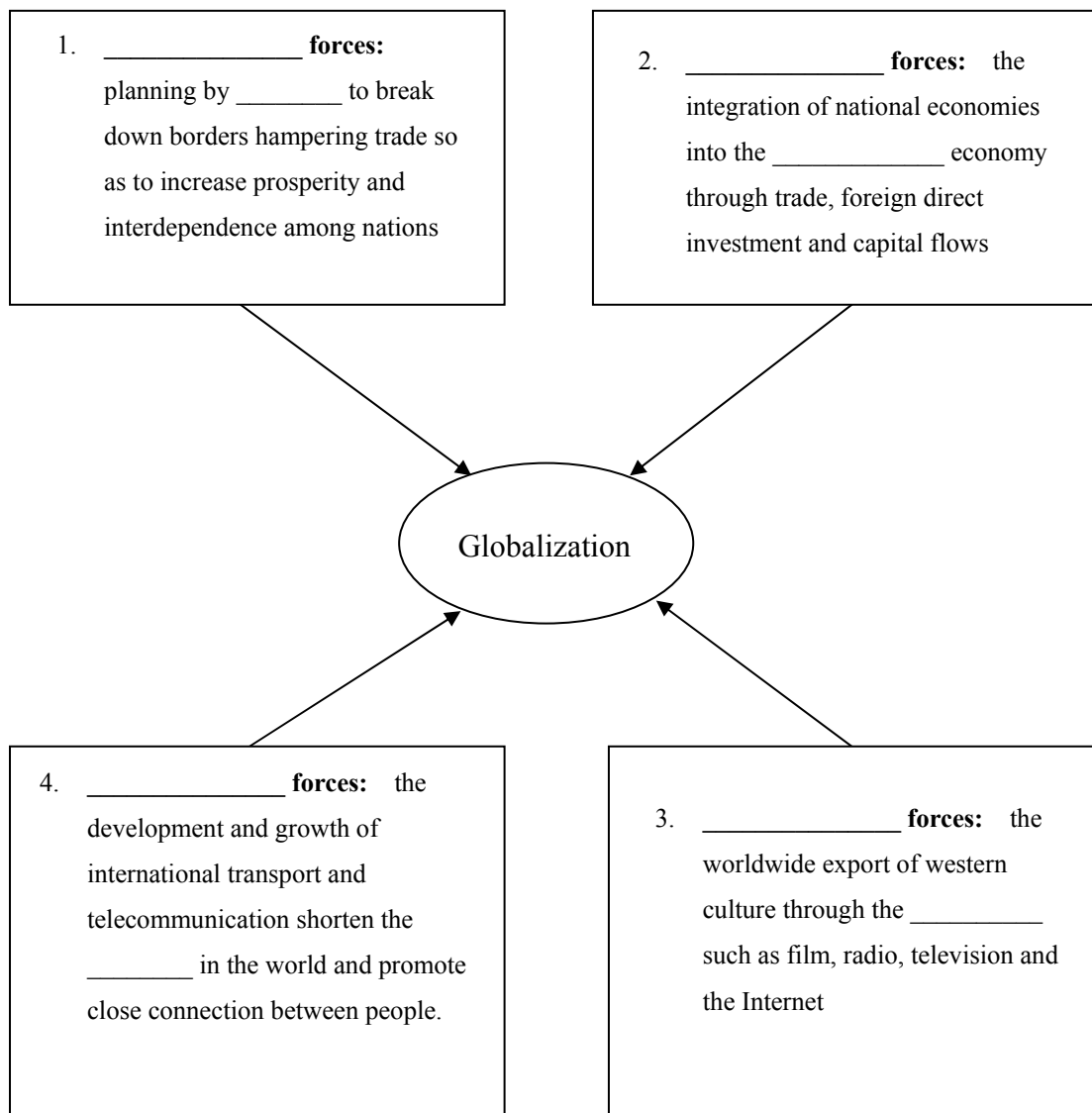
- *Industrial globalization* – development of worldwide production markets and broader access to a range of foreign products for consumers and companies involving particularly movement of material and goods between and within national boundaries.
- *Financial globalization* – development of worldwide financial markets and better access to external financing for borrowers.
- *Economic globalization* – establishment of a global common market, based on the freedom of exchange of goods and capital.
- *Political globalization* - creation of international organizations to regulate the relationships among governments and to guarantee the rights arising from social and economic globalization.
- *Informational globalization* – increase in information flows between geographically remote locations. (This can also be seen as a technological change related to the advent of fibre optic communications, satellites, and increased availability of telephone and Internet.)
- *Cultural globalization* - sharing of ideas, attitudes and values across national borders. This sharing generally leads to an interconnectedness and interaction between peoples of diverse cultures and ways of life. Mass media and communication technologies are the primary instruments for cultural globalization.

Activity 3

What are the driving forces behind the process of globalization?

mass media	international	economic	technological	sociocultural
political	politicians	distances		

The driving forces behind the process of globalization



Activity 4

What are some major effects of globalization?

Fill in the blanks in the flow-chart with words from the box:

national	values	global	political	capital
financial	information	cultural	governments	consumers

Some major effects of globalization:

