

Causes of Uneven Development Card Sort

Lack of rainfall is a major factor in rural poverty in Ethiopia. Over the last decade, drought has become more frequent and severe. The impact of drought is worse for those in the pastoral areas of lowlands and the high-density parts of highlands.

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The war in the Democratic Republic of Congo has claimed up to six million lives, either as a direct result of fighting or because of disease and malnutrition. Fighting was fuelled by the country's vast mineral wealth, with all sides taking advantage of the chaos to plunder natural resources.

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Niger fell victim to a series of coups and political instability following its independence from France in 1960.

Today, the country struggles in the face of frequent droughts, rebellion and wide-spread poverty.

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Most people in Malawi rely on subsistence farming, but the food supply situation is precarious because of the climate.

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Countries exporting primary products (raw materials) are normally less developed because they do not make much profit.

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More wealthy countries can manipulate the prices paid for raw materials, making them richer and poor countries selling the raw materials poorer.

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Europe colonised much of Africa in the 19th Century. This has had a lasting legacy on Africa as the Europeans took slaves and raw materials from Africa.

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Angola is one of Africa's major oil producers. It is trying to tackle the physical, social and political legacy of a 27-year civil war that ravaged the country after independence from Portugal in 1975.

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Rwanda suffered from government-sponsored genocide in the mid-1990s, in which an estimated 800 000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed by dominant Hutu forces in 100 days.

Haiti had a lot of problems with bad governments in the past, including lots of people being killed and leaders being overthrown.

If a country has poor trade links, it will not be able to make much money.

Some countries have too much debt to pay back after borrowing money in the past.

During civil war, money is spent on weapons instead of development. Infrastructure is also often destroyed.

Countries with lots of natural disasters have to spend their money rebuilding, instead of spending it on development.

Haiti has had many natural disasters:

- 1998** - Hurricane Georges destroys 80% of crops
- 2004** - Floods kill 2600
- 2004** - Tropical Storm Jeanne kills 1900
- 2007** - Tropical Storm Noel triggers mudslides and floods
- 2008** - Three hurricanes and tropical storm kill 800
- 2010** - Earthquake hits Port-Au-Prince, killing thousands

Some countries have a very hot, cold or dry climate so they cannot grow crops. This leads to malnutrition and means they have fewer crops to sell.

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Some countries have few raw materials (e.g. coal, oil, metal ores), so they have little to sell.

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In some countries, much of the land is steep or has poor soil so not a lot will grow.

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Countries that were colonised often have a lower level of development when they gain their independence than if they had not been colonised.

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Mozambique (which gained independence from Portugal in 1975) is still suffering from the effects of a 16-year civil war that ended in 1992.

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