Chapter 5 Questions and Exercises

The Importance of Trade in Cities and Regions Today

1. As you did in Chapter 3, once again consider the city or town in which you live (or where you grew up). Using the official website of the municipality or the community’s Chamber of Commerce website, identify the products (goods or services) that are most important *today*in providing your region with absolute or comparative advantage in the national or international marketplace.
2. What natural or human resources in your community are responsible for the growth in local companies that produce products or services that are successful in regional, national, or international trade?
3. Try to identify two or three national or international cities that are in competition for the production of the key products and services produced in your municipality. What are the some of the things that your city or region can do to improve its chances of remaining competitive in these products and services?
4. Given the natural and human resources in your municipality or region, what industries might be developed to provide your area with another source of comparative or competitive advantage?