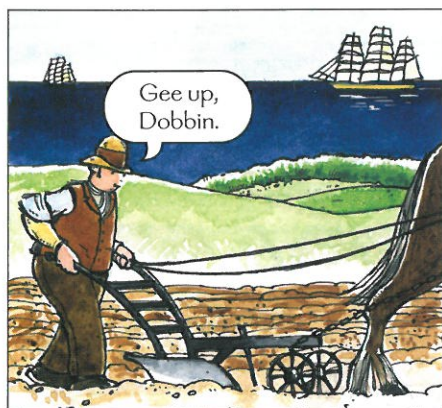


2 Geographical reasons

A country's location, and climate, and natural resources, can play a huge part in helping it to develop.



Gee up, Dobbin.

Its coal, oil, gas, and good farmland have all helped the UK to develop. And the sea has been great for fishing, and trading.



No rain again this season.

And look at my maize.

But in a hot dry country far from the sea, isolated by mountains, with poor soil and few other resources, development may be very difficult.



There goes my farm ...

... and my school...

... and my business.

Some countries have the opposite problem – good soil, but too much rain, and severe floods. Years of hard work get washed away.

3 Social and political reasons



Hi ho, hi ho ...

... it's off to work we go.

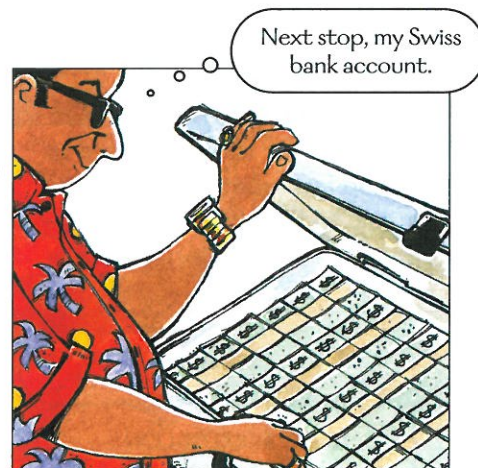
A country has a better chance of developing if it is stable and secure, with a strong government.



Those new tanks must have cost a fortune.

Enough to build a few hospitals.

But many of the world's poor countries have wars going on, with a big waste of lives, and money.



Next stop, my Swiss bank account.

And in many countries, corrupt leaders have made themselves rich, while their people live in poverty.

Your turn

- A – I are facts about some different countries. For each, explain why this could have held back development.
 - It is mountainous and hard to reach.
 - A tribal war has been going on there for 10 years.
 - Millions of its people are suffering from AIDS.
 - It suffers severe flooding almost every year.
 - It was a British colony for over 50 years.
 - A small group of people owns most of its wealth.
 - Others refuse to trade with it, because of its politics.
 - It has poor soil, and the rains are not dependable.
- Look at the facts in 1. Which of them are:
 - historical (about things that happened in the past)?
 - geographical?
 - to do with society and politics?
- Of all the conditions described in 1, which ones do you think could be put right, or at least improved, to help that country develop? Explain each choice you make.
- The UK is among the world's most developed countries. See if you can give 8 reasons to explain why. (At least 2 geographical, 2 historical, and 2 social/political.)