COFFEE

Global Topic – PLAN

Coffee Producing Countries – PATTERN

Linear Pattern
Bean Belt
Colombia
Brazil
Ethiopia
V...
Equator
I

main producers: Brazil, Vietnam, ____ ____ ____
other coffee countries ⬛
Coffee countries in each continent across the equator – Tropics = linear.

Why a Line? ① Climate < temp = Tropical
                             r.f
                ② Colonialism = Brazil - Portug
                                Indonesia -
                                Uganda -
                Europe
                demand   cold
                          temp

PEOPLE?
① PICKERS – working conditions
            – pay
② LOCALS – water pollution
③ country – GDP
            –
④

①

SPATIAL PATTERN:
There is a ==linear pattern== of coffee production horizontally along the equator and in between the Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn. This line is known as the 'Bean Belt'. ==The line is nucleated in Southeast Asia (Indonesia and Vietnam), Central Africa (Ethiopia and Uganda), India, Central America and South America (Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia and Brazil).==
The five top coffee producers are underlined above and shown on the map and these clearly reflect the global spread...

②

CAUSES for the pattern:

1. Climate

Coffee has such specific conditions for successful growth, it can only be grown in certain areas of the world that are ==warm, humid, and at the correct altitude==, making the equatorial and subtropical region of the world perfect for coffee production. This shows ==the linear pattern== shown in the map in the plan. ③

Coffee needs one of two optimal growing climates the first being subtropical at an altitude between 1800-3600 feet and the rainy and dry seasons must be well defined. These conditions result in one growing season and one maturation season of the plant which usually falls during the coldest part of autumn. ==Mexico, Jamaica, Brazil and Zimbabwe== are examples of areas with these conditions. For example, the world's largest coffee producer, Brazil, has ==an average temperature of 22 to 26°C all== year round, with an ==average rainfall between 1000 and 1500mm annually==, most of which falls during the summer months. At an average, Brazil sits at an altitude of about 1000 metres. These conditions are perfectly aligned with coffee's optimal growth conditions, helping to explain why Brazil is the largest producer of coffee in the world. ④

The second being Equatorial at latitudes lower than 10 degrees, an altitude of 3600-6300 feet and frequent rainfall that causes almost continuous flowering which results in two harvesting seasons. The period of highest rainfall determines the main harvesting period while the period of least rainfall is usually the secondary harvesting. ==Kenya, Colombia and Ethiopia are examples of areas with these climates and together with the countries in the subtropical section show the coffee belt or linear pattern.== ③

The process of colonialism was also explained as contributing to the linear pattern

SIGNIFICANCE of the topic for people:

Coffee is second only to oil in terms of world trade, meaning the coffee industry generates billions of dollars internationally, every year. This can have ==both positive and negative impacts on different groups of people==, especially in terms of the economies of the areas they live in…

Coffee production is mostly in developing countries and as plantations. ==The coffee pickers== are often migrant workers who are exploited, e.g. ==receiving less than the minimum wage and ... There is evidence that children as young as 5 are used for picking…cheap labour… In Kenya it is estimated that about 30% of pickers are under the age of 15.== ⑤

Housing conditions in ==Central America and Colombia are often like large dormitories with no privacy and limited sanitation…== Working conditions are variable, sometimes, equipment like machetes and boots are not provided or safety equipment and training when working with pesticides…

Pesticides impact on the health of workers and people living near the plantations…