

Division of labor

Sandy and Mike are preparing for a party. They want to make as many muffins and sandwiches as possible for their guests. They have one hour to prepare the food before their guests will arrive.

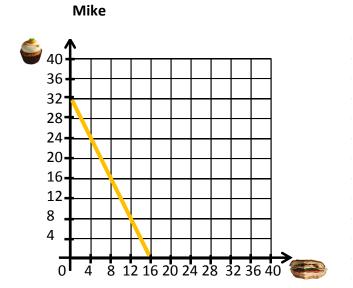
Watch the video and fill in the questions and answers!

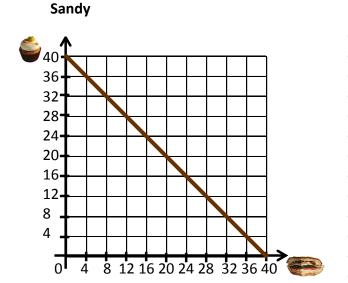
Link: https://edpuzzle.com/media/59c4f49877e80440091f9ac1

Question 1: How should Mike and Sandy split the work?

Individuelle Lösungen

Question 2: Which production possibilities do they have? Plot the graphs.





Production possibility curves

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Production possibility curve (PPC): This curve shows the various possible combinations of two different goods that can be produced by one person in a given time if he/she works at his / her maximum capacity.

Question 3: Who is better at making muffins? Who is better at making sandwiches?

	maximum amount of muffins	maximum amount of sandwiches	
Mike	32	16	
Sandy	40	40	
absolute advantage for	Sandy	Sandy	

Question 4: How much can they produce in total with the combination given in the video?

Example	Mike	Sandy	Σ
Muffins	8	28	36
Sandwiches	16	12	28

Question 5: Calculate the opportunity costs for the production of sandwiches.

Opportunity costs for producing only	Mike	Sandy
Muffins	1/2	1
Sandwiches	2	1
Comparative advantage in the production of	Muffins	Sandwiches



The **opportunity costs** of production indicate how many units of one good must be given up so that one unit of another good can be produced instead.



Comparative advantage means that a person (or economy) can produce something at lower opportunity costs than anyone else. This person or economy has a comparative advantage in the production of this good.

Question 6: How many snacks can Mike and Sandy produce in total if they specialize?

	Mike	Sandy	Σ
S Muffins	32	0	32
Sandwiches	0	40	40

Question 7: How should Mike and Sandy split the work? Give reasons for your answer.

Mike should produce Muffins and Sandy should produce sandwiches, because Mike has the lower opportunity costs for the production of muffins and Sandy for the production of sandwiches. So, in total, they will have more food.