



Primary Source Activity: Exploring a Country Through Its Flags and Maps Student Worksheet

Student Name:

Section 1: Thinking About the Country's Flag

1. What do you notice about the flag? Describe it in 20 words or less. You do not have to use complete sentences. Do you know the country this flag represents? If so, include that information in your answer.
2. Why do you think the country might have chosen the colors it did for its flag? What could those colors represent?
3. Is there a symbol on the flag? What do you think it is? What could it represent? Why do you think the country chose to put it on their flag?

Section 2: Thinking About the Country's Location in the World

1. In the first map you see a country highlighted on a continent. What is the country highlighted? What is the continent where you would find that country?
2. Based on your decisions in question #1, what does the location of the country tell you about the following:
 - a. The hemispheres it is in (Northern or Southern, Eastern or Western)

- b. The temperatures it might experience in the summer
 - c. The temperatures it might experience in the winter
 - d. If it's Noon on Tuesday where you are, are the people of this country also experiencing Tuesday as you complete this worksheet or are they enjoying Monday or Wednesday?
3. As you look at the map, what do you notice about the country in regard to:
- a. It's size compared to other countries near it
 - b. It's boundaries

Section 3: Thinking About the Country Geography and Population

1. After looking at the map, what do you think is the biggest city in the country? What, based on the map, makes you think it is the biggest city?
2. After looking at the map, what do you think is the capital of the country? What, based on the map, makes you think it is the capital?
3. Which of the following geographic features do you see on the map? If you do not see the feature on the map then write "not on the map" as your answer.
 - a. A river (name it)
 - b. A mountain range (name it)
 - c. A geographic region (name it)
4. By looking at this map, what new information do you learn about its location and how does that affect your answers in #2 in Section 2
 - a. 1st piece of new information

- b. 2nd piece of new information

- c. 3rd piece of new information

- d. In regard to the following questions in Section 2 of this worksheet:
 - 1. Is your answer to question 1 still the same? If different, what is it now?

 - 2. Is your answer to question 2a still the same? If different, what is it now?

 - 3. Is your answer to question 2b still the same? If different, what is it now?

 - 4. Is your answer to question 2c still the same? If different, what is it now?

 - 5. Is your answer to question 2d still the same? If different, what is it now?

- 5. Does the map you are using for this section of the worksheet have a scale? If so, what is that scale?

Section 4: Comparing Your Thinking About the Country to Facts About the Country

Now that you have completed the first three sections of the worksheet, do some quick research on the country's flag and on the country itself and compare your answers to questions 2 and 3 in Section 1 and your answers to questions 1, 2, and 4d in Section 3 to what you learn from your research. Based on your research, what are your answers to the following questions now:

- 1. What do the flag's colors represent?

- 2. If there is a symbol on the flag, what does it represent?

- 3. What is the biggest city in the country?

4. What is the capital of the country?
5. What hemispheres is the country in?
6. What temperatures would the country's people experience in the summer?
7. What temperatures would the country's people experience in the winter?
8. If it's Noon on Tuesday where you are, are the people of this country also experiencing Tuesday as you complete this worksheet or are they enjoying Monday or Wednesday?
9. Questions 3 through 8 in this section are based on the two maps you originally viewed in the video. Did any of your answers to those questions change after you conducted your additional research? If so, write below what answers changed.
10. Pick one of your answers to question 9 (if any of your answers had changed) and explain why you think the map led you to offer an incorrect answer. Was it something about the map itself? Was the map unclear in some way or inaccurate in some way? Did the map leave out information you needed? Or did you interpret the information on the map incorrectly? If so, what do you think caused you to do that?

Section 5: Reflection

What has this activity taught you about the uses for, and limitations of, maps in obtaining information about a particular place? If you were to create a map of a particular place, what would you want to do to make sure your map is as accurate as possible and easy to interpret as possible?