



# ERASMUS+ MULTILATERAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SCHOOLS

## CLIL LESSONS in GEOGRAPHY

Young students teaching to pupils

**C**ontent  
**L**anguage  
**I**ntegrated  
**L**earning  
**C**ulture  
**G**ames  
**G**eography  
**F**act files  
**S**peaking  
**W**riting  
**C**ountries  
**L**istening  
**T**raditions  
**P**eer to peer teaching  
**R**eading  
**T**opics

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## Introduction

### CLIL LESSONS in GEOGRAPHY

Within the activities of the E4U project, on the occasion of the “E4Youth-day”, for the three years of the project we organized several Geography lessons in English for the pupils of Scuola Media “Innocenzo da Imola” and “Andrea Costa” in Imola (Middle school for children 11 to 13/14) after having agreed with their teachers of Italian, Geography and English.

The main aims were:

- Have the pupils organize and work together on specific purposes
- Help the pupils in getting aware of their competences
- Improve pupils’ knowledge about Europe
- Improve the pupils’ level of English

Our pupils had to prepare the lessons and their presentations in small groups to get ready to become “teachers” to younger pupils. The topics we agreed on were:

1. The presentation of the project “E4U” as a multilateral partnership of European Schools;
2. The presentation of some Countries represented in the project;
3. Some information about the European Union.

Our groups of young pupils-teachers gathered the materials and decided how to present the content and they rehearsed their presentation in their own classes to see how confident they could feel in teaching and using English as the language to communicate. Then they prepared also some activities in order to have a more interactive lesson.

Part of their preparation was done at home because they realized they needed quite a long time, which they did not have at school. During the rehearsing time both their teacher and classmates gave suggestions on how to improve their presentation.

Just before the lessons they were going to give as teachers, they felt rather excited and a bit doubtful for the reaction of the younger pupils and they were not so sure to handle the activities properly. They had managed to get their classmates’ approval, but they wondered what the younger pupils would be like and how they would accept the lessons they had prepared. They also knew teachers would be in the classroom even if just as controllers for the discipline.

The experiment has been successful both for the young pupils of the middle schools and their pupil-teachers.

Most of our pupils were extremely good at getting the younger pupils involved, they managed to get their attention and to make the younger ones say things in English. Our pupils were satisfied for the results of this experience and they were rewarded by the welcome of the younger pupils and the positive comments of the teachers.

The material was given to the teachers of the Scuola Media as they have used it during their lessons too.

In the following pages, the content our pupils gathered, selected and studied to prepare their lessons. They also prepared power point presentations which they used during the lessons to attract the younger pupils' attention to what they were saying.

Note: For the material, the students used sources from the Internet and some texts written by their student partners in the project. Unfortunately, not always they have mentioned their sources.

## **What is CLIL?**

Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) has become the umbrella term describing both learning another (content) subject such as physics or geography through the medium of a foreign language and learning a foreign language by studying a content-based subject.

The basis of CLIL is that content subjects are taught and learnt in a language which is not the mother tongue of the learners.

## **The advantages of CLIL**

CLIL helps to:

- Introduce the wider cultural context
- Prepare for internationalisation
- Access International Certification and enhance the school profile
- Improve overall and specific language competence
- Prepare for future studies and / or working life
- Develop multilingual interests and attitudes
- Diversify methods & forms of classroom teaching and learning
- Increase learner motivation.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/content-language-integrated-learning>

# BELGIUM

## Its Territory

There are three main geographical regions to Belgium: the coastal plain, the central plateau, and the Ardennes uplands.



<http://www.ducksters.com/geography/country.php?country=Belgium>

The coastal area is a series of sandy beaches and polders, backed by protecting dunes. Inland, up to the Meuse River, the land is generally flat, with numerous canals and dikes protecting the land from the sea. It's criss-crossed by many small tributaries of the Schelde River. Valley's, caves and small gorges can also be found in this area. East of the Meuse, forested hilly conditions rise to the rugged and flat-topped mountains of the Ardennes Region. The highest point is the Botrange, at 2,276 ft. (694m).

## History in short

The country of Belgium gets its name from the original settlers of the area. They were a Celtic tribe called the Belgae. The Belgae lived in the area of Belgium until they were conquered by the Roman Empire in 100 BC. The area became a productive province of the Roman Empire for the next 300 years. When the Roman Empire began to fade, Germanic tribes invaded Belgium and took over. Northern Belgium became very German during this time, learning the language and culture. The southern part of Belgium continued to act more Roman and spoke Latin. Over the next several hundred years Belgium came under the rule of many different dynasties and empires. For a while they were under the rule of the Spanish and then later the Habsburg Empire of Austria. Belgium's location made it the center of many European industries including textiles, commerce, and art. Great cities such as Brussels, Antwerp, and Ghent rose up to be leaders in the world. Belgium's central European location also made it the site of many wars, including being invaded by Germany in WWI and WWII. In 1795 Belgium became part of France after being captured during the Napoleonic wars. After the war, it became part of the Netherlands. This didn't last for too long, however, as the Belgian people rose up and rebelled against the Dutch. In 1830, they gained their independence. Because of the differences in cultures in Belgium, there is a formal border within the country that divides the country into different languages. They even have fairly different governments. In the north, there is the Dutch speaking area and in the South, the French speaking one. There is also a smaller area in the east where German is spoken.

<http://www.freeworldmaps.net/europe/belgium/physical-map-belgium-hd.jpg>

<https://image.shutterstock.com/z/stock-vector-belgium-political-map-with-capital-brussels-national-borders-most-important-cities-and-rivers-223229338.jpg>

**1) Looking at the map, name the borders of Belgium**

- a. To the North  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. To the South  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. To the West  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. To the East  
\_\_\_\_\_

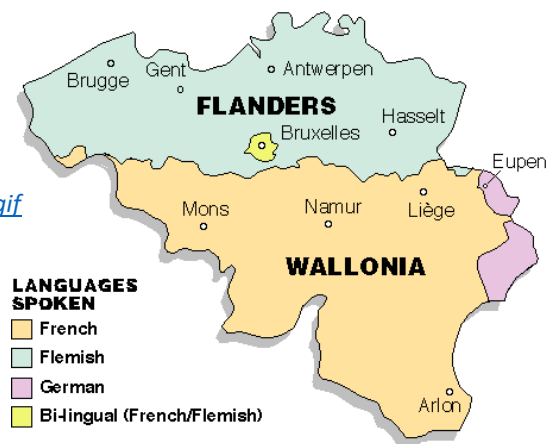


<http://mapsof.net/belgium/germany-and-belgium-map>

**2) What can you say about this map on the left? What does it represent? What shape is it? Why those three colours?**

<https://mariahwenzel.files.wordpress.com/2014/05/mapbelqm.gif>

**3) why is Belgium divided into two main parts? What do the colours refer to?**



# The Czech Republic

## 1) Looking at the map say which are the borders:

To the North / South / East / West



## Figures about the Czech Republic

Area: 78,866 sq km

Population: 10.4 million

Capital: Praha / Prague (1.3 million)

Political system: parliamentary republic, double chambre Parliament of 281 representatives

Head of state: president

Membership: European Union, NATO, Schengen Area, OECD, WTO

Religion: every citizen enjoys freedom of religion, more than 50 % of the population describe themselves as agnostic or atheist

Climate: seasonal variations with warm summers, chilly autumns and cold winters

Average temperatures: January -4 °C; July 24 °C

You can read more: <http://www.studyin.cz/facts-and-figures/>

## 2) Analyze the physical map: identify the plains, the mountains and the rivers using the points of the compass (remember to use the preposition "IN")

The Czech Republic, also called Czechia, is a country located in central Europe. It comprises the historical provinces of Bohemia and Moravia along with the southern tip of Silesia, collectively often called the Czech Lands. In 2016 the country adopted the name "Czechia" as a shortened, informal name for the Czech Republic.

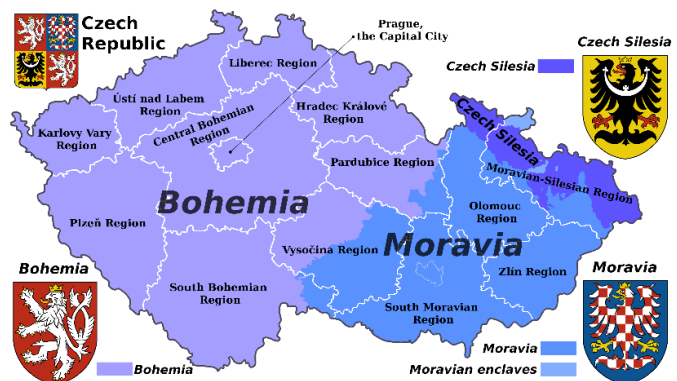


## Climate

The Czech climate is mixed. Continental influences are marked by large fluctuations in both temperature and precipitation, while moderating oceanic influences diminish from west to east. In general, temperatures decrease with increasing elevation but are relatively uniform across the lower portions of the country.

**Brief HISTORY:** In the early history of the land that is today the Czech Republic, various tribes settled the land starting with the Celts, then the Germanic tribes, and later the Slavic peoples. In the 9th century the Kingdom of Bohemia began to emerge and become a power. Bohemia was part of the Holy Roman Empire and several kings ruled the land. The peak of the Bohemian kingdom arrived with Charles IV in 1342. He was king of Bohemia and the Holy Roman Emperor. The Holy Roman Empire would rule over the land for many years until the 1800s when the Austrians and the Habsburg Empire would take control. After WWI, the country of Czechoslovakia was formed from the Czech and Slovak lands of the Austrian Empire. At the start of World War II, Czechoslovakia quickly became a part of Germany. Many Jewish and other minorities suffered greatly during this period. After the war, the country came under the dominion of the Soviet Union and the communist party. Once the Soviet Union collapsed in 1990, Czechoslovakia's freedom was restored. The Czechs and the Slovaks decided they would each rather have their own country and they were peacefully split up into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. In 2004 the Czech Republic became a member of the European Union (EU).

### 3) Compare the two maps and locate the main 7 towns on the map to the right side





### Fact Files:

- The Czech language (čeština or český jazyk) belongs to the West Slavic sub-branch of the Slavic languages and is an Indo-European language. It is mutually intelligible with Slovak. Spoken Czech has several regional dialects. The differences among those dialects mainly involve the pronunciation of vowels and the names of local or regional dishes, plants, and costumes. Czech was one of the Slavic languages at least as early as the ninth century, the time of the Great Moravian
- The official state symbols are the national anthem, flag, and coat of arms. The presidential flag (standard) bears the slogan Pravda vítězí ("Truth Prevails"), attributed to the first president of Czechoslovakia, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (1850–1937, president 1918–1935).
- The national anthem, Kde domov můj? ("Where Is My Home?"), was originally a song in a popular satirical play of 1834. The first stanza states the beauty of the countryside, and the second the nobility of the Czech people. In 1918, when the Austro-Hungarian Empire disintegrated and the Czechs and Slovaks were given a country of their own, this gentle song became one of the two national anthems of Czechoslovakia, along with the Slovak national anthem.
- The Czech flag consists of a lower red field and an upper white field with a blue wedge reaching from the flagpole side of the flag to its center.

# GERMANY



Germany lies in the center of Europe and shares borders with 9 countries. Germany is the second most populous country in Central Europe after Russia and many immigrants from the European countries live and study in Germany. Germany's central and southern regions have forested hills and mountains cut through by the Danube, Main, and Rhine river valleys. In the north, the landscape flattens out to a wide plain that stretches to the North Sea. The North Sea coastline is a low, marshy wet land, with

dikes, mudflats and scattered islands.

Between these extremes, Germany is a country of incredible variety.

Germany's location at the heart of Europe has shaped its history both for good and bad. It borders nine neighbors, more than any other European country.

Germany's largest wooded area, and its most famous, is in the southwest near the Swiss border. This is the Black Forest, a mountainous region full of pines and fir trees. This forest contains the source of the Danube, one of Europe's longest rivers.

## Symbols of Germany

- The German flag is a tricolor consisting of horizontal stripes of three colors- black, red, and gold. The flag was first designed in 1832. The black, red and gold color combination is a rendition of the uniform that the soldiers wore during the Napoleonic Wars.

- The "Das Lied der Deutschen" or "The Song of the Germans" is the national anthem of Germany. The song was adopted as the anthem of Germany in 1922.
- One of the oldest state symbols in Europe, the coat of arms of Germany seems to have originated in the late eleventh century. The coat of arms portrays a black eagle on a yellow shield. The eagle stands as the symbol of the bird of the god named Odin, for the Germanic tribe.
- Oak is the national tree of Germany. The oak tree is generally found in the northern hemisphere. This tree represents strength and endurance.
- The Brandenburg Gate (German: Brandenburger Tor) is a structure in Berlin and an important German landmark. It is the only remaining gate through which people used to enter Berlin. It is located between the Platz des 18. März and the Pariser Platz. Near to the north is the Reichstag building. During the Cold War, the Reichstag was in West Berlin, and the Brandenburger Tor in East Berlin.

## **ECONOMY**

Germany is the fourth-largest economy in the world and the largest in Europe.

The country has a social market economy, based on free market capitalism, that is an economy in which the government imposes few or no regulations and restrictions on buyers and sellers.

After the reunification in 1990, integrating the two different economies of west and east Germany was expensive and difficult, but now as we know Germany is a super power.

## **AGRICULTURE AND FISHING**

Germany is one of the largest food producers of Europe. The country also exports many agricultural products. In fact, a large range of crops are grown, especially grain crops. There is also a great production of potatoes. The raising of livestock is important, the country has one of the world largest stocks of pigs.

The growing of grapes for wine is a major activity in the southern Germany.

Germany maintains a deep-sea fishing fleet. The fleet's catch come from the North Sea, the Baltic Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean.

## **MANUFACTURING**

This sector produces most of the country's exports. Even if manufacturing supplies a great variety of products, it is dominated by the automobile, electrical equipment and electronics, chemical, and machinery industries. German engineering is respected all around the world for its high quality and technological sophistication.

Automobile manufacturing is important. It includes Audi, BMW, Daimler, Mercedes, Opel and Volkswagen.

Germany has a small variety of mineral resources. The most important by far is coal.

## **SERVICES**

Services dominate the labor market. Roughly two-thirds of workers are employed in service industries. Finance, banking and insurance are important.

The main markets for Germany's products include France, the United State, the United Kingdom, Italy, the Netherlands and other EU countries.

## **GOVERNMENT**

When Germany was divided, West Germany was a democratic federal republic, while east Germany was a communist state. After the reunification in 1990, West Germany's constitution was adopted by the whole country. Germany's federal system gives power of self-government to the 16 states. Both the federal and state government have parliamentary systems.

The chief of the state is the president, the chancellor is the head of the government.

## **LANGUAGE**

The official language is German. The schools teach standard German. Some people, especially older Germans and people who live in rural areas, speak local dialects in everyday life. Germans from Munich and from Berlin have difficulty in understanding each other if they speak their local dialects.

## **POPULATION**

According to CIA's research Germany has a population of nearly 81 million people; this number dates to 2014.

The population of Germany is made up of native Germans and immigrants from other parts of Europe and Asia. Most of them come from Turkey. They are followed by the Italians, Greeks and Serbs.

## **RELIGION**

Germany is the homeland of Protestantism, but after the fragment of the roman empire after the 16th century many territories remained faithful to Roman Catholicism. There are also minorities of Jewish and Muslims. The most important catholic church is the cologne cathedral. Above all its construction has to the residents of Cologne, the catholic church, and the king of Prussia and it took about 600 centuries to build it.

## **FACT FILES**

**CUISINE** - In Germany, every region has his own different styles of cooking and his own dishes, (those are some examples). The main German foods are: bread, wurst or sausages and beer is the most favourite beverage. The main German desserts are marzipan, the black forest cake, and stollen.

**CHRISTMAS** - For German people Christmas is the most important holiday. The festivities begin on 5th December, when St. Nicholas comes to fill the shoes left by children by the fireplace. During this period are very famous Christmas Markets, held in over 150 places in Germany. The most important days are: The 24th the big celebration of gift giving, the 25th and the 26th known as the first and the second Christmas day respectively.

**EASTER** - it has origin from the pagan holiday and it was dedicated to Ostara, the goddess of spring. The origin of the Easter rabbit comes from a legend, in fact according to it Ostara saved a frozen bird and turned it into a rabbit, which could lay eggs. So in Germany children still believe that on

Easter Sunday this Easter rabbit comes to hide Easter eggs. On this day people also make big bonfires to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

OKTOBERFEST - This is one of the most popular German traditions in the world. It began during the wedding of prince Ludwig of Bavaria and princess Therese of Saxony on 1810, and now is a 16-day festival held each year in Munich. It includes a wide variety of German beers and sausages with more than 6 million visitors in attendance.

DAY OF GERMAN UNITY - This is a national holiday commemorating the reunification of the two Germanys after 40 years of separation. It was unified on 3rd October 1990. And each year during this day there are concerts, speeches by politicians and communal meals.

THE NEUNSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE - It is one of the most visited castles and one of the most popular destination of Germany. It is in the alps in Bavaria. It was wanted by king Ludwig II of Bavaria who made the castle built in honour of the composer Richard Wagner and its construction begun in 1869 and still nowadays it is not finished. Neuschwanstein castle's interior is as beautiful as its outside and its look is that of a medieval castle: in fact, it inspired Walt Disney to create the magic kingdom. It has also a throne room but without a throne because the king died during the castle's construction.

THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL - It is located in Mitte on a stretch where the wall once stood near Brandenburg gate. It was designed by the US architect Peter Eismann and it is dedicated to the Jewish victims of the nazi's anti-semitic and genocidal policies. It was constructed in the early years of the 21st century. This memorial consists of 2711 rectangular blocks of concrete laid out in grid formation recalling tombstones, in fact it remembers a graveyard.



THE BERLIN WALL MEMORIAL - It commemorates the division of the two Germanys and it is located at the former border strip in Barnauer strasse. It includes a piece of the original wall and it extends for 1.4 kilometers. There are also facilities that show how the wall was constructed and recall the visitors at that time, when the wall once divided the entire country.



EXERCISES

1) Read and complete the texts using the words in the box

**Physical GERMANY**

course - Germany - Western Europe – North - made up - Rhine – population - Zugspitze situated - includes – major - are

Germany is a country located in the heart of \_\_\_\_\_ It has the second largest \_\_\_\_\_ of any European country.

It is \_\_\_\_\_ of the North German Plain, the Central German Uplands, and the Southern German \_\_\_\_\_ Highlands. The

\_\_\_\_\_ is the highest mountain and it is \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bavarian Plateau, in the south-east of Germany. Germany's \_\_\_\_\_ rivers are the Danube, the Elbe, the Oder, the Weser, and the \_\_\_\_\_. The largest lakes \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Costance, which forms part of the course of the Rhine River, Chiemsee which is in the south-east of \_\_\_\_\_ and Muritz in the \_\_\_\_\_-east.



**Political GERMANY**

Chancellor – Dialects – Finance – Fourth – Manufacturing – Federal - Automobile - Free-Market - Chief - Grapes – Crops

Germany is the \_\_\_\_\_-largest economy in the world. The economy is based on \_\_\_\_\_ capitalism. Frankfurt, called Bankfurt, is a metropolis of European \_\_\_\_\_. In Germany, a large variety of \_\_\_\_\_ are grown, and also \_\_\_\_\_ in the southwestern part of the country. \_\_\_\_\_ supplies a great variety of products, especially the \_\_\_\_\_. Finance, \_\_\_\_\_ and insurance are important. Germany is a democratic \_\_\_\_\_ republic, the \_\_\_\_\_ is the head of the State and the \_\_\_\_\_ is the head of the government. The official language is German but many \_\_\_\_\_ are spoken. It has a population of 81 million people.

**CULTURE of GERMANY**

Bavaria – wall – wurst - goddess – reunification - Oktoberfest – bread - Walt Disney - Jewish - Christmas markets - Memorial

Typical German food is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and beer is the most favourite beverage.

Christmas is the most important festivity, during this period \_\_\_\_\_ create a special atmosphere. Easter, instead, was dedicated to Ostara, the \_\_\_\_\_ of spring. \_\_\_\_\_ or Beer’s festivity, is the most popular tradition in the world. The Day of German Unity commemorates the \_\_\_\_\_ of the two Germanys after 40 years of separation. The Neuschwanstein castle is located in the Alps in \_\_\_\_\_, it is a medieval castle and his fairytale look inspired \_\_\_\_\_ to create the Magic Kingdom. The Holocaust Memorial is a monument dedicated to the \_\_\_\_\_ victims of the Nazi genocide of World War II. The Berlin Wall \_\_\_\_\_ includes a piece of the original \_\_\_\_\_ that once divided the entire country.

**2) Match the elements of column A with the elements of column B**

A	B	
a. Bread	1. Working week	a. ____
b. Submarine	2. Phone call	b. ____
c. Surname	3. Highways	c. ____
d. Soccer	4. Fan clubs	d. ____
e. Speed limits	5. Varieties	e. ____
f. Saturday	6. 150	f. ____
g. Castles	7. Broken toilet	g. ____

A	B	
a. Bread	1. 80.7 million	a. _____
b. third largest	2. first printing press	b. _____
c. Adidas and Puma	3. beer consumer	c. _____
d. Johann Von Gutenberg	4. Berlin	d. _____
e. German	5. official language of 5 countries	e. _____
f. 632 years to built	6. museum	f. _____
g. biggest population	7. originated during World War II	g. _____
h. Fanta	8. Cologne cathedral	h. _____
i. capital	9. Rudolf and Adolf Duzzler	i. _____

by Laura, Eleonora and Francesca 2^D

# The Republic of IRELAND

## THE LAND

Ireland is an island to the west of continental Europe. It is bounded to the west by the Atlantic Ocean and to the east by the Irish Sea, which separates it from Great Britain. It is mainly a lowland with a central plain surrounded by low mountains along the coast. The highest peak is Carrantuohill (1038 m) in the county of Kerry.

The two important rivers in the island are the Shannon, the longest river in Ireland, and the Liffey, which flows into the Irish Sea at Dublin giving the capital an important harbour.

The main cities in the republic are Dublin, the capital, Waterford, Cork and Galway.



## WHY IS the island of IRELAND DIVIDED into two parts?

The island is divided into two parts: The Republic of Ireland, also called Eire, which is an independent country and Northern Ireland, which is part of the UK.

To understand why it is divided into two parts, it is necessary to go back to the 12th century when it became an English possession.

During the 17th century Protestant colonists from England and Scotland settled in the island, mainly in the north-east. They were given the land, which previously belonged to the native Catholic Irish and owing to the religious differences they did not mix with the local population. The contrasts between the two communities date back from that period. Laws were passed which forbade the Irish to buy, inherit or even rent land. Rebellions and insurrections followed, together with the request of independence.



Owing to the Potato famine of the 1840s more than one million Catholic Irish emigrated to the America looking for a better life. This fact transformed the Irish question into an international problem. Americans of Irish origin began to support the movement for the independence of Ireland. In 1921, urged by international pressure, Britain agreed to let Southern Ireland become a free state. However, Northern Ireland, where two thirds of the population were Protestant remained part of Britain and still is today.



## **DUBLIN**

It is a beautiful city and a popular tourist destination thanks to its fine architecture and its excellent pubs.

Dublin is also the chief port in the Republic; in fact, it is situated at the mouth of the river Liffey, and has a population of more than one million people.

The capital is well known not only for its pubs (that are about 1000) but also for its music and, last but not least, for its writers.

St Patrick's Cathedral is one of Dublin's earliest Christian sites. The cathedral is dedicated to St Patrick, the patron Saint of Ireland who brought Christianity to the island in the 5th century.

Trinity College is the oldest university in Ireland. Founded by Queen Elisabeth I in 1592, its library contains many ancient books and documents.

Grafton Street is Dublin's principal shopping street. It is a pedestrian area where buskers, including musicians and poets, usually perform to visitors and tourists.

Temple Bar is the cultural district of the capital. Here there are pubs, restaurants, and shops. The area has a lively nightlife that is very popular with tourists and students from all over the world.

### **The Climate**

May to mid-September is by far the warmest and generally the dryer time of year. In summer, temperatures generally fall in a range of 15°C to 20°C, but sometimes they can reach up to 25°C or even higher. Winter days can be drizzly, cold and short (the sun sets at around 4 pm), but because of the Gulf Stream, the temperature seldom falls below freezing, averaging about 7°C. Snow is quite unusual, but more common on the mountainous regions of Ireland. Rain falls throughout the year, and the weather in Ireland can often change very quickly.

### **ECONOMY**

For centuries, the Irish economy depended heavily on agriculture, but now industry and services are dominant. During the late 1990s, Ireland experienced an economic boom pushed by its high-technology sector. The country's growth was more than double that of most other countries in the European Union, and unemployment fell to historically low levels. Though growth has moderated in the early 21st century, Ireland's economy remains one of the most vital in Europe. Exports and investment by foreign companies have proven key to Ireland's economic success.

Agriculture in Ireland consists largely of the grazing of cattle and sheep. The moderate, moist climate favours the growing of grass and hay, and farm animals can be outside for most of the year because of the mild winter temperatures. About two thirds of the agricultural land of Ireland consists of permanent pasture. Beef, dairy products (especially milk), and other livestock products are most of the agricultural output. The leading crops include sugar beets, barley, wheat, and potatoes. Barley is the principal crop in terms of acreage. It is used by the brewing and distilling industries and as feed for farm animals.

When Ireland was established as an independent country in 1922, forests represented less than 1 percent of the land area. However, due to replanting efforts since World War II, forests now cover almost one tenth of the land area. In 1988, the government established a company to manage the country's commercial forestry.

Ireland has rich fishing grounds, particularly off the west coast. The deep-sea catch includes herring, whiting, and mackerel. Lobsters, crayfish, shrimp, and oysters are caught near the coast.

## SYMBOLS of IRELAND



The shamrock may be one of the most prolific. Remember that Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. The shamrock, or 3-leaf clover, represents the holy trinity: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

### The Harp

Have you noticed the harp appearing on Irish coins? It even graces the Guinness, a popular Irish beer, bottle labels. Centuries ago, the Irish were some of the most magnificent harp players; sought after by nobility, kings and queens. To suppress the Irish culture, Elizabeth I had many instruments destroyed and harpists executed. This symbol of Ireland remains strong, even if the traditionally trained harpist died out long ago.



The Claddagh - It is a traditional Irish ring given as a token of friendship or love or worn as a wedding ring. The classic heart and hands motif is a symbol of loyalty, love, and fidelity. In Ireland, brides and grooms often exchange Claddagh rings in lieu of plain wedding bands. However, this ring can be worn by anyone...male or female, married or single...in fact, the way you wear your ring can tell its own story...the direction the crown faces while you wear it lets people know your romantic "status"!

The snake - There is a legend that says St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland. In fact, there never were snakes on the Emerald Isle. Indeed, he encouraged pagans to become Christian. The traditional sign for evil in Christianity is the snake.



Celtic Cross - Irish travelers love these symbols of Ireland. In the history of St. Patrick when he converted the pagans, he wanted them to adopt the Christian cross. To help the pagans, traditional worshippers of nature, identify with the Christian cross, he had a sun, a highly revered pagan symbol, incorporated into the cross.

St. Brigid Cross - 1 February is St. Brigid's Feast Day. A contemporary of St. Patrick, St. Brigid converted her father to Christianity. The crosses, woven from thrush, were created at the beginning of spring to help protect a farmer's holding. You will notice these symbols of Ireland in prominent places on farms, as for example the house and barn.

Celtic Knot - These symbols of Ireland have no beginning and no end, like nature. For some of them it is not clearly defined where they came from or what

they mean, exactly. Sometimes they ward off evil; sometimes they signify continuing life cycle. Regardless, they are always endless.

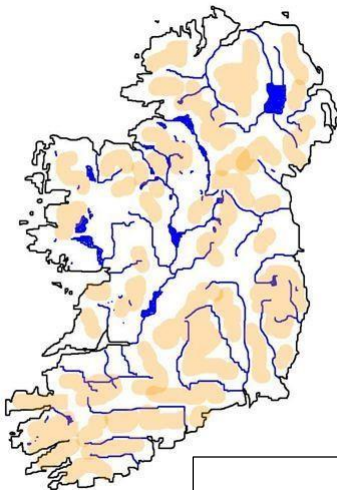
The leprechaun - We couldn't write about symbols of Ireland without mentioning the leprechaun, meaning sprite or fairy. The mythical creatures are traditionally shoemakers. If you catch one, you get three wishes and a pot of gold. During your trip to Ireland, make sure you try to spot one. It is like hitting the lottery, only a way more unique story to tell your friends.



### MUSIC

The harp, the bagpipes, the fiddle are very popular in the Irish tradition: Most of the Irish dance music was created from these instruments. There is also the flute, the whistle the accordion and a special drum called BODHRAN. This is a goatskin drum used widely in Irish music and also becoming popular in other Celtic areas.

### Exercises



#### 1) Identify and label the two rivers on the map:

- The River Shannon
- The River Liffey

#### 2) While watching the video about Dublin write down some key words you understand

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4c7dOJkxdM>

#### 3) Locate and label the following towns:

- Waterford
- Cork
- Galway

**4) Watch the video and Write two sentences about St. Patrick**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mq000808Gmk>

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**And two sentences about St. Patrick's day**

- c. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5) Which traditional Irish musical instrument do you like? Explain why?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6) Complete the description of the Irish flag! Use the words in the box**

<i>Tricolour</i>	<i>British</i>	<i>Peace</i>	<i>People</i>	<i>Rectangles</i>
<i>1848</i>	<i>Centre</i>	<i>Flag</i>		

The Republic of Ireland's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ is made of three equal-sized (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of orange, white, and green (this type of flag is called a (3) \_\_\_\_\_). The flag is twice as wide as it is tall. The green side is by the flagpole. This flag was first used in (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The green colour on the flag represents the native (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of Ireland (most of whom are Roman Catholic). The orange colour represents the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ supporters of William of Orange who settled in Northern Ireland in the 17th century (most of whom are Protestant). The white in the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the flag represents (8) \_\_\_\_\_ between these two groups of people.

7) Match the words with their meanings and related pictures.

	Letter	Number
BODHRAN		
LEPRECON		
FIDDLE		
STEW		
MUSSELS		
PEAK		
PROTESTANT		
CATHOLIC		
CATTLE		
EMERALD		

1. A shallow one-sided Irish drum typically played using a short stick with knobbed ends.

2. A dish of meat and vegetables cooked slowly in liquid in a closed pan.

3. The pointed top of a mountain.

4. A green transparent variety of beryl: highly valued as a gem.

5. A violin played as a folk instrument

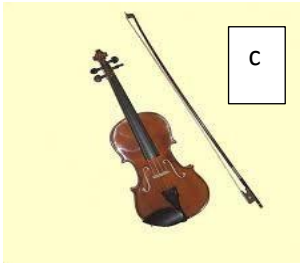
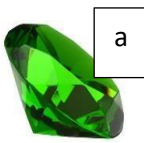
6. A member or follower of any of the Western Christian Churches that are separate from the Roman Catholic Church in accordance with the principles of the Reformation.

7. A mischievous elf, often believed to have a treasure hoard

8. Denoting or relating to the Roman Catholic Church

9. Cows and bulls kept by farmers for their milk or meat. A group of cattle is called a herd

10. Small sea creatures that have a black shell with two parts that close tightly together. They can be eaten.



Serena, Elisa 2^E

## 8) Read the text about St. Patrick. Choose and circle the correct words

Saint Patrick is the patron saint of **Ireland – England - France** and every year on the **16th of March - 17th of March - 7th of March** Irish people all over the world have a huge **party – festival - celebration** in his honor.

He was born in **England – Wales - Ireland**. It was the year 373 and the Romans still ruled that part of the world. Many of the people in Wales and Ireland were druids who worship the **sun - moon - planet** and other aspects of the nature. But Patrick was a Christian and when he was 16 he was captured and taken to Ireland, made slave and put in the fields. But one day he heard God telling him to escape and run down to the **ship – sea - sand** where he found a ship waiting to take him home. When he was grown up he heard a voice calling on him to **go away from - to stay - to return** to Ireland and to tell people about Christianity which is what he did.

Patrick had many adventures while traveling Ireland, in order to spread his **culture – ideas – message**. But quite often, Druids were very angry with him for telling their followers to change their religion so his life was always in great danger.

Ireland is a very rainy country and the fields are emerald green. One of the most common plants that grows among the grass is the Shamrock, a small **cover - clover - pullover** with three leaves.

Saint Patrick used to pick up it and explained that the three leaves were the three aspects of God. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Saint Patrick is also famous for driving all the **faces - places – snakes** into the sea. So, there aren't any more **snakes – faces - places** in the beautiful emerald grass.

by Paula Muresan (exercise on St. Patrick)

# ITALY

## THE TERRITORY

Italy is a boot-shaped peninsula that juts out of southern Europe into the Adriatic Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and other waters. Its location has played a key role in its history.

The sea surrounds Italy, and mountains crisscross the interior, dividing it into regions. The Alps cut across the top of the country and are streaked with long, thin glacial lakes. From the western end of the Alps, the Apennines mountains stretch south down the entire peninsula.



[http://www.tedaltenberg.com/cabrillo/italian1/Italia\\_carta\\_fisica\\_800.png](http://www.tedaltenberg.com/cabrillo/italian1/Italia_carta_fisica_800.png)

West of the Apennines are wooded hills that are home to many of Italy's historic cities, including Rome. In the south are hot, dry coastlands and fertile plains where olives, almonds, and figs are grown.

Mainland Italy extends southward into the Mediterranean Sea as a large boot-shaped peninsula. This extension of land has forced the creation of individual bodies of water, namely the Adriatic Sea, Ionian Sea, Ligurian Sea and Tyrrhenian Sea



<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/italy/#italy-coliseum.jpg>

The northern part of the country is dominated by the Alps, a massive stretch of mountains that extends from West to East separating Italy from France and Austria. Italy's highest point is the summit of Mont Blanc (or Monte Bianco) WHICH rises to 4,748 m.

The beautiful and rugged Lake District of northern Italy includes many mountain lakes, with the major ones being Como, Garda and Maggiore.

The Po River Valley is positioned directly south of Alps, and runs from Mont Viso to the Adriatic Sea. It is Italy's longest river and the valley it dissects is the country's most fertile farmland.

The Apennine Mountains (a range of mountains) form the backbone of the Italian peninsula, and they extend south through Italy, then directly beneath the narrow Strait of Messina to cover much of Sicily. These mountains consist of several chains and they form the peninsula's watershed, as several rivers rise in the upper elevations, including the Arno and the Tiber.

About 30% of Italy's land area consists of plains. The coastline of the country features numerous large and small bays, as well as gulfs.

The Amalfi Coast south of Naples, and the Cinque Terra in Liguria offer some of the most spectacular coastal scenery imaginable as steep rocky slopes rush down to the sea, and tiny villages with colorful houses pack much of the cliffs.

Italy is renowned for its many rugged islands. Significant ones include the large islands of Sardinia and Sicily and the smaller islands of Capri, Elba, Ischia, and the Aeolian Island group.

Italy has some volcanoes which are active, including Sicily's Mt. Etna, Stomboli in the Aeolian Islands, and volcanologists are constantly monitoring Mt. Vesuvius near Naples, as it has the potential to erupt at any time.



<http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/europe/italy/itland.htm>

## **ECONOMY**

Italy has a diversified industrial economy, which is divided into a developed industrial north, dominated by private companies, and a less-developed, welfare-dependent, agricultural south.

The Italian economy is driven in large part by the manufacture of high-quality consumer goods produced by small and medium-sized enterprises.

Economy of Italy Major Industries are tourism, machinery, iron and steel, chemicals, food processing, textiles, motor vehicles, clothing, footwear, ceramics.

As for agricultural products, we should mention: fruits, vegetables, grapes, potatoes, sugar beets, soybeans, grain, olives; beef, dairy products; fish.

Major Exports: engineering products, textiles and clothing, production machinery, motor vehicles, transport equipment, chemicals; food, beverages and tobacco; minerals, and nonferrous metals.

## **GOVERNMENT**

Italy is now a parliamentary republic. Italy was a monarchy from its unification in the second half of the 19th century (1861 – “Regno d’Italia” with king Vittorio Emanuele di Savoia) until 1946, when it became a parliamentary republic following a national referendum. On 1st January 1948, it adopted a constitutional charter, which defines the political and civil liberties of citizens and the principles

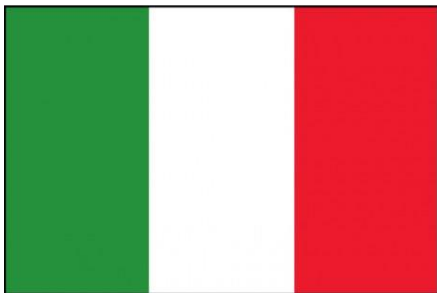


of government. Italy is headed by a President who appoints a Prime Minister, the elected head of government. The seat of government is Rome, the Palazzo del Quirinale is the seat of the President of the republic, the chamber of deputies sits in the Palazzo Montecitorio and the senate occupies the Palazzo Madama.

Italy is a charter member of NATO and the European Economic Community (EEC) and its subsequent successors the EC and the EU. It has been at the forefront of European economic and political unification, joining the Economic and Monetary Union in 1999.

Italy is divided into 20 regions. The largest of these regions by population are Lombardy, Campania, Lazio, and Sicily. The largest by area are Sicily, Piedmont, Sardinia, and Lombardy.

The national anthem is "Fratelli d'Italia" by Mameli.



The Italian flag, called the "Tricolore", was adopted on January 1, 1948. It has three equally sized vertical stripes of green (left side), white (middle), and red (right). The green can represent hope or the green hills of Italy. The white can stand for faith or the snow-capped Alps. The red can represent charity or the blood spilt during the war for independence.

<http://www.ducksters.com/geography/country/italy.php>

## Fact Files

- There is a myth that the city of Rome was founded on 21st April 753 B.C. by two brothers named Romulus and Remus. Now the legend says that they were raised in a cave by a she-wolf!
- Italy only became a country in 1861, just over 150 years ago.
- By the year 2000 B.C., Italic tribes had established themselves in Italy. They were followed by the Etruscans in 800 B.C. and the Greeks, who established colonies known as Magna Graeca in southern Italy. Rome was founded in 753 B.C., and soon thereafter the Romans began conquering the peninsula.



Rome was founded in 753 B.C., and soon thereafter the Romans began conquering the peninsula. At its height in A.D. 117, the Roman Empire stretched from Portugal in the West to Syria in the east, and from Britain in the North to the North African deserts across the Mediterranean. It covered 2.3 million miles and had a population of 120 million people.

<https://www.factretriever.com/italy-facts>

- The Renaissance is a period from the 14th to the 17th century, considered the bridge between the Middle Ages and Modern history. It started as a cultural movement in Italy in the Late Medieval period and

later spread to the rest of Europe. The Renaissance was a time of great beauty and art. Italian artists like Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo created great works of art during this time.



<https://kidskconnect.com/history/renaissance>

## EXERCISES

### 1) Answer the following questions:

- Where is Italy? (Position in Europe and borders)
- What is the longest Italian river?
- Which is the river flowing through Rome?
- Which are the two main chains of mountains?
- Which is the Italian capital?
- When was it founded?
- When did Italy become a united country?
- How long has it been a Republic?



### 2) Watch the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5mpdzUIFmw>

then number the topics as they are introduced

	<b>Artists</b>		<b>Capital city</b>
	<b>Monuments in Rome</b>		<b>Position</b>
	<b>Venice</b>		<b>Flag</b>
	<b>Sport</b>		<b>Naples</b>

**3) What did you learn about .....**?

- a) Milan
- b) Rome
- c) Naples
- d) Venice

**4) In the video, there are two slips-up, can you correct them**

- a. SWEETS should be replaced with another English word \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The Vatican City is not in Rome; The Vatican City is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5) Stereotypes about Italy**

Watch the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLNGxsFGVzU>  
and:

- a) Say which is true (T) or false (F)
  - Good cooks
  - Like to try new food
  - Friendly
  - Being happy
  - Speak more than one language
  - Like travelling

- b) write some key words for each stereotype the girl refers to .....

# THE NETHERLANDS

**GEOGRAPHY:** As you may know, most of the Netherlands is under the sea level. This is possible thanks to the constructions of canals, dams and dikes. Canals are navigable because of a maritime climate which permits the building of coastal resorts. The Netherlands is a flat country and the longest river is the Rhine.

It is located in north-west of Europe; It faces onto the North Sea to the north and west; Belgium to the south; Germany to the east.

## POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

The Netherlands has been a constitutional monarchy since 1815 and a parliamentary democracy since 1848.

The monarch, which has limited power, is the head of state, at present King Willem-Alexander. The executive power is formed by the council of Ministers, the Dutch cabinet. It is formed by 13 or 16 ministers. The cabinet is responsible to the bicameral parliament, the States General, which also has legislative powers. The Prime Minister is the head of government.



## FACT FILES

- DID YOU KNOW THAT CALLING THIS COUNTRY “HOLLAND” IS WRONG? WHICH IS THE CORRECT NAME?

The Netherlands is often referred to by the name Holland, but this usage is incorrect. Holland is only a province of the kingdom. There are 10 more provinces in The Netherlands.

The Netherlands is also known as “The low country” and it is frequently associated with polders. We quote an English saying "God created the world but the Dutch created their country" which is to explain that the Dutch have worked with polders to take land away from the sea, creating their Country.

We refer to the people as the Dutch and the language they speak is Dutch.

- HAVE YOU EVER HEARD ABOUT THE KING’S DAY?

The 27th of April is the King’s day, it is the biggest national event in The Netherlands. Everything and everyone turns orange and celebrates on the King’s Day. You will have plenty of music shows, fairs, flea markets and parties throughout the country. Even the Dutch royal family goes on tour to be received by one or more Dutch towns for an entertainment- filled day. Amsterdam is transformed into the nation’s biggest orange

party town. The Hague has “Koningsnach” or King’s Night with dozens of music performances in the city centre. The town of Utrecht boasts the biggest flea market in the Netherlands.

➤ WHY DID WE REFER TO “ORANGE” when talking about this special day?

Orange is the colour of the Dutch Royal family, which dates back to William of Orange. Therefore, the colour “orange” has royal roots in the Netherlands, but today it also symbolizes a broader pride in the country and in being Dutch.

➤ WHAT ABOUT THE FLAG?

The Netherlands’ flag is composed by a horizontal tricolour (red, white and blue) which were chosen as colours of liberty.

These colours represent: - peace and honesty, white.

- bravery and valour, red.

- truth and loyalty, blue.

➤ ANTHEM

The anthem, called Wilhelmus (William in English) was composed by an unknown artist during the 16th century and then adapted by Adrianus Valerius, a composer. The anthem, which is about the Father of the Nation and the Dutch revolution, was officially adopted in 1932. It is the oldest known national anthem in the world.

## EXERCISES

### 1) Read the text written by a Dutch student and answer the questions

The Netherlands is a small country in West Europe and people speak Dutch. There are not many people in that country, because it’s not very big, but it’s a very fun country to live in. There aren't any mountains in this country, because it used to be a part of the ocean. That’s why this country is called the Netherlands, it literally means low lands, because it’s below the sea level.



There are living 17 million people in this country. When you hear it like this, it doesn’t seem much. The capital city of our country is Amsterdam. It’s a very pretty, and crowded city. There are more



bikes in Amsterdam than there are people. Amsterdam is famous because of its canals and the canal houses. It’s the 4th biggest gay city in the world. But back to the bicycles, Dutch people love to cycle, because there aren't any mountains in our country, it’s a easy and cheap way to travel. On average, people have 1,5 bicycles per person.

Food isn’t the most special thing in this country, but the most extraordinary things you can find here are hotchpot, stroopwafels and drop. Not many people like hotchpot and drop, but almost everyone loves stroopwafels. It’s also famous because of clogs, windmills and tulips of course.

- 1) What language do Dutch people speak?
- 2) Has the Netherlands got any mountains?
- 3) What is the population of the Netherlands?
- 4) Is the Netherland a flat or mountainous country?
- 5) Why is this country called the Netherlands?
- 6) What is the capital of this country?
- 7) Why is Amsterdam so famous?
- 8) Why bicycles are important?
- 9) What can you find in this country?
- 10) Why is it famous?



## 2) Connect the following words whit their meaning










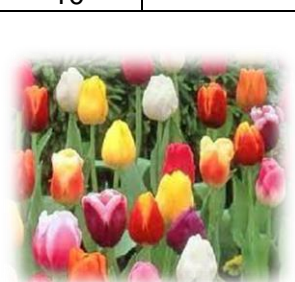


A	B
<b>1. Average</b>	a. A type of shoe made of wood
<b>2. Canal</b>	b. An African plant of the iris family
<b>3. Stroopwafel</b>	c. A standard or level that is considered to be typical or usual
<b>4. Clog</b>	d. A Dutch pastry that is round with syrup in between two flat waffles
<b>5. Windmill</b>	e. A long, thin stretch of water that is artificially made to convey water
<b>6. Tulip</b>	f. A structure with parts which are turned by the wind and produce power, pump water etc....

1. \_\_\_\_\_ , 2. \_\_\_\_\_ , 3. \_\_\_\_\_ , 4. \_\_\_\_\_ , 5. \_\_\_\_\_ , 6. \_\_\_\_\_ .

## 3) True or false? Correct the false ones

1) The Netherlands is a small country with a lot of people.	T	F
2) It's mainly a lowland.	T	F
3) It's above the level of the sea.	T	F
4) There are more people than bikes.	T	F
5) Most people have more than a bike.	T	F
6) Hotchop isn't loved by many while drop and stroopwafels are.	T	F
7) The country is known for clogs, windmills and tulips.	T	F

4) Which of these elements represent the Netherlands. Put a tick next to the number of the picture

1		2		3		4	
5		6		7		8	
9		10		11		12	

by Bianca and Lucia 2^G and Andrea, Giulia 2^D, Ilaria, Matilde, Aleksandra 2^G

# NORWAY



## The Land

Norway occupies the most elevated part of the Scandinavian Peninsula, which, in general, rises abruptly from the sea in the west and the north and slopes gradually downward toward the southeast. All the area was glaciated during the last ice age. Norway's landforms consist mainly of eroded, rounded mountains and plateaus and innumerable valleys. Many of the

mountains reach elevations of 4,000 to 6000 feet. Some of the mountainous areas are capped by snowfields and glaciers. Probably the most spectacular landforms are the great fjords on the jagged west and north coasts. Some of these rather narrow, cliff-lined arms of the sea extend great distances inland.

## Bodies of Water

Lakes and streams are abundant in all parts of Norway. Few of the lakes are of impressive size; the largest, Lake Mjösa, covers roughly 140 square miles (360 k2). The longest river, the Glomma, is about 370 miles (600 km) in length. Many of Norwegian swiftly flowing rivers are invaluable sources of waterpower for Norway's manufacturing industries.



## **Climate**

Norway lies at about the same latitude as Alaska and northern Russia, but its climate is far less severe. The coldest areas in the winter are often inland or far to the north. Actually, its climate is wildly different from region to region and season to season, and the entire coastline is greatly warmed by the Gulf Stream. Winters are long and fairly cold, summers brief and cool. The southwestern coast is slightly warmer, the north coast somewhat colder. Most of the fjords are ice-free all year. Precipitation is heaviest along the west coast and on windward mountain slopes, reaching 40 to 80 inches or more a year. Annual amounts decrease toward the east. Most of Norway has much cloudy weather and abundant snow.

## **Vegetation**

Forests cover about 25 per cent of the land, growing mainly in the central and southern sections. Elsewhere, tundra and bare rocky land prevail. The forests consist largely of conifers, such as spruce, pine, and fir. Deciduous trees—oak, ash, maple, elm, and birch—grow mixed with conifers in some low-lying areas. Stunted birch trees are found in the far north on the edge of the tundra and beyond the limit of the conifers on the mountains. Vegetation in the tundra and above the timberline consists of low shrubs, mosses, and lichens.

## **The Economy**

Today Norway is one of the most advanced country in the world, not only because of the development of its economy and technology. Norway is considered one of the richest and most developed county in the world. Its economy is highly competitive and it is oriented toward export. In fact, 50 percent of its products is exported to other countries. The countries that import the most from Norway are the Nordic ones and Europe.

Norway's economic growth has been fueled by natural resources, including petroleum exploration and production, hydroelectric power, and fishing. The most important activity in the primary sector is fishing. This sector is particularly flourishing in the Norwegian economy. Since the discovery of petroleum in the Ekofisk field in 1969, oil and natural gas industries have become vital to Norway's economy. In fact, it is the third exporter after Saudi Arabia and Russia.

Other mineral resources include iron, gold, copper, lead, zinc, titanium, pyrites, and nickel. Almost all of Norway's electricity is supplied by hydroelectric power and the country exports hydroelectricity as well. The chief trading partners are Great Britain, Germany, Sweden, and France. Thanks to the enormous quantity of low price electric energy, it has developed iron, steel and metallurgical industries. Other important industries are mechanic, textile, food industries and paper production.

## **GOVERNMENT**

According to the Constitution, which was adopted in 1814, Norway is a monarchy in which the power is divided between three branches: a legislative branch which is also responsible for appropriations, the Storting; an executive branch, the Government; and a judicial branch, the courts.

**RELIGION**

In Norway, the official religion is the Evangelical Lutheran but the constitution also guarantees freedom of religion. The main religious holidays celebrate belief in the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ. In recent years, immigrant populations have brought Islam to the nation. Language - The most widely spoken language in Norway is Norwegian. The major languages of the indigenous minority and majority populations are Samisk and two official Norwegian languages, which are Germanic languages.

**FLAG**

The Norwegian flag was designed in 1821. It is based on the Danish flag, marking the union with the Kingdom of Denmark from 1397 until 1814. The colors of the Norwegian flag are believed to have been influenced by the flags of France, the United States and Britain and are considered the colors of liberty and independence. The blue cross is common to most Scandinavian flags, and represents the union between Norway and Sweden.

Important cities

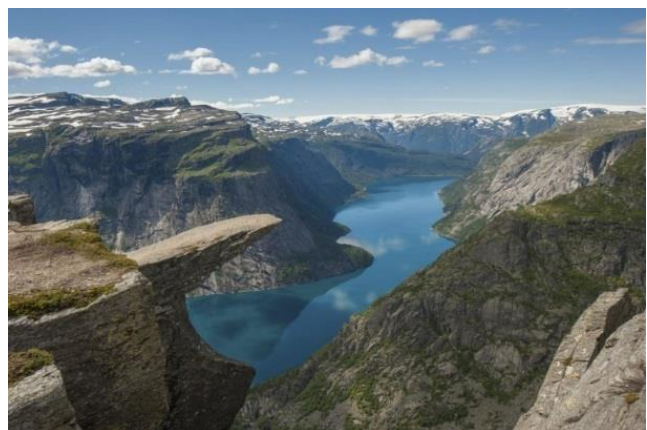
**OSLO**, the Capital of Norway since 1814, is located between the Oslo Fjord and the green hills rich in forests and animals. In 2007 Oslo has been appointed second city greener and respectful of the Environment. It is rich in attractions, museums, galleries ' art



and shops. You cannot leave Oslo without having first met her painter Edward Munch. The paintings of this artist so ingenious and tormented are exposed to the Munch Museum and the National Gallery where you will find his most famous painting, "the scream".

However, to admire the artistic sense of this city you do not have to miss the Vigeland Park, which is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Oslo, and it is home to 212 sculptures by Gustav Vigeland.

**Tromsø** is another of the most beautiful cities of Norway and its center is a large expanse of



buildings where no shortage of attractions. One major example is Polaria, an arctic aquarium where the main

attraction are the bearded seals. These animals, typical of the Arctic regions, are very popular with children because of their peaceful and sociable behaviour. Another is Fjellheisen cable car that takes you up the mountain of Storsteinen to 420 meters high, from where you can admire the city, the mountains and surrounding waterways.

**Bergen** is a coastal city and the second most populated city of the country, after Oslo. It is known as the city where rains 365 days a year. The city is famous for its university but especially for its dock, Bryggen, an ancient dock declared World Patrimony of humanity from the Unesco. The dock is also close to the fish market where you can taste the authentic Norwegian salmon or the whale's meat. On Saturday, at night, extraordinary parties are organized on the boats.

**Islands Svalbard:** One of the world's largest areas of untouched nature is in the Islands Svalbard. In the dark season, it's without any daylight and this attracts people from all over the world to experience the unique northern lights of the High Arctic.

by Antonella, Manuela, Matilde 2<sup>A</sup>E and Gerardi Martina 2<sup>A</sup>E

### **Something very special**

Nothing else on the sky looks like the Northern Lights! While the sun, the moon and the stars are visible from everywhere and natural parts of our everyday life, the Northern Lights can only be seen in certain areas. They vary in color and intensity and as opposed to the moon, sun and stars they are unpredictable and unique. The Northern Lights in Norway are called the night-time Aurora because they are on the night-side of the earth.

The Northern Lights are visible between September/October and March when the sky is clear, depending on the Northern Lights activity. They might even be visible as early as in late August.

Resource: <http://www.norvegia.cc/economia-della-norvegia.html>

[/http://pianetaviaggi.altervista.org/Europa/Norvegia/Economianorvegia.htm](http://pianetaviaggi.altervista.org/Europa/Norvegia/Economianorvegia.htm)

and other Italian sites

RESOURCE: <http://www.10cose.it/oslo/cosa-vedere-oslo.html>

<http://www.visitnorway.com/it/dove-andare/la-norvegia-del-nord/tromso>

<http://www.visitnorway.com/it/dove-andare/la-norvegia-del-nord/kirkenes-and-eastern-finnmark/safari-al-granchio-reale/>

<https://www.fjordtravel.no/destinations-norway/see-the-northern-lights-in-norway/>

EXERCISES

1) **After reading the description, draw the Norwegian Flag**

The flag of Norway has a red background with a blue 'Scandinavian cross' on it. The Scandinavian cross is outlined by white stripes. The vertical stripe of the cross is not centred; instead, it's based on the left side. The colours were influenced by French Tricolour, which is known as a sign of liberty. Although the flag was already in use since 1821, it was officially hoisted in 1899.



2) **With a pencil circle, on the map, the names of the towns you hear during the presentation.**

3. **Complete the following text using the words in the box**

Mountainous – Sweden – Europe – Ranges – Phenomenon – Finland – Glaciers – Russia – Sun – Landmass – Valleys – Coastline – Peninsula – Cliffs – Country

Norway is a \_\_\_\_\_ located in Northern \_\_\_\_\_ on the western and northern part of the Scandinavian \_\_\_\_\_. It borders the North Sea to the southwest and the Norwegian Sea in the west and the Barents Sea to the northeast. Norway has a long land border with \_\_\_\_\_ to the east, a shorter one with \_\_\_\_\_ in the northeast and a still shorter border with \_\_\_\_\_ in the far northeast. Norway is one of Europe's most \_\_\_\_\_ countries, and dominated north to south by the many \_\_\_\_\_ of the Scandinavian Mountains.

It's a rugged land of elevated plateaus, deep forested \_\_\_\_\_ and a few remaining ice age \_\_\_\_\_, including Jostedalbreen - the largest glacier on the continental Europe \_\_\_\_\_.

Norway's \_\_\_\_\_ is famous for its fjords, which are sea inlets between steep \_\_\_\_\_. The fjords were carved out by glaciers.

In Norway, you can admire the natural \_\_\_\_\_ of the midnight sun that occurs in the summer months in places north of the Arctic Circle or south of the Antarctic Circle, when the \_\_\_\_\_ remains visible at the local midnight.

**4) Match the words with their meaning.**

- a. Fjords
- b. Northern lights
- c. Vikings
- d. Peak

1. The pointed top of a mountain or a tall mountain with a pointed or narrow top.

2. A long, narrow, deep inlet of the sea between steep slopes, especially shaped by glacial action

3. Scandinavian people who attacked the coasts of Europe in the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D.

4. An aurora that occurs in earth's northern hemisphere. It is called aurora borealis

a. \_\_\_\_\_, b. \_\_\_\_\_, c. \_\_\_\_\_, d. \_\_\_\_\_

**5) What can you see in the video?**

<https://vimeo.com/141923748>

# TURKEY

Turkey is a Eurasian country situated in a geostrategic location, in the Anatolian Peninsula at the crossroad between Europe and Asia. It is bordered by the countries of Bulgaria to the north, Georgia, Armenia, Iran and Azerbaijan to the east, Iraq and Syria to the south and Greece to the west. Turkey has 4.500 miles of



coastline: to the north the Black Sea, to the west by the Aegean Sea and to the south by the Mediterranean Sea.

The interior consists of mountains, hills, valleys, and a high central plateau. The western coastal plains are generally more densely populated and industrial than are the central and eastern regions, except for Ankara on the central Anatolian plateau. Because Asia Minor was home to Lydians, Hittites, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Seljuks, and Ottomans over the centuries, it is dotted with historic monuments.

## Climate

Turkey's climate is different in each region of the country, because it is influenced by the sea and natural factors like mountains, plains and wind. Specifically, it has a Mediterranean climate in the Southwest part of the country, which means that it's hot, dry in the summers with mild and wet winters, while in the interior part and the eastern part it's harsher, with moderate winters and mild summers, precipitations are very plentiful. Turkey has a Mediterranean and an Oceanic climate near the coastal areas: the summers are hot and warm, and the winters are mild, sometimes wet, with moderate rainfall. An exceptional case is the Turkish Black Sea coast that receives the greatest amount of precipitation in all the area throughout the year.

The vegetation is mainly of deciduous forests and Mediterranean scrub. Instead, the interior regions have an extreme Continental climate with sharply contrasting seasons. Temperatures of -30 or -40 °C can occur in the hardest winter. On the other hand, the summers are really hot and dry. The central area is mainly composed by a huge plateau located between the K ro lu, the Pontic and the Taurus Mountains ranges with its highest mountain named Ararat (5165 meters). Here (in the steppe) the vegetation is of lichens and mosses.

## ECONOMY

The Turkish economy is quite weak. Its agricultural industry develops on the production of tobacco, cotton, grain, olives, citrus, hazelnuts, pulses and sugar beets.

The main industries are textiles, food processing, automobiles, electronics, mining (coal, chromate, copper, boron), steel, petroleum, which helps a little bit its economy situation, construction, lumber, paper.



Turkey is also well known all over the world for its unique tourism sites. It offers many possibilities to enjoy the beauty of this country. It has many famous and mysterious historical sites, like Göbekli Tepe, one of the oldest manmade worshipped places worldwide, in fact, it's even older than Stonehenge; the Blue Mosque, which was the ambitious creation of 19-year-old Sultan Ahmed I—he began the project in 1609, and today it's one of Istanbul's most iconic sites.



## SOCIETY

The country's population was 80.3 million people in 2016, nearly three-quarters of whom lived in towns and cities. The three "Non-Muslim" minority groups officially recognised are Armenians, Greeks and Jews. The Kurds, a distinct ethnic group, are the largest non-Turkic ethnicity, around 18–25 percent of the population. Kurds are concentrated in the east and southeast of the country, in what is also known as Turkish Kurdistan. The official language is Turkish, but it's also spoken Kurdish and other unofficial languages. 99.8% of the population is Muslim.

## POLITICS

Turkey gained independence on 29 October 1923. The Ottoman empire became a parliamentary republic, which means it is a republic that operates under a parliamentary system of government where the government derives its

legitimacy from and is accountable to the parliament.

The most important cities are Ankara which is the capital, Istanbul, Izmir, Bursa. Even if Ankara is the capital city, Istanbul is the most populated one.

Although Istanbul is the major city and was the capital of the Ottoman Empire, the first president—Mustafa Kemal Atatürk—chose Ankara, an interior Anatolian city, as the capital in 1923. Militarily



Ankara was less exposed and more easily defended than Istanbul. The choice also symbolized Atatürk's policy of nationalism, because Ankara was more Turkish and less cosmopolitan than the old capital.

## FLAG

The flag of Turkey is red with a vertical white crescent moon (the closed portion is toward the hoist side) and white five-pointed star centered just outside the crescent opening.

According to legend, the flag represents the reflection of the moon and a star in a pool of blood of Turkish warriors.

## CITIES

**Ankara** is the capital of Turkey with a population of over 4.4 million inhabitants, is the second Turkish city after Istanbul. The city extends on the Anatolian plateau 938 meters above the sea level. It is the seat of the Turkish parliament and government.



Ankara's foundation

dates back to the Bronze Age, after 395 the city was part of the 'Eastern Roman Empire, and became an important Byzantine settlement.

It is strategically located in the middle of the country; it serves as a crossroads for the national motorway and rail networks and it is an important commercial and industrial center especially regarding the agricultural sector. The city is one of the driest places of Turkey because of its location surrounded by steppes and because of the continental climate with its cold and snowy winters, hot and dry summers. The rainfalls are concentrated in spring and the autumn.

In the past, the city became famous for Angora goats, from which we get the precious mohair wool.

The Atakule Tower, is a famous attraction of Ankara, is the tallest structure of the city, with a mall placed in its groundfloor.

It is located in the Turkish capital also The Anıtkabir, which is the mausoleum of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder and first president of modern Turkey. Apart from being a mausoleum, it is also a museum, with many objects dating back before or at the time of the founding of the republic. The museum traces the history of the Turkish country. It is an important tourist place where also ceremonies are held.

Ankara is also known, in Turkey, for the multitude of universities that it hosts.

**Istanbul** is a city full of charm and mystery, a metropolis that extends between the European continent and Asia, divided by the suggestive Bosphorus Strait.



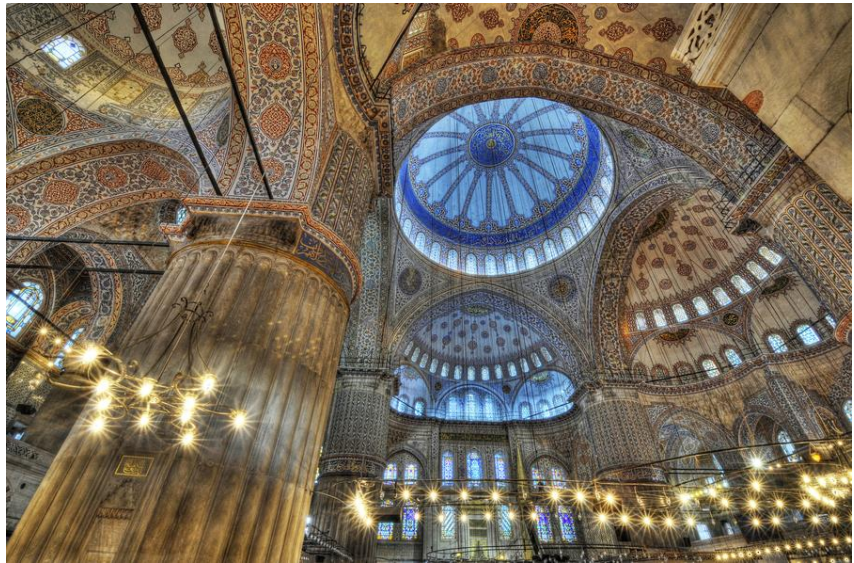
What was once the famous capital of the Western Roman Empire, now it's the economic capital of Turkey. This city has more than 13000000 inhabitants, in fact it is the most populated city in Europe.

The climate of Istanbul is tempered: winter is cold and wet, and it is characterized by alternating periods of mild and rainy periods and rather harsh and snowy; summer is hot and very humid, while spring and autumn are mild and agreeable. Istanbul is characterized especially by strong winds such as the Poyrazed and the Lodos.

In recent years, the city has been the subject of several terrorist attacks, as for the Taksim Square massacre occurred in 1977, and the attacks of 1999, 2003 and 2008.

Almost the entire population of this city is Muslim, but there are also other religious communities.

One of the most important attractions of Istanbul is the Blue Mosque: his name comes from the 21,043 ceramic tiles turquoise inserted in the walls and in the dome, in fact the turquoise is the dominant color in the temple. This mosque dates back to the seventeenth century and between the years 1953-1976 it was printed on 500 banknotes lire.



Another important monument of this very famous city is the

Topkapı Palace (which literally means "Gate of the Cannon"). It is located on the Seraglio promontory between the Golden Horn and the Sea of Marmara. The Topkapi Palace was built in 1453 following the conquest of Constantinople by Mohammed.

Even the Grand Bazaar is a major tourist attraction; it is always

busy for the entire opening hours. There you can find all kinds of spices, textiles and sweets, and very many handcraft shops. The Bazaar is open every day, except Sundays and Islamic religious holidays.



**Izmir** is a large metropolis in the western extremity of Anatolia and the third most populated city in Turkey. İzmir's metropolitan area extends along the outlying waters of the Gulf of İzmir and inland to the north across Gediz River's delta, to the east along an alluvial plain created by several small streams and to a slightly more rugged terrain in the south. It has a population of 3,401,994 inhabitants. İzmir has a Mediterranean climate, which is characterized by long, hot

and dry summers; and mild to cool, rainy winters.

The main sights of Izmir are:

- The İzmir Basmane Terminal is one of the two main railway stations in Izmir, the other station is Alsancak, which dates back to the nineteenth century.
- The Clock Tower, is a beautiful marble tower, which is in the middle of the Konak district, standing 25 m in height. The tower features four fountains, which are placed around the base in a circular pattern, and the columns are inspired by North African themes.
- Buca Gölet (literally Pond of Buca) is an artificial lake and a recreation center around the lake.

### Facts files

- Turkey is also well known for its hot-air balloons on which you can reach the top of the sky from where you can admire the breathtaking landscapes.
- Turkey has 13 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, such as the "Historic Areas of Istanbul", the "Rock Sites of Cappadocia". Turkey hosts two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World: the Mausoleum in Halicarnassus and the Temple of Artemis in Ephesus.
- In every Turkish home, carpets and rugs sit proudly on the floors. With elaborate decoration, the handmade carpets have also become popular holiday souvenirs. Stemming from the days of the nomadic tribes, unfortunately, some rogue salespersons sell fake Turkish carpets. In recent years, as décor design has become more modern, some Turks also opt for the factory-made carpets that are often cheaper.
- In direct disbelief of Islamic traditions, the Nazar Boncugu – the Blue Eye -, also known as the evil eye is in offices, homes, in transport and businesses. Turks believe this talisman wards off evil and these days, as well as featuring heavily in Turkish culture, it is one of the top recommended souvenirs to buy

<http://dinolingo.com/blog/2012/02/15/turkish-culture-facts-for-children-food-clothes-values-music-communication-travel-stories-festivals-and-more/#.WJ44FfnhC00>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tu.html?>

<http://www.hometurkey.com>

<http://turkeyflag.facts.co/turkeyflagof/turkeyflag.php>

<https://www.slideshare.net/3563/turkey-presentation-17940488>

Wikipedia - Encyclopedia Treccani - Everyculture

**EXERCISES**



1) In the larger map identify the three climatic areas



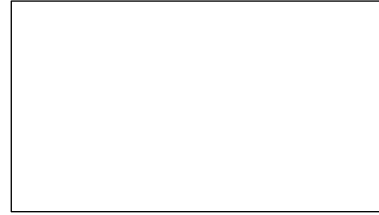
2) Complete the chart

Name	Location	Key words or concepts about each city
ANKARA		
ISTAMBUL		
IZMIR		

3) On the map, place the three cities



**4) Here below draw and colour the Turkish flag**



**5) Read the text and fill in the blanks with the words in the box**

A short text about Turkey

Called	Raw	Larger	Founded	Asia	Portion	Has	Conquerors	Share
Europe	Population	Located						

Turkey is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the Middle East; it is a Eurasian country with territory in both (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and (3) \_\_\_\_\_. About 3 % of its territory belongs to the European region known as Thrace. It is separated from the Asian (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of Turkey by a series of waterways that connect the Black Sea with the Aegean Sea. The rest of the country is in Asia, mostly on the peninsula of Asia Minor, which is the westernmost extension of the continent.

This region is also (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Anatolia. Turkey's territory is structurally complex and divided into five regions. All of the regions (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a generally mountainous terrain, and many large lakes and rivers appear throughout the country.

The country shares borders with Bulgaria, Greece, Iraq, Syria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, and Georgia. It also has coastal borders on the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Aegean Sea. With a total area of about 780,580 square kilometers, the country is slightly (7) \_\_\_\_\_ than the state of Texas. Turkey is administratively divided into eighty provinces.

Turkey (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a rich natural landscape, such as the Taurus Mountains and the Anatolian plateau, with natural wonders, unique in the world.

The Turkish economy has expanded significantly in recent years.

The number of factories is increasing as for the assembly of cars (Fiat, Renault, Ford, Toyota, Mercedes, etc.), machine tools and the processing sector. However, more than half of the active (9) \_\_\_\_\_ is still working in agriculture.

Tourism is in constant and progressive increase. Turkey is also rich in (10) \_\_\_\_\_ materials. The landmass that is now Turkey had been a cradle to a wide variety of civilizations and kingdoms in ancient times. The Seljuk Turks were the first Turkish power to arrive in the 11th century as (11) \_\_\_\_\_, who proceeded to conquer the Byzantine Empire with its Greek population and heritage.

Their Turkish successors (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Ottoman Empire and they dominated for 600 years.

by Giorgia and Angelica 2^D; Benedetta, Arianna and Luana 2^G

## CHOSEN by the ITALIAN STUDENTS

On TwinSpace pages of our partners in the E4U project, the Italian students have chosen some interesting texts to use for the Geography lessons they gave to the younger pupils. Here are some samples

### GREETINGS

People in Czech Republic are very friendly, helpful, kind and funny. To greet each other they are used to say simply: Čau or Ahoj, which mean “Hi” or “Hello”.

As the first one is more informal, said that to family and friends.

Greetings are mainly divided into two groups: formal and informal.

If you want to use the informal greeting, you must have already received the permission. In fact using an informal greeting without invitation may seem an insult.

They use informal greetings when they meet someone they don't know. They usually shake each other's hand, keeping eye contact, and use the most appropriate greeting for the time of the day.

Dobré ráno: Good Morning

Dobré odpoledne: Good afternoon



They can also use the multifunctional phrase: Dobrý den (which means “Good day”).

In class to greet teacher they usually stand up for a while, until the teacher greets them.

However, if they know the person, they use informal greeting. This means they can hug each other, give kisses and say Ahoj (Hello) or Čau (Hi).

### About kissing each other

they can also kiss their friend's cheeks to greet each other but it is not usual.

In fact, when they meet someone new they shake hands, look into each other's eyes and say own name. It's impolite to refuse offered hand, shaking hands is only a demonstration of good manners.

### On a visit

In the Czech Republic, it is not allowed to be late to a visit. It would also be very rude if you presented yourself in old and dirty clothes. A little present, like flowers, is always a good idea.

When you enter to house, you should remove your shoes and hand your coat on a peg. You should remain standing until invited to sit down. You may be shown to a particular seat.

### Behaviour in public

There are several things that can or cannot be done if you are in Czech Republic, depending on the situation and on the good manners that everyone should have. Let's start with what you shouldn't be doing: you shouldn't be chewing a gum while you are talking, it's impolite. Many people like to chew gum, but they might not realize that chewing in public is really bad. If they are with their friends, it is accepted, but when they sit in a theatre, at school or at work it is forbidden. It is disturbing and socially awkward; you shouldn't talk too loudly when you're in public at the phone, moreover you shouldn't have your phone switched on if you're at school or at the theater. Then, when you're in public you can kiss your significant other but do not be too much passionate, people around you will feel uncomfortable. The biggest problem is smoking. Even if many smoke, many others are particularly annoyed by

it. In most places smoking is allowed, but if a person wants to smoke in places where it isn't allowed, he must go outside.

You can't smoke in certain places such as school, public traffic and some rooms in restaurant. Last but not least you should respect people so when you're at a public traffic you should give your seat to older people or to pregnant women.

## CULTURAL EVENTS

Citizens of Czech Republic love spending their spare time in many places with family or friends. There are a lot of cinemas and theaters, and in the last one people are used to be wearing elegant dresses for ladies and suit and tie for men. You can enjoy your time away from work also in museums, operas, concerts, and exhibitions. Once a week you can also have the possibility to learn how to dance and in these dancing lessons you will need your partner, meet new friends and have a lot of fun. Eventually men prefer the most going to pubs with a couple of friends, having a glass of beer and watching football or hockey matches.

## COSTUMES

Czech Republic doesn't have some united costumes.

We can say that in different parts of country people wear in different way, according to own regional costumes, that every year they were shown on big festival.

Even in schools they don't usually have uniforms.

Clothes are like us: children normally wear T-shirt and jeans or a skirt.

Also, teachers wear the same clothes as them, except for important event.

## TRADITIONS—Dance school

They have very beautiful traditions. For example, when you're 15 or even less, you can start going to the dance school.

There are masters who present and teach the dances, such as mazurka, polka, waltz, wales, slow waltz, tango, blues, jive, cha-cha.

Participants are dressed in social and festive clothes. Beside classic lessons there are longer lessons (in their language Prodloužená) and then, at the end, we have the final lesson (Věneček).

## AFTER READING, CHECK HOW MUCH YOU UNDERSTOOD or REMEMBER

### 1. If you're in public, you should

A- talk too loudly on the phone

B- talk quietly on the phone

### 2. When you're in public with your girlfriend/boyfriend you should

A- act normal and don't make strange things

B- kiss your partner with too much passion to make others embarrassed

### 3. When you are at school you should

A- have your phone switched on

B- have your phone turned off

- 4. When you are talking**  
A- you should be chewing a gum  
B- you shouldn't be chewing a gum
  
- 5. Smoking in the restaurant is**  
A- polite  
B- impolite
  
- 6. When you are in a public traffic**  
A- you should give your seat to older people  
B- you shouldn't give your seat to older people
  
- 7. When you go to the theater you need to wear**  
A- casual dresses  
B- elegant dresses and suits
  
- 8. You can go to the dancing classes**  
A- four times a week  
B- once a week
  
- 9. Men prefer going to pubs with friends to watch**  
A- baseball and basketball matches  
B- hockey and football matches
  
- 10. At the pub men like to have**  
A- a glass of wine  
B- a glass of beer

by Arianna and Benedetta 2^G



## GERMANY

They have three meals per day: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. In the mornings, a German drinks coffee to stay awake the whole day. Germans eat beef, lamb and pork meat the most. Germans are well known for their „Bratwurst“ or „Schnitzel“. They are eaten with French Fries. They also have a potato salad: a special salad made with potatoes and mayonnaise. There are also cucumbers, eggs, onions and herbs inside. Mostly you eat it with a sausage. Most of the typical German food is made of sausage and a pickled cabbage called „Sauerkraut“. In Germany, they call it „Bratwurst mit Sauerkraut“. Germany is also known for its beer. They have their own festival called „Oktoberfest“. They drink a lot of beer.

### Exercise: Complete with “that”; “which” and “where”.

They have three meals per day ..... are Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. In the mornings, every German drinks coffee to stay awake the whole day.

Germans eat beef, lamb and pork meat the most. Germans are well known for their „Bratwurst“ or „Schnitzel“ ..... are eaten with French Fries. They also have a potato salad ..... is a special salad made with potatoes and mayonnaise. There are also cucumbers, eggs, onions and herbs inside. Mostly you eat it with a sausage. Most of the typical German food is made of sausage and a pickled cabbage.....is called „Sauerkraut“. In Germany, they call it „Bratwurst mit Sauerkraut“.

Germany is also known for its beer. They have their own festival ..... is called „Oktoberfest“.....they drink a lot of beer.

### Breakfast (Frühstück)

A typical breakfast in Germany starts with a warm drink such as coffee, tea or hot cocoa. Next follows bread, bread rolls or toast with various typical spreads and toppings as butter, marmalade, margarine, cream cheese, nut nougat cream. Curd, sausages, cheese and eggs are also typical of breakfast. But nowadays the Germans eat a very simple breakfast as they have to work or go to school. But they take time at the weekend to have a nice breakfast.

### Lunch

Traditionally, Germans eat their main meal between 12 and 2 p.m. However, today, the midday meal is often eaten away from home or at work. People mostly eat noodles, Sauerbraten with Raisin Gravy,



potatoes, sauerkraut, potato salad with sausages or meat balls, Schnitzel with buttered vegetables, Fish fingers with mashed potatoes. Naturally, potatoes and rice are also often eaten as side dishes!

### Dinner

As dinner, the Germans eat bread with cheese or sausages. In Germany the dinner is called “Abendbrot”, this means evening bread.

## Complete the text with the present simple, participle, passive and have to...

### Breakfast (Frühstück)

A typical breakfast in Germany (to start) \_\_\_\_\_ with a warm drink such as coffee, tea or hot cocoa. Next bread, bread rolls or toast (to follow) \_\_\_\_\_ with various typical spreads and toppings as butter, marmalade, margarine, cream cheese, nut nougat cream. Curd, sausages, cheese and eggs (to be) \_\_\_\_\_ also typical of breakfast. But nowadays the Germans (to eat) \_\_\_\_\_ a very simple breakfast as they (to work) \_\_\_\_\_ or (to go) \_\_\_\_\_ to school. But they( to take) \_\_\_\_\_ time at the weekend (to have) \_\_\_\_\_ a nice breakfast.

### Lunch

Traditionally, Germans (to eat) \_\_\_\_\_ their main meal between 12 and 2 p.m. However, today, the midday meal (to be) \_\_\_\_\_ often (to eat) \_\_\_\_\_ away from home or at work. People mostly (to eat) \_\_\_\_\_ noodles, Sauerbraten with Raisin Gravy, potatoes, sauerkraut, potato salad with sausages or meat balls, Schnitzel with buttered vegetables, Fish fingers with mashed potatoes. Naturally, potatoes and rice (to be) \_\_\_\_\_ also often (to eat) \_\_\_\_\_ as side dishes!

### Dinner

As dinner the Germans (to eat) \_\_\_\_\_ bread with cheese or sausages. In Germany dinner (to call) \_\_\_\_\_ ‘Abendbrot‘, this means evening bread.

by Margherita Fanti 2^G



**BAZAAR:** The grand bazaar in Istanbul is one of the largest covered market in the world. With 60 streets and 5000 shops, it attracts about 300.000 visitors a day. It is well known for its jewelry, hand-painted ceramics, carpets, spices, embroideries and antique shops.

**SIMIT:** It is a circular bread, typically spread with sesame seeds or, less commonly, with poppy, lax or

sunflower seeds.

The word Simit comes from the Arabic "sāmid" that means "white bread or fine flour". In Istanbul simit has been produced since 1525.

Today it's served for breakfast: drinking tea with Simit is traditional in Turkey. Simit is also sold by street vendors that usually carry the Simit on a tray on top of their head.



**TURKISH COFFEE:** Turkish coffee is also called Arabic coffee it is an unfiltered coffee. coffee seeds are roasted and then finely ground, the coffee powder is boiled in a pot called "cezve", usually with sugar, and served in a cup where the grounds can settle.

The importance of coffee in Turkish culture is evident in the words "breakfast", "kahavalt", whose literal meaning is "before coffee" and "brown", kahaverengi, whose literal meaning is "the color of coffee".

**HAMMAM:** Relax and get ready as you enter the camekan (entrance room) there are areas to have a cup of tea or a cold drink before the bath

Adjust to the warmth: before you enter water the temak (staff) will bring you to a transition area were you receive your towels and adjust to heat.

From there you will enter the hardret (hot room) which houses the large naval stone. Following the scrubbing there is an application of special soap.

**SHISHA** is a single or multi-stemmed instrument or vaporizing and smoking flavored tobacco, in which the vapor or smoke is passed through a water basin before inhalation.in the past It was composed by a coconut with hoses of bamboo.

Now it is composed by a container full of water, often perfumed, and one or more flexible or stiff hoses. Narghile was an important Turkish custom and Turkey is well known for its traditional pottery production of various objects, including nargile bowls.



Why do we say "smoking like a Turkish man"? The origin of this expression is

uncertain. The most probable dates back to the second half of the sixteenth century. At that time in Turkey reigned one a pasha who was extremely severe against the consumption of coffee and tobacco, as they were considered dangerous drugs. Consumers of coffee and tobacco were persecuted hard and cafes destroyed. Once the oppressor pasha died, the Turks took up drinking coffee and smoking, again, even excessively, as a reaction to the previous ban. Hence the saying: smoking as a Turkish, meaning smoking excessively.

### 1. FILL IN THE GAPS

Turkey is divided into two parts: one in \_\_\_\_\_ and the other in \_\_\_\_\_. The capital city is \_\_\_\_\_, but the most important and famous city is \_\_\_\_\_. Its most important attraction is the grand \_\_\_\_\_, one of the largest \_\_\_\_\_ in the world with its 5000 shops. A popular dish is \_\_\_\_\_, usually encrusted with sesame seeds; the name Simit comes from Arabic “samid” that means “white” \_\_\_\_\_. Turkish coffee is an unfiltered coffee; coffee powders are usually boiled in a \_\_\_\_\_ called “cezve”. The expression “\_\_\_\_\_ like a Turkish man” means smoking \_\_\_\_\_. The typical Turkish relaxing area is called \_\_\_\_\_: They are baths located in a hot and humid room.

### 2. WRITE THE QUESTIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS.

- 1) .....?  
Turkey has 75.000.000 habitants.
- 2).....?  
The bazar is well known for its jewelry, hand painted ceramics, carpets, spices, embroideries and antique shops.
- 3).....?  
It is composed by a container full of water and one or more flexible or stiff hoses.
- 4).....?  
It has been produced since 1525
- 5).....?  
There are three main phases.

3. FIND the WORDS! They can be vertical, horizontal, diagonal, written right to left or upside-down

REPUBLIC	EUROPE	ASIA
ISTANBUL	ANKARA	TURKISH
BAZAAR	MARKET	SIMIT
BREAD	SESAME	SEEDS
COFFEE	ROASTED	HAMMAM
SHISHA	TOBACCO	SMOKE
BAMBOO	NARGILE	

N R D U H F N G W H Q Z O A O K I T O Z  
 G Q O U A H S I H S A H H C P A U N Y X  
 H O H B W B D F E R J M G R C N S C X E  
 E Y W T P R K R Z O A G M S C A E H N T  
 R Z F U K I J W R X O A J A X R B E Y G  
 F O F C O Z L M S R O K Z A M G Z O N U  
 X T J X B A K X Z P W Y T A P I A K T D  
 B T J I P P X E W O R E P U B L I C T H  
 S M C L G K I E Q F E K A I U E E F L A  
 G N W O O Y G U O L W E H Z X D K U J Z  
 A K S P F R X R R E Z A M M S X B B V O  
 R U I L W F U O V Q H L J Z D N D T J O  
 A P W U E P E P I T S W C E A Y T E Q B  
 K H Q I R K J E E A R A Q T M L U V M M  
 N N A I L Z O K E T O I S S W Q R A T A  
 A C S O E D R M H T A I D I E S K E L B  
 E H E I K A A Q S K S S T Y A W I T Y E  
 N V E E M A S E S V T E N C A E S M R B  
 N V F J U B L H R A E R X P F F H G I K  
 O B S E E D S B M B D K W Q Q A V R O T

## **Marriage in Norway**

In the 1960's, it was a shame for the family to have a child outside marriage. Today, its more normal to have children before getting married, and then later get married. In 2016, it has become normal to also get married to the same sex. In Norway, it has been legal to marry the same sex since January 1. 2009. Many people today can get married and divorced more than once. When parents get divorced, and they have children, they usually have the children one week each.



**Birth and children** - The average age for women in Norway to have their first baby is around 30 years old. The reason for that is because most women put their carrier first, so they start a family later. After getting a child, the parents have the right to be at home with the child. The parents can be home for a year, but not together.

**Equal rights for men and women** - In the 1960's, the men were out working and providing for the family, and the women were at home cooking and making sure the house was clean. They were often called housewives. Now things have changed. In Norway we have equal rights, so men and women can do the same things. It is more normal in the families to do the same tasks. It is maybe more normal that the man does the handy work, like mowing the lawn for example, and the woman cleans the house.

**Family responsibilities** - A lot goes on in the family. We eat together, we travel together, we have fun together. Well, we do a lot together as a family. It is normal to eat dinner together, but maybe not so normal to eat breakfast and lunch together. The children go to school and may have some sport activities. The parents are supporting their children at different events. They could watch their handball game or soccer game. This way, they are social as a family.

**Sports** - Today in Norway people have many different options of which activities they want to participate. The activities depend on their interests, personality, and qualities. But the most important is that you love what you do and it brings joy. The separation between male and female activities is small. But still there are some differences, for example, at young age girls normally like to ride horses, play with their dolls, or bake. They also like the colors purple and pink. Boys usually like to play football, go skiing or play videogames. The typical "boy-colors" is blue and green. When kids of both gender reach a certain age, from 15- 18 years of age, training gets increasingly more important. Often, they start exercising at a training center. In sports like handball or skiing is strength important to prevent injuries and perform their best. For those who do not participate in a sport, the gym is a good option. How often they train, depends on the purpose of training. Boys often train with their mates unorganized. Unfortunately, they focus more on their body and not on their health. They want to be as strong as possible, and look as good as possible. For kids who do not want to participate in competitions, there are alternatives like scouting, painting or joining a musical corps. Many children and adults chose these kinds of activity instead of sports.

Some typical Norwegian popular sports are cross-country skiing, ski-jumping and biathlon. But also, the more common sports like; swimming or playing football, handball or gymnastics, both for boys and girls. The number of practices and competition rises as you get older. (by Åsne Klynderud)

**Musical Corps in Norway** - We in Norway have corps who play traditional music during the 17th of May which is our national day. Band in Norway is usually age-specific, and sorted into categories,

high school kids, generation bands and concert bands. Thousands of bands musicians meet in national events. Armed Forces also have a corps composed of conscript's musicians and professional conductor and officers of His Majesty the King Guards Band.

**Other activities** -Teenagers today use their computers and their phones a lot each day. Most teenagers use their phones and computers for social media and gaming, from after school until they go to bed at night. Some of the most popular social medias among teenagers today are Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat. Some teenagers also like to spend their spare time at unorganized activities, like training at the gym or play some sports with friends. Others just like to spend time with friends at home, or maybe go shopping. There are not many teenagers who likes to read books today compared to the 1960`s. That is probably because we have so much electronics, which they didn't have in the older days. Now we can reed news and see what's going on in the world with help of apps at our phones. (by Alexander Hvalby)

## 1. Match each word with its meaning

Marriage – Doll – Husband – Housewife – Handy work – To bake – Stuff – Corps – National Day - Handball

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ a small-scale figure of a human being used especially as a child's toy
- b) \_\_\_\_\_ the state of being united as spouses in a consensual and contractual relationship recognized by law and the church
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ a married woman in charge of household
- d) \_\_\_\_\_ a male partner in a marriage
- e) \_\_\_\_\_ to cook (as food) by dry heat especially in an oven
- f) \_\_\_\_\_ work done by the hands
- g) \_\_\_\_\_ an organized subdivision of the military establishment
- h) \_\_\_\_\_ materials, supplies, or equipment used in various activities
- i) \_\_\_\_\_ a game played in a walled court or against a single wall or board by two or four players who use their hands to strike the ball
- j) \_\_\_\_\_ a day having significance for and usually celebrated throughout a nation

## 2. Give the definition of:

- a) Marching band
- b) Recreation
- c) Cross-country skiing
- d) Shopping

*by Giulia, Giorgia, Alessia, Margherita 2^G*

## GLOSSARY

**Alpine Glacier** - Small glacier that occupies a U-shaped valley on a mountain. Also called a mountain glacier.

**Altitude** - Vertical distance above sea-level.

**Antarctic Circle** - Latitude of 66.5° South. The northern limit of the area of the Earth that experiences 24 hours of darkness or 24 hours of day at least one day during the year.

**Arctic Circle** - Latitude of 66.5° North. The southern limit of the area of the Earth that experiences 24 hours of darkness or 24 hours of day at least one day during the year.

**Bay** - A body of sheltered water found in a crescent shaped coastal configuration of land.

**Biome** - Largest recognizable assemblage of animals and plants on the Earth. The distribution of the biomes is controlled mainly by climate.

**Blizzard** - Winter severe weather condition characterized by strong wind, blowing snow, and cold temperatures.

**Border** - A line separating two countries, administrative divisions, or other areas.

**Cliff** - A tall steep rock face.

**Climate** - General pattern of weather conditions for a region over a long period time (at least 30 years).

**Coastline** - The line that separates a land surface from an ocean or sea.

**Compass** - Navigation instrument that uses the Earth's magnetic field to determine direction.

**Drainage Basin** - Land surface region drained by a length of stream channel.

**Dike / Dyke** - A long wall or embankment built to prevent flooding from the sea.

**Environment** - The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates.

**Equator** - Location on the Earth that has a latitude of 0°.

**Era** - Geologic time unit that is shorter than an eon (An indefinite and very long period of time) but longer than a period.

**Fjord** - A glacial valley or glacial trough found along the coast that is now filled with a mixture of fresh water and seawater.

**Flood** - Inundation of a land surface that is not normally submerged by water from quick change in the level of a water body like a lake, stream, or ocean.

**Fossil Fuel** - Carbon based remains of organic matter that has been geologically transformed into coal, oil and natural gas. Combustion of these substances releases large amounts of energy. Currently, humans are using fossil fuels to supply much of their energy needs.

**Glacier** - A large long lasting accumulation of snow and ice that develops on land. Most glaciers flow along topographic gradients because of their weight and gravity.

**Gulf Stream** - Warm ocean current that originates in and around the Caribbean and flows across the North Atlantic to northwest Europe.

**Habitat** - Location where a plant or animal lives.

**Horizon** - Point at which the visible edge of the Earth's surface meets the sky.

**Ice Cap** - Large dome-shaped glacier found covering a large expanse of land. Smaller than an ice sheet.

**Industrial Revolution** - Major change in the economy and society of humans brought on by the use of machines and the efficient production of goods. This period in human history began in England in the late 18th century.

**June Solstice** - Date during the year when the declination of the Sun is at 23.5° North of the equator. During the June solstice, locations in the Northern Hemisphere experience their longest day. The June solstice is also the first day of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. Locations in the Southern Hemisphere have their shortest day on the June solstice. This date also marks the first day of winter in the Southern Hemisphere.

**Lake** - A body standing water found on the Earth's continental land masses. The water in a lake is normally fresh.

**Landmass** - A continent or other large body of land.

**Latitude** -Latitude is a north-south measurement of position on the Earth. It is defined by the angle measured from a horizontal plane located at the Earth's center that is perpendicular to the polar axis. A line connecting all places of the same latitude is termed a parallel. Latitude is measured in degrees, minutes, and seconds. Measurements of latitude range from equator (0°) to 90° North and South from this point.

**Longitude** - it is a west-east measurement of position on the Earth. It is defined by the angle measured from a vertical plane running through the polar axis and the prime meridian. A line connecting all places of the same longitude is termed a meridian. Longitude is measured in degrees, minutes, and seconds. Measurements of longitude range from prime meridian (0°) to 180° West and East from this point.

**Map** - An abstraction of the real world that is used to depict, analyze, store, and communicate spatially organized information about physical and cultural phenomena.

**Meridian** - A circular arc that meets at the poles and connects all places of the same longitude.

**Migration** - Movement of organisms in an intentional way between two points in space. Many migrations are seasonal.

**North Pole** - Surface location defined by the intersection of the polar axis with Earth's surface in the Northern Hemisphere. This location has a latitude of 90° North.

**Ocean** - A body of saline water found occupying all or part of the Earth's ocean basins.

**Overcultivation** – the exhaustion of the soil by growing crops, especially the same crop, on the same piece of land year after year.

**Ozone Layer** - Atmospheric concentration of ozone found at an altitude of 10 to 50 kilometers above the Earth's surface. This layer is important to life on the Earth because ozone absorbs harmful ultraviolet radiation.

**Parallel** - A line parallel to the equator and connecting all places of the same latitude.

**Peak** - The pointed top of a mountain.

**Pebble** - A rounded piece of rock that is larger than gravel.

**Plain** - A large area of flat land

**Plateau** - An area of fairly level high ground.

**Pollution** - Physical, chemical, or biological change in the characteristics of some component of the atmosphere that adversely influences the health, survival, or activities of humans or other living organisms.

**Quality of life** – the satisfaction of people with their environment and way of life.

**Rainfall** - The quantity of rain falling within a given area in a given time.



- Range** - A statistical measure of the dispersion of observation values in a data set. Determined by taking the difference between the largest and the smallest observed value.
- Reef** - A ridge of rocks found in the tidal zone along a coastline. One common type of reef is the coral reef.
- Relief** - The range of topographic elevation within a specific area.
- Resource** - Anything obtained from the environment to meet the needs of a species.
- River** - A long narrow channel of water that flows as a function of gravity and elevation across the Earth's surface. Many rivers empty into lakes, seas, or oceans.
- Rock** - A compact and consolidated mass of mineral matter.
- Settlement** - A place, typically one which has previously been uninhabited, where people establish a community.
- Shore** - The land area bordering a relatively large water body like a lake or ocean.
- Shrub** - A woody plant species that is smaller than a tree. Shrubs usually do not have a trunk.
- Site** – the actual place where a settlement is located.
- Soil** – the thin, loose, surface layer of the Earth which provides a habitat for plants.
- Solar System** - The collection of celestial bodies that orbit around the Sun.
- South Pole** - Surface location defined by the intersection of the polar axis with Earth's surface in the Southern Hemisphere. This location has a latitude of 90° South.
- Sustainable Development** - Forms of economic growth and other human activities that meet the requirements of the present without jeopardizing the ability of future generations of individuals to meet their own needs.
- Service industry** – an occupation, such as health, education, transport, and retailing, which provides a service for people.
- Taiga** - High to mid-latitude biome dominated by coniferous forest. Predominant vegetation of this biome is various species of spruce, fir, pine, and cedars.
- Thematic Map** - Map that displays the geographical distribution of one phenomenon or the spatial associations that occur between a few phenomena.
- Tide** - Cyclical rise and fall of the surface of the oceans. Caused by the gravitational attraction of the Sun and moon on the Earth.
- Trade** – the movement and sale of good from one country (the producer / exporter) to another country (the consumer / importer).
- Tundra** - High latitude biome dominated by a few species of dwarf shrubs, a few grasses, sedges, lichens, and mosses. Productivity is low in this biome because of the extremes of climate.
- Urbanization** - Expansion of cities into rural regions because of population growth. In most cases, population growth is primarily due to the movement of rural based people to urban areas. This is especially true in Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs).
- Valley** - A linear depression in the landscape that slopes down to a stream, lake or the ocean. Formed by water and/or ice erosion.
- Volcano** - An elevated area of land created from the release of lava and ejection of ash and rock fragments from a volcanic vent.
- Wave** - a raised line of water that moves across the surface of an area of water, especially the sea.
- Weather** - The state of the atmosphere at a specific time and place.
- Wind** - Air moving horizontally and/or vertically.

## Conclusion

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- in the E4U project with their personal contribution
- in organizing the conference at Imola in April 2016

that is to say the majority of students of the second forms for the three years during which the E4U project was carried out:

2<sup>^</sup>D - 2<sup>^</sup>E - 2<sup>^</sup>G - 2<sup>^</sup>H

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