READING

Read and write *T* (true) or *F* (false).

Jamaica

This week, our featured country is the island nation of Jamaica, in the beautiful Caribbean Sea.

Jamaica's tropical climate is perfect for growing fruits and vegetables. It exports bananas, coconuts, citrus fruits, pineapples, sweet potatoes and plantains. However, its two main export items are sugar and coffee. Coffee sales alone bring $12 million into the country every year.

When Christopher Columbus landed in 1494, he claimed the island for Spain and named it Santiago. In 1655, the island became a British colony and was renamed Jamaica. In 1962, Jamaica finally gained independence.

Jamaica has a population of around 3 million. Most Jamaicans, almost 1 million, live in the capital city, Kingston.

Just as Jamaica achieved independence, a group of Jamaican musicians from Kingston were developing a new style of music called reggae. Soon it was famous all over the world, thanks to reggae stars like Bob Marley.

These days, Jamaica's most famous names are those of Olympic runners, like Usain Bolt, Yohan Blake and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce.

1. Jamaica is in the Caribbean. ☐
2. The weather in Jamaica is good for growing things. ☐
3. The biggest exports are bananas and coconuts. ☐
4. Christopher Columbus named the island 'Jamaica'. ☐
5. Jamaica was a British colony for over 300 years. ☐
6. Three million people live in the capital. ☐
7. Reggae music started in Jamaica. ☐
8. Bob Marley was a politician. ☐
9. The most famous Jamaicans today are athletes. ☐