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## Using nouns and adjectives: *Britain, British or Briton?*

### 1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a The most popular country for Britons to visit in 1999 was France.  
b The most popular country for British to visit in 1999 was France.
- 2 a The company is based in the Thai capital, Bangkok.  
b The company is based in the Thailand capital, Bangkok.

To talk about things which belong to or come from a place, we use an adjective:

*a French word*      *Thai food*      *Most of the students are Asian.*

*UK* and *US* (not *USA*) are sometimes used as adjectives before a noun, especially referring to a company, a system or an organisation:

*the UK government*      *UK companies*      *British food* (not usually *UK food*)  
*the US legal system*      *the US government* (not *the USA government*)

The noun to refer to a person from a place is usually the same word as the adjective:

*an American, an Australian, a German, a Thai, an Asian, a European*

Some nationalities have a different word to refer to a person from that country:

*an Englishman/Englishwoman, a Frenchman/Frenchwoman, a Dutchman/Dutchwoman*

*a Dane* (Denmark), *a Filipino* (the Philippines), *a Finn* (Finland), *a New Zealander*,

*a Pole* (Poland), *a Spaniard* (Spain), *a Swede* (Sweden), *a Turk* (Turkey)

*Briton* is often used to refer to a person from Britain in writing and news reports, but in conversation we usually talk about *a British person/man/woman*.

★ There are some common informal words for nationalities, such as *Brit, Aussie* and *Kiwi*. These are not appropriate in more formal writing.

### 2 Correct the mistake below.



### 3 Complete the gaps using the best noun or adjective for the country given.

- 1 (Germany) This could have a serious effect on the ..... economy.
- 2 (Britain) Several tourists were injured in the accident, including four .....
- 3 (France) According to statistics, ..... contributed \$5.4 million in aid.
- 4 (Sweden) The average ..... drinks 7.8 kilograms of coffee a year.
- 5 (China) The population of ..... is more than 1.3 billion.
- 6 (Australia) The scheme was set up by the ..... government.
- 7 (USA) Machines selling fizzy drinks are to be banned in all ..... schools.
- 8 (Africa) AIDS is the most common cause of death in many ..... countries.