

Improbable Success: Estonia (video)

I. Warm-up questions:

What countries are known for their technological advancements?

Have you heard of people using music or art to make changes in their country? Explain.

What can young people do to help their country get better?

What challenges do you think a small country might face?

How can learning from other countries make your own country better?

II. Watch the video and answer the questions below.

1. What helped Skype become a successful startup in Estonia?
 - A. The company's ability to raise a large budget
 - B. The availability of skilled tech workers
 - C. The growing need for online communication
 - D. The company's move to Silicon Valley
2. What was the purpose of the "singing revolution" in Estonia?
 - A. To celebrate the country's independence
 - B. To be allowed to sing in the church
 - C. To promote Estonian national identity
 - D. To demand economic reforms
3. What was the economic condition of Estonia during the Soviet era?
 - A. Prosperous with low inflation
 - B. Struggling with high unemployment
 - C. Experiencing rapid growth
 - D. Stable with low prices
4. How many people joined their hands to form the *Baltic Chain* in 1989?
 - A. Just over a million people
 - B. Approximately 2000 people
 - C. 40 million people
 - D. Over 2 million people
5. What is the nickname of Estonia due to its advanced e-government system?
 - A. E-Estonia
 - B. Tech-Estonia
 - C. Digital-Estonia
 - D. Cyber-Estonia
6. What is the main reason Estonia became so technologically advanced?
 - A. They had a lot of money to invest in technology.
 - B. Their government focused on developing digital services.
 - C. They had many natural resources to support technology.
 - D. Their people were naturally very skilled in technology.
7. What can Estonians do with their unique identification card?
 - A. Attend school and get healthcare.
 - B. Travel within Europe without a passport.
 - C. Open a bank account and make online payments.
 - D. All of the above.
8. How old was Estonia's former Prime Minister when he started working on the government's digital services?
 - A. 27 years old
 - B. 32 years old
 - C. 36 years old
 - D. 53 years old
9. Which company helped Estonia develop the technology for their secure government networks?
 - A. Microsoft
 - B. Google
 - C. Cybernetica
 - D. IBM
10. What did Estonia do to improve its economy after gaining independence?
 - A. Raised taxes
 - B. Established rule of law and eliminated corruption
 - C. Increased government spending
 - D. Nationalised industries
11. How did the younger generation contribute to Estonia's digital revolution?
 - A. They were not involved in the digital revolution.
 - B. They were afraid to take risks.
 - C. They were motivated to get involved and participate.
 - D. They were discouraged from participating.
12. What was the role of the Hotel Viru during the Soviet era?
 - A. It was the only hotel choice for foreigners visiting Estonia.
 - B. It had a secret floor where KGB spies listened to hotel guests.
 - C. It was a hub for tech leaders to discuss their innovations.
 - D. It represented Estonia's transition to a more open and developed country.
13. What is the overall impression of Estonia's transformation since the end of the Soviet era?
 - A. Estonia has faced many obstacles and made little progress.
 - B. Estonia has made some progress but still lags behind other former Soviet countries.
 - C. Estonia has undergone a remarkable transformation and is now a successful, developed country.
 - D. Estonia's transformation has been uneven, with some areas progressing more than others.

III. Follow-up questions:

How do you think technology will continue to change the way people live and work in Estonia? What new technological innovations do you hope to see in Estonia in the future?

How can young people become more involved in shaping Estonia's future?

What are some ways Estonia can collaborate with other countries to address global challenges?

How do you think Estonian cities will change and grow in the future?

What changes would you like to see in the education system to better prepare young people for the future job market? How important do you think it is for Estonian students to learn skills like coding and digital literacy?