

Tell us about your country

A Ray



Population: 59 million

Area: 1,220,813 km²

Three capital cities: Pretoria, Cape Town and Bloemfontein

Johannesburg is the biggest city but it isn't the capital city.

11 official languages including Afrikaans, English and Zulu.

Currency: the rand

Sport: In South Africa, football, rugby and cricket are the three most popular sports.

B Sofia

I live in Germany now, but I'm not from Germany. My mother is British and my father is Mexican, so I am half British and half Mexican. I speak English and Spanish. I love Mexico and the UK but they are very different. I think I have a Mexican stomach because my diet includes chillies and **spicy** food. My ears aren't Mexican though, I think they are British because I think British pop music is great.

C Jakob

Is Italy an interesting country? Yes, it is.

History

There are lots of Roman **ruins**, for example the Colosseum and the city of Pompeii. There are also a lot of old buildings and museums to visit.

Sights

You can travel on a boat in Venice or see the leaning tower of Pisa. You can climb Mount Vesuvius **volcano** (don't worry, it isn't active at the moment!) or visit beaches on the Amalfi coast.

Food

Pasta, pizza, ice cream – it's all delicious!



D Annie



I'm from Montreal in eastern Canada, so I'm Canadian. I speak English and French because they are both official languages in Canada. We spend a lot of time outside. In the summer we go **camping**. We stay by a lake so we do water sports, go walking or ride our bikes. In winter the weather is very cold. There is a lot of snow but life isn't boring. There are lots of winter sports like **ice skating** and **skiing**. The important thing is to have warm clothes.

The longer read

Subskill: Identifying different types of text

Scan all the texts quickly and decide what type of information they give you: facts, dates, general information, personal information, etc.

1 Read the subskill. Scan the texts A–D. Match each text with statements 1–5. There is one extra statement.

- 1 The student writes about their habits and what they like to do. _____
- 2 The student gives general information about their country. _____
- 3 The writer describes things you can see and do in their country. _____
- 4 The student shares their personal information and their likes. _____
- 5 The writer gives unusual information about their country. _____

2 Read the texts and choose the correct answer.

- 1 Is Ray from South Africa?
 - a Yes, he is.
 - b We don't know.
 - c No, he isn't.
- 2 Where is Sofia's father from?
 - a from the United States.
 - b from Mexico.
 - c from Peru.
- 3 Where does Sofia live?
 - a in the UK.
 - b in Mexico.
 - c in Germany.
- 4 What food does Jakob mention?
 - a pizza and pancakes
 - b pasta and fruit
 - c pasta and ice cream
- 5 Is Annie Italian?
 - a Yes, she is.
 - b No, she isn't.
 - c We don't know.
- 6 What languages does Annie speak?
 - a She speaks English and French.
 - b She speaks French and Spanish.
 - c She only speaks English.

3 Complete the notes. Then read and check.

- 1 In South Africa, there are _____ capital cities, but Johannesburg isn't one of them.
- 2 South Africans enjoy playing _____, _____ and cricket.
- 3 Sofia's mother _____ and her father _____.
- 4 In Italy you can learn about Italian _____ by visiting old buildings like the Colosseum.
- 5 Winter in Canada _____ but it isn't boring because you can do lots of _____.

4 Word work: Complete the sentences with the words in the box. Then find those words in bold in the text and check.

camping ice skating ruins
skiing spicy volcano

- 1 Popocatépetl, in Mexico, is an example of a _____ which is active, sometimes you can see smoke at the top.
- 2 I love _____ down the mountain very fast.
- 3 We often go _____ in the summer. I like sleeping outside near a lake or mountain.
- 4 In the Winter Olympic Games®, Russians are often good at _____.
- 5 My brother loves _____ food. His favourite is Indian curry.
- 6 In Scotland, there are a lot of _____ of very old buildings like castles.

5 Answer the questions for you.

- 1 Which text did you find interesting? Why?

- 2 Answer the magazine question yourself.
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