## READING

**1 Read the article. Then choose the paragraph(s) where you find the information 1–4.**

1 the number of people living in China and Japan — Paragraph 1 2 3
2 the first languages of China and Japan — Paragraph 1 2 3
3 the size of China and Japan — Paragraph 1 2 3
4 the world's four largest countries — Paragraph 1 2 3

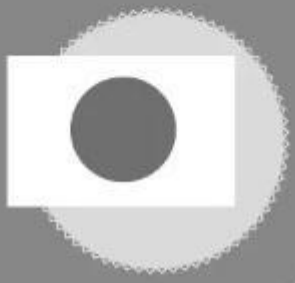
SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN

# CHINA AND JAPAN

**1** China is a very large country in East Asia, with grass lands, deserts, mountains, lakes, rivers and more than 14,000 kilometres of coast. China covers an area of 9,388,211 square kilometres. Canada and the USA are larger. China has about 300 languages that people in different parts of the country speak as a first language. About 848,000,000 Chinese people speak Mandarin, more than any of the other Chinese languages. This is also a lot more than the total number of people who speak both English and Spanish as a first language. More people speak Mandarin in China's cities than in the countryside.

**2** Japan is also in East Asia. It is a group of 6,852 islands, some very large and some very small. Tokyo, the capital, is on the island of Honshu. The area that Japan covers is much smaller than China. Sixty-two other countries in the world are larger than Japan, including Norway, Mali and Mexico. It has 364,555 square kilometres of land. Most people in Japan speak Japanese as their first language. It has six or seven other languages, but very few people speak these.

**3** 1,409,517,397 people live in China, and 127,484,450 people live in Japan. This means that for every square kilometre of China, there are 150 people. But in Japan, there are 350 people for every square kilometre. There are only nine countries in the world with more people than Japan, including China – China has more people living in it than any other country.



**2 Read the text again and match the sentence halves.**

1 Fourteen thousand kilometres is the length of the _____
2 China is smaller than _____
3 Most Chinese speakers' first language is _____
4 There are six thousand eight hundred and fifty-two _____
5 Japan is the sixty-third _____
6 There are three hundred and fifty _____
7 Japanese is the first language of _____

a Mandarin.
b nearly all Japanese people.
c three other countries.
d people for every square kilometre of Japan.
e largest country in the world.
f islands in Japan.
g Chinese coast.

LIVEWORKSHEETS