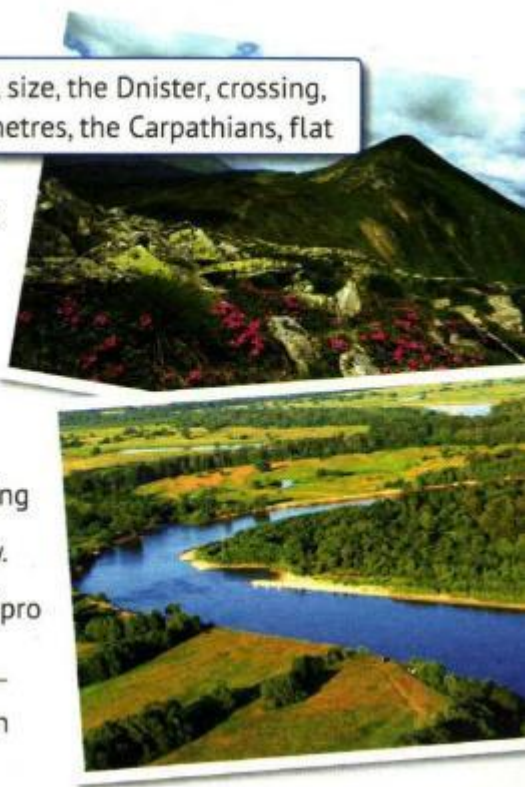


1 Complete the text with the words from the box.

waterfalls, stretching, populations, Dnipro, Hoverla, size, the Dnister, crossing, Roman-Kosh, Europe, cover, the Crimean, area, kilometres, the Carpathians, flat

Ukraine surprises many with its \_\_\_\_\_. It's the largest country wholly within \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ for some 1316 km east to west and nearly 900 km north to south, Ukraine outdoes<sup>1</sup> both France and Germany in \_\_\_\_\_. Vast, open steppe, \_\_\_\_\_ plains and gently rolling grasslands<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ the heart of the country. Of all the rivers \_\_\_\_\_ its territory, the Dnipro is the biggest. Some 981 of its 2200 \_\_\_\_\_ flow through Ukraine from north to south. It's the main transport artery, with the enormous Kremenchuk and \_\_\_\_\_ hydroelectric power plants<sup>3</sup>, among others, built on it. The last one of those has even swallowed the legendary \_\_\_\_\_ that existed in Cossack times. \_\_\_\_\_, to the west, is the second longest river in Ukraine. The only mountains are a rather short stretch of \_\_\_\_\_ in the west and \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains in the far south. Even these are considered not very high by world standards, with the highest peaks being the Carpathians' \_\_\_\_\_ (2061 m) and Crimea's \_\_\_\_\_ (1545 m). Once the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) recognised the Carpathian Mountains, whose eastern section falls in Ukraine, as home to Europe's most diverse \_\_\_\_\_ of animals and plants that inhabit mountains.



<sup>1</sup>to outdo [ˌaʊtˈduː] – перевершувати

<sup>2</sup>grasslands [ˈgrɑːslændz] – пасовища

<sup>3</sup>a hydroelectric [ˌhaɪdrəʊˈlektɹɪk] power plant – гідроелектростанція