

1. Read the text.

New Zealand is a unique island country of breathtaking scenery. It is situated about 1500 km (900 m) southeast of Australia and its closest neighbors to the north are New Caledonia, Fiji and Tonga islands. The country covers 268,021 sq. km.

New Zealand consists of two main islands — the North Island and the South Island. They are separated by the Cook Strait, 22 kilometers wide at its narrowest point, and numerous small outlying islands. These islands are so scattered that they range from the tropics to the Antarctic.

These small islands include the Auckland Islands, the Kermadec Islands, the Chatham Islands, the Antipodes Islands, Campbell Island, Stewart Island, Bounty Island, the Solander Islands and others. New Zealand also includes the Cook Islands, about 3500 km northeast of New Zealand; Niue, 920 km west of the Cook Islands; Tokelau, three atolls, about 960 km northeast of Niue and the Ross Dependency which is in free association with New Zealand

The indigenous Maori named New Zealand Aotearoa translated as "the land of the long white cloud».

New Zealand isn't a large country; it is the size of Colorado. Two-thirds of the country are mountainous. The North Island is known for its active volcanic mountains, beautiful geysers and hot springs. The highest North Island mountain, Mount Ruapehu (2797 m) is an active volcano. The country's longest river Waikato and the largest lake Taupo are both on the North Island. The South Island is divided along its length by the Southern Alps, the highest peak of which is Mount Cook, 3724 m high. There are beautiful fjords in the southwest and the largest areas of virgin forests in the southern and northern parts of the South Island, too Verdant rainforests, snow-capped alpine mountains, deep alpine lakes, glaciers, active volcanoes, fish-filled rivers, springs of mineral water, geysers and the brilliant blue sky attract people's attention .

New Zealand is one of the cleanest, greenest and most popular places to visit.

2. Choose the correct answer.

1. New Zealand is situated in the
 - a) southeast of Australia
 - b) northeast of Australia
 - c) southeast of America
2. It consists of.....
 - A) three islands
 - B) two islands
 - C) four islands
3. New Zealand also includes...
 - A) the Cook Islands
 - B) the Tasman Islands
 - C) the Columbus Islands
4. Two-thirds of the country are
 - a) flat
 - b) mountainous
 - c) deserts
5. The North Island is known for
 - A) famous people
 - B) climate
 - C) active volcanic mountains, beautiful geysers and hot springs.
6. The country's longest river is...
 - a) Taupo
 - b) Waikato
 - c) Hudson
7. The largest lake is...
 - a) Taupo
 - b) Waikato
 - c) Huron

8. The Southern Alps are situated in the

- a) North Island
- b) South Island
- c) West Island

3. Write if these statement are true or false

- 1. New Zealand is a unique island country of beautiful scenery. T F
- 2. New Zealand has borders on New Caledonia, Fiji and Tonga islands. T F
- 3. New Zealand consists of two main islands — the North Island and the South Island. T F
- 4. Islands are separated by the Dover Strait. T F
- 5. The indigenous Maori named New Zealand Aotearoa translated as "the land of the long white cloud". T F
- 6. New Zealand is a large country. T F
- 7. Two-thirds of the country are deserts. T F
- 8. The South Island is known for its active volcanic mountains, beautiful geysers and hot springs. T F
- 9. The lake Taupo is on the North Island. T F
- 10. New Zealand is one of the cleanest, greenest country in the world. T F