The natural beauty of New Zealand.

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READING TIP

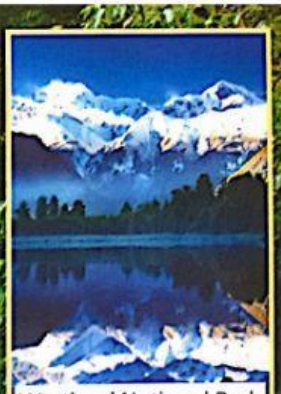
Don't worry about the pronunciation of place names.

New Zealand is a country in the Southern Hemisphere. It has got two main islands. One is called North Island and the other is called South Island. There are many different areas of natural beauty to see on both islands.



North Island is 113,729 square kilometres. There are fantastic beaches on the west coast. There are rainforests where you can see rare plants and wildlife. There are mountains and there are lots of volcanoes. The largest volcano is called Mount Ruapehu. It is 2,797 metres high and it is an active volcano. New Zealand's largest lake is on North Island. It is called Lake Taupo. And one of the most popular tourist attractions is the Waitomo Caves.

Waterfall in the Whirinaki Rainforest



Westland National Park

South Island is 151,215 square kilometres. It is more mountainous than North Island. The Southern Alps is a mountain range that starts in the north of South Island and finishes in the south. Mount Cook is in the Southern Alps. It is 3,754 metres high, and it is the highest mountain in New Zealand. Fiordland is the country's largest national park. You can see mountains, glaciers, valleys and lakes in the park. It is very popular with climbers and hikers.



Answer the questions.

1. Which is bigger, North Island or South Island?	North Island	South Island
2. Which island has more mountains?	North Island	South Island
3. Where can you see New Zealand's largest lake?	North Island	South Island
4. What is the name of the largest national park?	Ruapehu	Fiordland
5. What is the Southern Alps?	A mountain range	A volcano
6. Where are fantastic beaches?	North Island	South Island
7. Where are the Waimoto caves?	North Island	South Island