

## Tell us about your country

## A Ray



**Population:** 59 million

**Area:** 1,220,813 km<sup>2</sup>

**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.

**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.  
*Tell us about your country.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_