

Chapter

12

Western Europe Today



**The World
and Its People**

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC



To learn more about the people and places of western Europe, view ***The World and Its People* Chapters 10–12** videos.



Social Studies **Online**

Chapter Overview Visit ***The World and Its People*** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 12—Chapter Overviews** to preview information about western Europe.

FOLDABLES™

Study Organizer

Categorizing Information Make this foldable to organize information from the chapter and to help you learn more about the people and places of western Europe.

Step 1 Collect three sheets of paper and place them about 1 inch apart.



Keep the edges straight.

Step 2 Fold up the bottom edges of the paper to form 6 tabs.



This makes all tabs the same size.

Step 3 When all the tabs are the same size, crease the paper to hold the tabs in place and staple the sheets together. Turn the paper and label each tab as shown.

WESTERN EUROPE TODAY
The British Isles
France and Benelux Countries
Germany and Alpine Countries
The Nordic Nations
Southern Europe

Staple together along the fold.

Reading and Writing As you read, use your foldable to write down what you learn about western Europe. Write facts under each appropriate tab.

Why It Matters

Building a Community

Western Europe has been a center of world trade for hundreds of years. In the past, however, the nations of this region often set up trade barriers against one another in order to protect their own industries. Today, as the European Union, these same countries are working together to make their region a stronger, united economic power.

◀ The Eiffel Tower in Paris, France

Main Idea

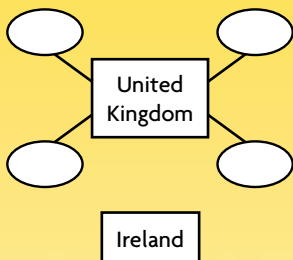
The United Kingdom and Ireland are small in size, but their people have had a great impact on the rest of the world.

Terms to Know

- moor
- parliamentary democracy
- constitutional monarchy
- peat
- bog

Reading Strategy

Create a diagram like this one. Fill in the names of the four regions that make up the United Kingdom and one fact about each. Create a second diagram for Ireland and include one fact about it.



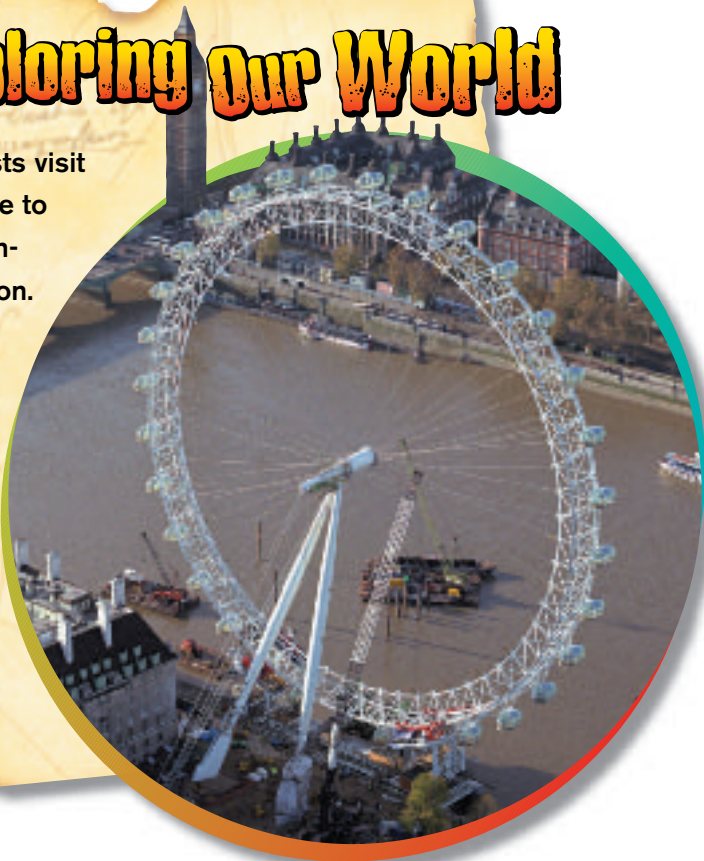
The British Isles



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

Every year millions of tourists visit London, England. They come to see the crown jewels or dungeons in the Tower of London. They also visit the Houses of Parliament and the tall clock known as Big Ben. You cannot be afraid of heights if you ride one of London's newest attractions. Known as the London Eye, it is the tallest Ferris wheel in the world.



The countries of the **United Kingdom** and the **Republic of Ireland** are known as the British Isles. They lie in the North Atlantic Ocean, west of the European continent. These two countries share similar physical characteristics but are different culturally.

The United Kingdom

About the size of Oregon, the United Kingdom is made up of four regions. **England** dominates the United Kingdom, in population and economic strength. However, **Scotland** and **Wales** are important parts of the United Kingdom. Both were conquered by England centuries ago. Today, movements for independence have grown in both countries. In 1999 Scotland and Wales set up legislatures to run their local affairs. The people of Scotland and Wales also take pride in their ancient languages—Scottish Gaelic in Scotland and Welsh in Wales. These languages are taught in schools to keep the old cultures and traditions alive.

In northern England, Scotland, and Wales, you find rugged hills and low mountain ranges. You also cross **moors**—treeless, windy highland

areas with damp ground. The United Kingdom's fourth region—**Northern Ireland**—shares the island of Ireland with the Republic of Ireland. In Northern Ireland, you see a landscape of gentle mountains, valleys, and fertile lowlands.

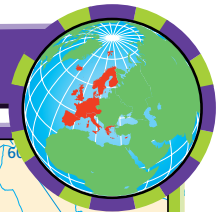
The Economy Over 250 years ago, inventors and scientists here sparked the Industrial Revolution. Today, the United Kingdom is still a major industrial and trading country. Manufactured goods and machinery are the leading exports. New computer and electronic industries, however, are gradually replacing older industries. Service industries such as banking, insurance, communications, and health care employ most of the country's people.

Farming is very efficient here. Still, the United Kingdom must import about one-third of its food. Why? A lack of farmland and a limited growing season make it impossible to feed the large population.

The Government The United Kingdom is a **parliamentary democracy**. In this form of government, voters elect representatives to a lawmaking body called Parliament. It has two houses—the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The political party that has the largest number of members in the House of Commons chooses the government's leader, the prime minister. The House of Lords has little



Western Europe: Political



Applying Map Skills

1. What four regions make up the United Kingdom?
2. What capital in western Europe is farthest north?

Find NGS online map resources @
www.nationalgeographic.com/maps



London

People get around London by riding colorful double-decker buses or by using the subway, which the British call “the Tube.”

Place What percentage of the United Kingdom’s people live in towns and cities, such as London?

spoken in some areas. Most people are Protestant Christians, although immigrants practice Islam and other religions.

About 90 percent of the United Kingdom’s people live in cities and towns. With more than 7 million people, the capital city of **London** is one of Europe’s most heavily populated cities.

For centuries, the people of the United Kingdom have left their mark on world culture. Visitors see prehistoric stone monuments, ruins of Roman forts, and medieval churches and castles. Famous writers, such as William Shakespeare, have also made an impact on the world.

Reading Check What form of government does the United Kingdom have?

power. Most members of the House of Lords are nobles who have inherited their titles or who have been given titles by the queen.

The United Kingdom’s government is also a **constitutional monarchy**, in which a queen or king is the official head of state. Although the monarch represents the country at public events, he or she has little power.

The People and Culture

About 60 million people live in the United Kingdom. The British people speak English, although Welsh and Scottish Gaelic are

The Republic of Ireland

Surrounded by the blue waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Irish Sea, Ireland has lush green meadows and tree-covered hills. It is called the Emerald Isle because of its landscape. At Ireland’s center lies a wide, rolling plain covered with forests and farmland. The area is rich in **peat**, or plants partly decayed in water which can be dried and used for fuel. Peat is dug from **bogs**, or low swampy lands.

The Economy Potatoes, barley, wheat, sugar beets, and turnips are Ireland’s major crops. Farmers raise sheep, as well as beef and dairy cattle. Manufacturing employs more people than farming and contributes more to the country’s economy. Ireland joined the European Union so that it could market its products more widely. The Irish work in many manufacturing industries. These include processing foods and beverages and making textiles, clothing, pharmaceuticals, and computer equipment.

The Northern Ireland Conflict Ireland has suffered hundreds of years of unrest under British rule. The southern, mostly Catholic, counties of Ireland won independence from Britain in 1921. They later

became a republic. The northern counties, where many British Protestants had settled, remained part of the United Kingdom. Peace still did not come to the island. The Nationalists, who are typically Catholic, want the six counties of Northern Ireland to be reunited with the Republic of Ireland. The Loyalists, who are typically Protestant, prefer that Northern Ireland remain under British rule. The fighting between these two groups, which the Irish refer to as “the troubles,” has led to many deaths.

In 1998 officials of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland met with leaders of both sides in Northern Ireland. They signed an agreement to end the violence, but disputes have since erupted.

The People The Irish trace their ancestry to the Celts (KEHLTS) who settled Ireland around 500 B.C. Gaelic, a Celtic language, and English are Ireland’s two official languages.

Today, Ireland is an urban nation. About 58 percent of the country’s people live in cities or towns. Nearly one-third live in or around **Dublin**, the capital. Life often centers on the neighborhood church.

Irish music and folk dancing are performed around the world. Of all the arts, however, the Irish have had the greatest influence on literature. Playwright George Bernard Shaw, poet William Butler Yeats, and novelist James Joyce are some of the country’s best-known writers.



▲ The Irish countryside

 **Reading Check** How are Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland different?

Section 1

Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** moor, parliamentary democracy, constitutional monarchy, peat, bog.

Recalling Facts

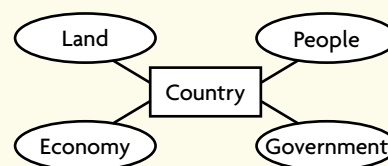
2. **Region** What are the four regions of the United Kingdom?
3. **Economics** What are the two leading exports of the United Kingdom?
4. **Economics** Why did Ireland join the European Union?

Critical Thinking

5. **Analyzing Information** Why does the House of Lords have little power in the United Kingdom’s Parliament?
6. **Understanding Cause and Effect** What disagreement has led to fighting in Northern Ireland?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Create two diagrams like this one, one for the United Kingdom and one for the Republic of Ireland. Under each heading, list as many facts as you can for both countries.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Look at the political map on page 341. What is the capital of the United Kingdom? Of the Republic of Ireland?

MakingConnections

ART

SCIENCE

CULTURE

TECHNOLOGY

Stonehenge

Stonehenge, one of the world's best-known and most puzzling ancient monuments, stands in southern England.

History of Stonehenge

The most noticeable part of Stonehenge is its huge stones set up in four circular patterns. A circular ditch and mound form a border around the site. Shallow dirt holes also circle the stones.

Stonehenge was built over a period of more than 2,000 years. The earliest construction, that of the circular ditch and mound, probably began about 3100 B.C. The outer ring of large pillars, topped with horizontal rocks, was built about 2000 B.C. An inner ring of stone pillars also supports horizontal stones.

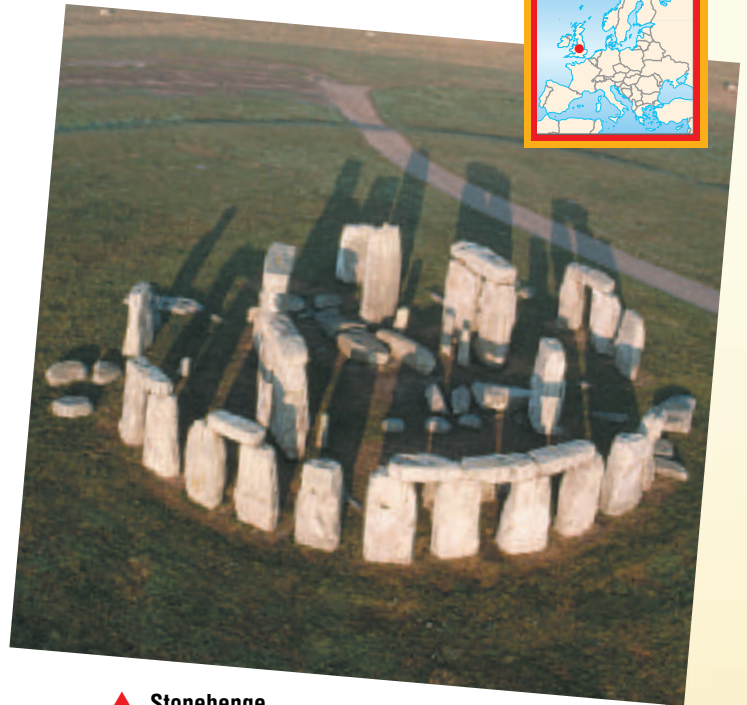
There was no local source of stone, so workers carried it from an area that was about 20 miles (32 km) north. The stones are huge—up to 30 feet (9 m) long and 50 tons (45 t) in weight. Before setting the stones in place, workers smoothed and shaped them. They carved joints into the stones so that they would fit together perfectly. Then the builders probably used levers and wooden supports to raise the stones into position.

About 500 years later, builders added the third and fourth rings of stones. This time they used bluestone, which an earlier group of people had transported 240 miles (386 km) from the Preseli Mountains of Wales.

What Does It Mean?

Experts do not agree on who built Stonehenge. In 2003, however, archaeologists uncovered the 4,500-year-old remains of seven people near Stonehenge. The people are believed to have lived during the building of the monument.

An even greater mystery is why Stonehenge was built. Most experts agree that Stonehenge was



▲ Stonehenge

probably used as a place of worship. Some believe that the series of holes, stones, and archways were used as a calendar. By lining up particular holes and stones, people could note the summer and winter solstices. They could also keep track of the months. Some scientists think that early people used the site to predict solar and lunar eclipses.

Making the Connection

1. About how old is Stonehenge?
2. From where did the stones used at Stonehenge come?
3. **Sequencing Information** Describe the order in which Stonehenge was built.

Section 2

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

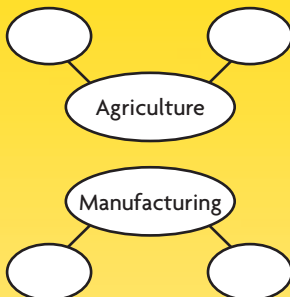
France and the Benelux countries are important cultural, agricultural, and manufacturing centers of Europe.

Terms to Know

- navigable
- polder
- multinational company
- multilingual

Reading Strategy

Create a diagram like this one. Then list two countries that have major products in these categories. List two products for each country.



France and the Benelux Countries



Exploring our World

France has won fame around the world for its masterpieces in art and architecture, and for the skill of its chefs. Tourists flock to France's top restaurants to savor the unusual and delicious creations. Soon these plates will be carried to the dining room, where they will undoubtedly be greeted with cries of delight.



France and its Benelux neighbors rank as major economic and cultural centers of the world. The word *Benelux* comes from combining the first letters of three countries' names: **B**elgium, the **N**etherlands, and **L**uxembourg.

France

The largest country in western Europe, **France** is slightly smaller than the state of Texas. France's landscape includes high mountain ranges that separate the country from Spain, Italy, and Switzerland. In contrast, most of northern France is part of the vast North European Plain. A network of rivers, including the **S**eine (SAYN) and the **L**oire (LWAHR), connects the different regions of France. Most of these rivers are **navigable**, or wide and deep enough to allow the passage of ships.

Most of France has a climate that is ideal for agriculture. The rich soil in the North European Plain makes France an important food



Views of France

Tourists in Paris, France, enjoy the grandeur of Notre Dame, a cathedral built in the 1100s (above). Wine grapes are harvested in one of France's grape-growing valleys (below).

Place What details in the photos suggest that France has a mild climate?



producer. In many French towns, you can find open-air markets displaying an abundance of fresh farm produce.

France's Economy France's well-developed economy relies on agriculture and manufacturing. Most people, however, work in service industries such as banking, commerce, communications, and tourism. Tourists from all over the world visit France's historic and cultural sites, such as palaces and museums. They also come to enjoy the blue skies, rocky cliffs, and lovely beaches of France's Mediterranean coast.

France produces more food than any other nation in western Europe. It ranks as the second-largest food exporter in the world, after the United States. Yet only 5 percent of French workers labor on farms. Their success is partly due to France's fertile soil, mild climate, and modern farming methods.

French farmers grow grains, sugar beets, fruits, and vegetables. They also raise beef and dairy cattle. In addition, vineyards are a common sight. The grapes are used to make famous French wines. Olives are grown along the warm, dry Mediterranean coast.

France's natural resources include bauxite, iron ore, and coal. France has small petroleum reserves and little hydroelectric power. How does the nation power its industries? About 80 percent of France's electricity comes from nuclear power plants.

Workers produce a variety of manufactured goods, including steel, chemicals, textiles, airplanes, cars, and computers. France is a leading center of commerce, with an international reputation in fashion.

The French People "Liberté . . . Egalité . . . Fraternité" (Liberty, Equality, Fraternity)—France's national motto—describes the spirit of the French people. The French share a strong national loyalty. Most French trace their ancestry to the Celts, Romans, and Franks of early Europe. They speak French, and about 90 percent of them are Roman Catholic.

France's government is known as the Fifth Republic. A republic is a strong national government headed by elected leaders. A powerful president, elected for a five-year term, leads the nation. The French president manages the country's foreign affairs. He or she appoints a prime minister to run the day-to-day affairs of government.

About three-fourths of France's 59.8 million people live in cities and towns. **Paris**, the capital and largest city, has a population of more than 10 million people, which includes its suburbs. The city is home

to many universities, museums, and other cultural sites. Outstanding cultural figures who lived in Paris include the writer Victor Hugo and the painters Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir. Each year, millions of tourists go to the City of Light, as Paris is called. They visit such sites as the Eiffel Tower, the cathedral of Notre Dame, and the Louvre (LOOV), one of the world's most famous art museums.

✓ **Reading Check** What is the main religion in France?

The Benelux Countries

The small Benelux countries of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg have much in common. Their lands are low, flat, and densely populated. Most people live in cities, work in businesses or factories, and enjoy a high standard of living. All three nations are members of the European Union. They are also parliamentary democracies with constitutional monarchies.

Belgium About the size of Maryland, Belgium touches France, Luxembourg, Germany, and the Netherlands. Lying near major industrial regions, Belgium has long been a trade and manufacturing center. Belgian lace, chocolate, and diamond-cutting all have a worldwide reputation for excellence. With few natural resources of their own, the Belgian people import metals, fuels, and raw materials from less-developed countries. They use these materials to make and export vehicles, chemicals, and textiles.

Most Belgians are Roman Catholic. The country has two main cultural and language groups. The Flemings in the north speak Flemish, a language based on Dutch. The south is home to the French-speaking Walloons. Tensions sometimes arise between the two groups, especially because there is more wealth and industry in the north than in the south. Most Belgians live in crowded urban areas. **Brussels**, the capital and largest city, is an international center for trade.

The Netherlands The Netherlands—about half the size of Maine—is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Sometimes called Holland, its people are known as the Dutch.

Netherlands means “lowlands.” Nearly half of this small, flat country lies below sea level. Without defenses against the sea, high tides would flood much of the country twice a day. The Dutch build dikes, or banks of soil, to control and confine the sea. Then they drain and pump the wetlands dry. Once run by windmills, pumps are now driven by steam or electricity. These drained lands, called **polders**, have rich farming soil. The Dutch build factories, airports, and even towns on them. The Delta Plan Project, completed in 1986, consists of huge barriers that keep the North Sea from overflowing the countryside during storms.

High technology makes small farms so productive that the Dutch can export cheese, vegetables, and flowers. The Netherlands ranks third in the world—after the United States and France—in the value of its agricultural exports. Because machines make farming more productive, most people work in service industries, manufacturing, and trade.



▲ A tulip field in the Netherlands

Social Studies **Online**

Web Activity Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 12—Student Web Activities** to learn more about the Delta Plan Project.

About 90 percent of the Dutch live in cities and towns. **Amsterdam** is the capital and largest city. Living in a densely populated country, the Dutch make good use of their space. Houses are narrow but tall, and apartments are often built on canals and over highways. Some of Amsterdam's most famous people are the painters Rembrandt van Rijn and Vincent van Gogh. You may have read *The Diary of Anne Frank*. This Dutch teenager's autobiography tells how she and her family tried to hide from the German Nazis during World War II.

About two-thirds of the Dutch people are Christian. A small number of immigrants are Muslims. The people of the Netherlands speak Dutch, but most also speak English.

Luxembourg Southeast of Belgium lies Luxembourg, one of Europe's smallest countries. The entire country is only about 55 miles (89 km) long and about 35 miles (56 km) wide.

Despite its size, Luxembourg is prosperous. Many **multinational companies**, or firms that do business in several countries, have their headquarters here. It is home to the second-largest steel-producing company in Europe and is a major banking center as well.

Why is Luxembourg so attractive to foreign companies? First, the country is centrally located. Second, most people in this tiny land are **multilingual**, or able to speak several languages. They speak Luxembourgian, a blend of old German and French; French, the official language of the law; and German, used in most newspapers.

 **Reading Check** What industries are important in Luxembourg?

Section 2

Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** navigable, polder, multinational company, multilingual.

Recalling Facts

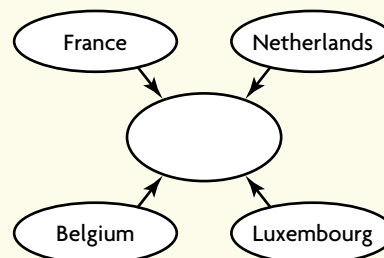
2. **Economics** Name five of France's agricultural products.
3. **Culture** What are the two major cultures and languages of Belgium?
4. **Human/Environment Interaction** How do the Dutch protect their land from the sea?

Critical Thinking

5. **Drawing Conclusions** France is the second-largest food exporter in the world. Why is that remarkable?
6. **Analyzing Information** Why do foreign companies come to Luxembourg?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Create a diagram like this one. In the center circle, list three characteristics that are shared by these countries.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Turn to the political map on page 341. Which country borders France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg?

Social Studies Skill

Reading a Vegetation Map

Vegetation maps show the kinds of plants that naturally grow in a given area. Climate largely determines the vegetation of an area. For example, evergreen trees with cones and needle-shaped leaves (also called conifers) such as firs and spruces grow in cool climates. In the year-round warmth of the Tropics, evergreens with broad leaves, such as palm trees and rubber trees, can grow. Between these two extremes, deciduous trees are common. Deciduous trees have broad leaves, but they shed them in autumn. In dry or Mediterranean climates, grasses and shrubs are found because there is not enough water to support tree growth. Highland climates may have alpine vegetation—small shrubs and wildflowers. Extremely cold or dry climates may have little or no vegetation.

Learning the Skill

To read a vegetation map, follow these steps:

- Read the title of the map.
- Study the map key.
- Find examples of each vegetation zone on the map.
- Look at other aspects of the area's geography, such as rivers, oceans, and landforms to explain the vegetation patterns.



Practicing the Skill

Look at the map above to answer the following questions.

1. What vegetation covers most of France?
2. What type of vegetation is found along France's Mediterranean coast?
3. From the map, what conclusions can you draw about the amount of rain the regions of France receive?

Applying the Skill

Find a vegetation map of your state. What types of vegetation are common in your part of the country?

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

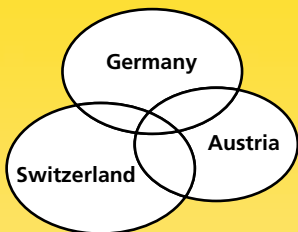
Germany, Switzerland, and Austria are known for their mountain scenery and prosperous economies.

Terms to Know

- autobahn
- federal republic
- reunification
- neutrality
- continental divide

Reading Strategy

Create a diagram like this one. Under the headings, fill each oval with facts about each country. Put statements that are true of all three countries where the ovals overlap.



Germany and the Alpine Countries



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

Bavaria, the beauty spot of Germany, was the home of King Ludwig II, who became the king of Bavaria at the age of 18. Disappointed after a lost war with the Prussians, Ludwig lost all interest in politics and became increasingly eccentric. Ludwig built three “fairy tale castles” at tremendous expense before dying a mysterious—and some say not accidental—death.



The people of **Germany** and the Alpine countries—**Switzerland**, **Austria**, and **Liechtenstein**—are adjusting to the changes sweeping Europe since the fall of communism. Fortunately, these countries have strong market economies, so their people enjoy high standards of living.

Germany

About the size of Montana, Germany lies in the heart of Europe. The North European Plain forms the northern landscape. The Alps rise in the southern German state of **Bavaria**. The lower slopes of these mountains—a favorite destination for skiers—are covered with forests.

One of Europe’s most important waterways originates in the Alps. The **Danube River** winds eastward across southern Germany. Rivers are also important in northern Germany, where they are used to transport raw materials and manufactured goods. The **Rhine River**, in the west, forms part of the border with France.

Because of the rivers and fertile land, Germany's northern plain has many cities and towns. **Berlin**, the capital, is the major center of the northeast. To the west lies **Hamburg**, Germany's largest port city, located on the Elbe River.

An Economic and Industrial Power Germany is a global economic power and a leader in the European Union. An area in western Germany called the Ruhr ranks as one of the world's most important industrial centers. The Ruhr developed around rich deposits of coal and iron ore. Europe's leaders have fought for control of this productive area. Factories here produce high-quality steel, ships, cars, machinery, chemicals, and electrical equipment.

The growth of factories, service industries, and high technology in the last decade has used up the supply of workers. Thus, a growing number of immigrant workers have come from Turkey, Italy, Greece, and the former Yugoslav republics. Sometimes they are the targets of racist attacks. When the economy takes a downturn and jobs are scarce, native-born people sometimes resent foreign laborers.

Germany imports about one-third of its food, although it is a leading producer of beer, wine, and cheese. Farmers raise livestock and grow grains, vegetables, and fruits. Superhighways called **autobahns**, along with railroads, rivers, and canals, link Germany's cities.

Lying just north of the Alps, Germany's Black Forest is famous for its beautiful scenery and for its wood products. The forest is not really black, but in places the trees grow so close together that it appears this way. The Black Forest has suffered severe damage from acid rain. Much of the pollution comes from industries in other countries. The Germans have to work together with other Europeans to find a solution to this acid rain problem.

Germany's Government Like the United States, Germany is a **federal republic** in which a national government and state governments share powers. An elected president serves as Germany's head of state, but he or she carries out only ceremonial duties. The country's chancellor, chosen by one of the two houses of parliament, is the real head of the government.

One of the challenges of the current government has been **reunification**—bringing together Germany's two parts under one government. Remember that Germany was divided into East and West Germany after World War II. Workers in East Germany had less experience and training in modern technology than workers in West Germany. After reunification, many old and inefficient factories in the east could not compete with the more advanced industries in the west and were forced to close.

The Germans Most of Germany's 82.6 million people trace their ancestry to groups who settled in Europe from about the A.D. 100s to 400s. The people speak German, a language that is related to English.

In Chapter 10, you learned that a German priest named Martin Luther began a new form of Christianity known as Protestantism.



▲ A cuckoo clock from the Black Forest region of Germany



Swiss Chocolate

Switzerland's factories produce some of the best chocolate in the world.

Economics What other products are made in Switzerland?

Today Protestants and Catholics are fairly evenly represented in Germany. Germans have made important contributions to music and culture. Johann Sebastian Bach and Ludwig van Beethoven composed some of the world's greatest classical music. **Munich** (MYOO•nihk), the largest city in southern Germany, is known for its theaters, museums, and concert halls. Berlin has also emerged as a cultural center.

✓ **Reading Check** What links Germany's cities?

The Alpine Countries

The **Alps** form most of the landscape in Switzerland, Austria, and Liechtenstein. That is why they are called the Alpine countries. Liechtenstein is a tiny country—only 60 square miles (155 sq. km)—sandwiched between Switzerland and Austria. The rugged Swiss Alps prevent easy travel between northern and southern Europe. For centuries, landlocked Switzerland guarded the few routes that cut through this barrier.

Switzerland The Swiss have enjoyed a stable democratic government for more than 700 years. Because of its location in the center of Europe, Switzerland has practiced **neutrality**—refusing to take sides in disagreements and wars between countries. As a result of this peaceful history, the Swiss city of **Geneva** is today the center of many international organizations. Switzerland's policy of neutrality is likely to be tested in the years ahead. It is building closer ties to the European Union and has joined the United Nations.

The Alps in Switzerland are the continental divide of central Europe. A **continental divide** is a high place from which rivers flow in different directions. Several rivers, including the **Rhine** and the **Rhône**, begin in the Swiss Alps. Dams built on Switzerland's rivers produce great amounts of hydroelectric power. Most of Switzerland's industries and its richest farmlands are found on a high plateau between two mountain ranges. **Bern**, Switzerland's capital, and **Zurich**, its largest city, are also located on this plateau.

Although it has few natural resources, Switzerland is a thriving industrial nation. Using imported materials, Swiss workers make high-quality goods such as electronic equipment, clocks, and watches. They also produce chemicals and gourmet foods such as chocolate and cheese. Tourism is an important industry, as are banking and insurance. Zurich and Geneva are important centers of international finance.

Given its geographic location, Switzerland has many different ethnic groups and religions. Did you know that the country has four national

languages? They are German, French, Italian, and Romansch. Most Swiss speak German, and many speak more than one language.

Austria Austria is a landlocked country located south of Germany. The Alps cover three-fourths of Austria. In fact, Austria is one of the most mountainous countries in the world. Have you ever seen the movie *The Sound of Music*? It was set in Austria's spectacular mountains. The country's climate is similar to Switzerland's. In winter, low-land areas receive rain, and mountainous regions have snow. Summers are cooler in Austria than they are in Switzerland.

Austria's economy is strong and varied. Its rivers generate hydroelectric power, and the mountains provide valuable timber. Millions of tourists come to enjoy hiking and skiing. Factories produce machinery, chemicals, metals, and vehicles. Farmers raise dairy cattle and other livestock, sugar beets, grains, potatoes, and fruits.

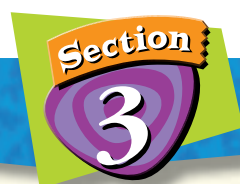
Most of Austria's 8.2 million people live in cities and towns and work in manufacturing or service jobs. The majority of people speak German. About 80 percent of the people are Roman Catholic.

Vienna, on the Danube River, is the capital and largest city. It has a rich history as a center of culture and learning. Some of the world's greatest composers, including Mozart, Schubert, and Haydn, lived or performed in Vienna. The city's concert halls, historic palaces and churches, and grand architecture continue to draw musicians today.

 **Reading Check** What economic benefits do Austria's mountains provide?



▲ Young people dance in one of Vienna's many ballrooms.



Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** autobahn, federal republic, reunification, neutrality, continental divide.

Recalling Facts

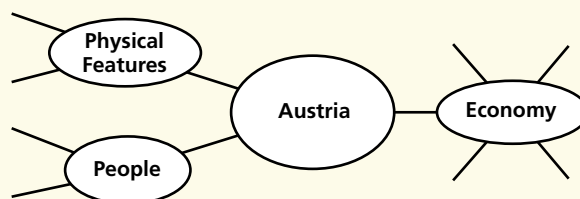
2. **Human/Environment Interaction** What has damaged the Black Forest?
3. **Culture** Name Switzerland's four languages.
4. **Economics** What types of jobs do most Austrians have?

Critical Thinking

5. **Understanding Cause and Effect** What problems have emerged as a result of German reunification?
6. **Analyzing Information** Why has Switzerland maintained a policy of neutrality?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Create a diagram like the one below. On the lines list two facts about Austria's physical features, two facts about Austria's people, and four facts about Austria's economy.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Look at the political map on page 341. The city of Berlin, Germany, is located at what degree of latitude?

Section 4

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

The Nordic countries have developed diverse economies, and their people enjoy a high standard of living.

Terms to Know

- fjord
- welfare state
- heavy industry
- sauna
- geyser
- geothermal energy

Reading Strategy

Create a chart like this one for each of the following countries: Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland. Fill in at least two key facts for (1) the land, (2) the economy, and (3) the people of each country.

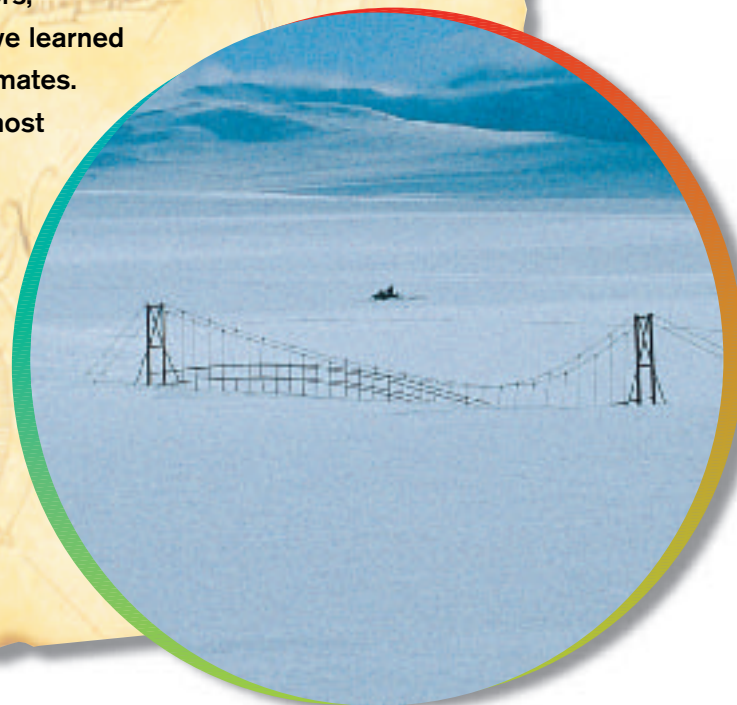
Country	(1)
	(2)
	(3)

The Nordic Nations



Exploring our World

Like their Viking ancestors, Scandinavians today have learned to adapt to their cold climates. Here, a footbridge is almost buried in snow, and a hardy Swede seeking adventure explores on his snowmobile. A thousand years ago, a Viking named Leif Eriksson also sought adventure. He became possibly the first European to explore North America's coast.



The northernmost part of Europe—also known as Scandinavia or the Nordic countries—is made up of five nations: **Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland.** Scandinavians have standards of living that are among the world's highest.

Norway

Norway's far northern location results in a mostly cold climate. About one-third of Norway lies north of the Arctic Circle. This rugged area is often called Land of the Midnight Sun. Here the sun never sets in the midsummer months. In the midwinter months, the sun never rises. A mild climate, however, is found along Norway's southern and western coasts. This is due to warm winds from the North Atlantic Current. Most of Norway's 4.6 million people live near these coasts.

Norway's long, jagged coastline on the Atlantic Ocean includes many **fjords** (fee•AWRDS), or steep-sided valleys that are inlets of the sea. Thousands of years ago, glaciers carved these deep valleys that became flooded when the glacial ice melted. Today the fjords provide sheltered harbors and beautiful scenery that is popular with tourists.

Norway is a wealthy country, partly because of oil and natural gas pumped from beneath the North Sea. It is one of the world's largest oil exporters. The seas themselves provide an important export—fish. Warm ocean currents keep most of Norway's harbors ice-free all year—a great plus for the country's commercial and cruise ships.

Norway is a parliamentary democracy. It has a monarchy but is governed by an elected prime minister. In 1994 Norway voted not to join the European Union (EU) so that it could keep control of its own economy. EU membership is still hotly debated, however.

The people of Norway greatly value their cultural traditions. Elaborate folk dress is often seen at weddings and village festivals. Norwegians are a very modern people, though. Three-fourths of the population live in urban centers like the capital, **Oslo**. About half of the Norwegians own computers. For recreation, they enjoy skiing and riding snowmobiles.

✓ **Reading Check** What type of government does Norway have?

Sweden

Like Norway, Sweden is a wealthy, industrial country. Its prosperity comes from abundant natural resources, including iron ore deposits and extensive pine forests. Exports include machinery, motor vehicles, paper products, wood, and electronic products. Only about 8 percent of Sweden's land can be used for farming. Swedish farmers have developed efficient ways to grow crops, and their farms supply most of the nation's food.

Sweden's wealth enabled it to become a **welfare state**—a country that uses high rates of taxation to provide services to people who are sick, needy, jobless, or retired. Sweden is a constitutional monarchy and a member of the European Union.

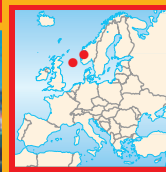
Norway's Economy

A shopper goes from boat to boat looking for bargains in Bergen, Norway's water market (below left). Europe's richest oil and natural gas fields are found in the North Sea (below right).

Human/Environment Interaction What keeps Norway's harbors ice-free all year?

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

On Location



Most of Sweden's 9 million people live in cities in the southern lowlands. **Stockholm** is the country's capital and largest city. Sweden's high standard of living has attracted more than 1 million immigrants from nearby Norway and Denmark and distant Turkey and Vietnam.

✓ **Reading Check** What resources have helped make Sweden wealthy?

Finland

Finland holds some of the largest unspoiled wilderness in Europe. Most of Finland's wealth comes from its huge forests of spruce, pine, and birch. Paper and wood products are important exports. In recent years, **heavy industry**—or industry that produces manufactured goods such as machinery—has driven Finland's economy. The Finns are also leaders in the electronic communications industry. In 1995 Finland joined the European Union.

The ancestors of the Finns settled in the region thousands of years ago, probably coming from what is now Siberia in Russia. As a result, Finnish language and culture differ from those of other Nordic countries.

Most of Finland's 5.2 million people live in towns and cities on the southern coast. **Helsinki**, the capital, has more than 1 million people, but the city has still kept a small-town atmosphere. For example, there are no high-rise buildings. With snow on the ground for about half of the year, Finns enjoy cross-country skiing. They also like to relax in **saunas**, or wooden rooms heated by water sizzling on hot stones.

✓ **Reading Check** Where did the ancestors of the Finns come from?



Cozy Ballet?

Helle Oelkers (far right) is a member of one of Europe's finest ballet companies—the Royal Danish Ballet. Helle likes to think that her performance encourages audience members to feel *hygge*. *Hygge* means feeling cozy and snug. She explains, "The greatest compliment a Dane can give is to thank someone for a cozy evening."



Denmark and Iceland

Denmark and Iceland are countries whose histories are closely tied to the sea. For centuries, Iceland was ruled by Denmark so Danish is still widely spoken and understood in Iceland.

Most of Denmark is made up of a peninsula known as Jutland. Denmark also includes nearly 500 islands, only about 100 of which have people living on them. Denmark also rules the large island of Greenland. Throughout history, Denmark's location has made it a link for people and goods between the Nordic countries and the rest of Europe. Ferries and bridges connect Jutland and the islands. A bridge and tunnel now join Denmark's Zealand Island to Sweden.

Denmark has some of the richest farmland in northern Europe. Danish farm products include butter, cheese, bacon, and ham. Royal Copenhagen porcelain, a famous Danish export, is among the finest in the world. The Danes also invented and export the world-famous LEGO® toy building blocks.

The 5.4 million Danes enjoy a high standard of living. Instead of noisy, traditional festivals, many Danes prefer quiet evenings at home or spending time with friends at small cafés. The country has a parliamentary democracy, with a king or queen as head of state. Elected officials run the government. Denmark joined the European Union in 1993. **Copenhagen**, Denmark's capital, is the largest of the Nordic cities.



In Copenhagen's harbor is a famous attraction: a statue of the Little Mermaid. She is a character from a story by the Danish author Hans Christian Andersen. Andersen, who lived and wrote during the 1800s, is one of Denmark's most famous writers.

Iceland Iceland, an island in the North Atlantic, is a land of glaciers and **geysers**—springs that shoot hot water and steam into the air. The people of Iceland make the most of this unusual environment. They use **geothermal energy**, or heat produced by natural underground sources, to heat most of their homes, buildings, and swimming pools.

What makes such natural wonders possible? Sitting on top of a fault line, Iceland is at the mercy of constant volcanic activity. Every few years, one of the country's 200 volcanoes erupts. The volcanoes heat hot springs that appear across the length of Iceland.

Iceland's economy depends heavily on fishing. Fish exports provide the money to buy food and consumer goods from other countries. Iceland is concerned that overfishing will reduce the amount of fish available. To reduce its dependence on the fishing industry, Iceland has introduced new manufacturing and service industries.

More than 90 percent of the nearly 300,000 Icelanders live in urban areas. More than half the people live in the capital city of **Reykjavik** (RAY•kyah•VEEK). The people have a passion for books, magazines, and newspapers. In fact, the literacy rate in Iceland is 100 percent.

 **Reading Check** How do the people of Iceland take advantage of the country's geysers?



▲ The Little Mermaid statue in Copenhagen

Section 4 Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** fjord, welfare state, heavy industry, sauna, geyser, geothermal energy.

Recalling Facts

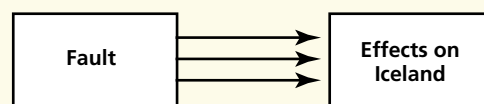
2. **Location** Name the five Nordic countries.
3. **Economics** What resource produces most of Norway's wealth?
4. **History** Why do some Icelanders speak Danish?

Critical Thinking

5. **Analyzing Information** How has Denmark's location affected its relationship with the rest of Europe?
6. **Understanding Cause and Effect** Why is Finnish culture different from the rest of the Nordic countries?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Create a diagram like the one below. Explain three effects on Iceland that result because of its location on a fault line.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Study the political map on page 341. Which Nordic capital lies the farthest north? Which Nordic capital lies the farthest south?

Section 5

Southern Europe

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

The sea has played an important role in southern European countries.

Terms to Know

- dry farming
- sirocco
- coalition government

Reading Strategy

Create a chart like this one for each of the following countries: Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Greece. Fill in at least one key fact about each country for each category listed.

Country	
Land	
Economy	
Government	
People	



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

The “running of the bulls” is an annual and controversial event in Pamplona, a city in northern Spain. Although animal rights groups object to it, each morning during the weeklong Festival of San Fermín, a half dozen bulls are released to run along the city’s narrow streets. People risk their lives by running ahead of the bulls. Their goal is to stay in the race as long as possible.



Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Greece—along with several tiny countries—make up southern Europe. A rich cultural heritage has produced many of the world’s greatest writers, artists, and musicians. As you read in Chapter 10, it was the people of ancient Greece and Rome who played an especially important role in the development of Western civilization.

The Iberian Peninsula

Spain and its neighbors, Portugal and **Andorra**, make up the **Iberian Peninsula**. Tiny Andorra, with only 174 square miles (451 sq. km), perches high in the **Pyrenees** mountain range near Spain’s border with France.

Portugal and most of Spain have mild winters and hot summers. Much of the interior of the peninsula is a dry plateau. In many areas the reddish-yellow soil is poor, and the land is dry-farmed to grow crops such as wheat and vegetables. In **dry farming**, irrigation is not used. Instead, the land is left unplanted every few years so that it can store moisture.

Growing Economies Spain and Portugal both belong to the European Union. The two countries were once slow in developing manufacturing. In recent years, however, they have worked hard to catch up economically with other European Union nations.

Spain is one of the world's leading producers of olive oil. Portuguese farmers grow potatoes, grains, fruits, olives, and grapes. Portugal is also the world's leading exporter of cork. The cork comes from the bark of certain oak trees, which grow well in central Portugal.

People travel to the Iberian Peninsula to enjoy the sunny climate, beautiful beaches, and ancient castles and cathedrals. Andorra draws millions of tourists each year to its duty-free shops. Spain and Portugal also depend on the tourist industry.

Manufacturing industries benefit both countries' economies as well. Spanish workers mine rich deposits of iron ore and make processed foods, clothing, footwear, steel, and automobiles.

Democratic Governments Spain and Portugal are modern democracies. Spain is a constitutional monarchy, in which a king or queen is head of state, but elected officials run the government. Portugal is a parliamentary republic, with a president as head of state. A prime minister, chosen by the legislature, is the head of government. Andorra is a parliamentary democracy that is a semi-independent principality—it is governed by both Spain and France.

Spanish and Portuguese Cultures Most people in Spain and Portugal are Roman Catholic. Despite similar histories, the people of Spain and Portugal have cultural differences. Portugal developed a unified culture based on the Portuguese language. Spain remained a "country of different countries." The Spanish people do not all speak the same language or even have a single culture.

The Basque people in the Pyrenees see themselves as completely separate from Spain. They speak Basque, a language unlike any other in the world. Having lived in Spain longer than any other group, many Basques want independence in order to preserve their way of life. Some Basque groups have used violence against the Spanish government.

Lisbon is Portugal's busy capital, but Portugal is mostly rural. In contrast, more than three-fourths of Spain's people live in cities and towns. **Madrid**, Spain's capital, has nearly 5 million people and ranks as one of Europe's leading cultural centers. Madrid faces the usual urban challenges of heavy traffic and air pollution. Fast-paced **Barcelona** is Spain's leading seaport and industrial center.

You find some centuries-old traditions even in the modern cities. For example, most Spanish families usually do not eat dinner until 9 or 10 o'clock at night. On special occasions, Spaniards enjoy *paella* (pah•AY•yuh), a traditional dish of shrimp, lobster, chicken, ham, and vegetables mixed with seasoned rice.

Rock and jazz music are popular with young Spaniards and Portuguese. The people of each region have their own traditional songs, dances, and instruments as well. Spanish musicians often

Believe It! or Not!

Islamic Art

The Muslims brought scientific knowledge to Spain. They introduced methods of irrigation and new crops. They also brought literature, music, and art.

Islam discourages art that includes human forms. As a result, Muslim artists create complex patterns and elaborate designs. The tile below is an example of the beautiful mosaics seen today throughout the world.





Italy's Economy

The canals of Venice draw thousands of tourists (above). The city of Milan boasts a fashion industry with stylish models (below).

Economics How has Italy's economy changed in the past 50 years?



accompany singers and dancers on guitars, castanets, and tambourines. Spanish dances, such as the *bolero* and *flamenco*, and soulful Portuguese folk songs known as *fado* have spread throughout the world.

✓ Reading Check Portugal leads the world in what export?

Italy

The Italian peninsula sticks out from Europe into the center of the **Mediterranean Sea**. The peninsula looks like a boot about to kick a triangular football. The “football” is **Sicily**, an island that belongs to Italy. Two tiny countries—**San Marino** and **Vatican City**—lie within the Italian “boot.”

The Alps tower over northern Italy, while the rumbling of volcanic mountains echoes through the southern part of the peninsula and the island of Sicily. Throughout history, southern Italy has experienced volcanic eruptions and earthquakes.

Most of Italy has a mild climate of sunny summers and rainy winters. In spring and summer, hot dry winds called **siroccos** blow across Italy from North Africa.

Italy's Economy In the past 50 years, Italy has changed from a mainly agricultural country into one of the world's leading industrial economies. Many products are manufactured by small, family-owned businesses rather than by large corporations. Italian businesses are known for creating new designs and methods for making products. Italy is a member of the European Union.

Most of the country's manufacturing takes place in northern Italy. Tourism is also important in northern and central Italy. Resorts in the Alps attract skiers. **Venice**, to the northeast, is built on 117 islands. You find no cars in this city, which is crisscrossed by canals and relies on boats for transportation. In central Italy lies **Rome**, Italy's capital and largest city. In Classical times, Rome was the seat of the Roman Empire. In Rome, you can still see ancient Roman ruins and magnificent Renaissance churches and palaces.

Southern Italy is poorer and less industrialized than northern and central Italy. Unemployment and poverty are common. Many southern Italians have moved to northern Italy or to other parts of Europe.

Italy's Government After World War II, Italy became a democratic republic. Yet democracy did not bring a stable government. Rivalry between the wealthy north and the poorer south has caused political tensions. In addition, many political parties exist, and no single party has been strong enough to gain control. Instead, Italy has seen many **coalition governments**, where two or more political parties work together to run the country.

Italy's People About 70 percent of Italy's 57.2 million people live in towns and cities. More than 90 percent of Italians work in manufacturing and service industries. Most Italians—more than 95 percent—are Roman Catholic. Celebrating the Church's religious festivals is a widely shared part of Italian life. Vatican City, surrounded by Rome, is the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. The pope, who is the head of the Church, lives and works here. Vatican City has many art treasures as well as the world's largest church, St. Peter's Basilica.

The people of Italy speak Italian, which developed from Latin, the language of ancient Rome. Italian is closely related to French and Spanish. Pasta, made from flour and water, is the basic dish in Italy. Some pasta dishes are spaghetti, lasagna, and ravioli.

✓ **Reading Check** Why have coalition governments been necessary in Italy?

Greece

The Greek mainland sits on the southern tip of the **Balkan Peninsula**, which juts out from Europe into the Mediterranean Sea. Greece also includes 2,000 islands around the mainland. Like other Mediterranean areas, Greece is often shaken by earthquakes. Mountain ranges divide Greece into many separate regions. Historically, this has kept people in one region isolated from people in other regions.

Of the 2,000 Greek islands, only about 170 have people living on them. The largest Greek island, covering more than 3,000 square miles (7,770 sq. km), is **Crete**. Farther east in the Mediterranean is the island country of **Cyprus**. Once under Turkish and then British rule, Cyprus became independent in 1960. For centuries Greeks and Turks have lived on Cyprus, but fighting between the two groups has resulted in a divided country.

EXPLORING CULTURE

Architecture

For more than 800 years the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy has stood as a monument to construction mistakes. Begun in 1173, the tower began to tilt even before it was finished. Over time the tower moved even more, until by 1990, it leaned 15 feet (4.5 m) to the south. Fearing the tower would fall over, experts closed it. They added 800 tons (726 t) of lead weights to its base. They also removed 30 tons (27 t) of subsoil from underneath the north side of the tower in hopes that it would sink the opposite way. Visitors have again returned to the tower.

Looking Closer Why do you think experts fixed the tower's problem but still left it leaning?





▲ Greek folk dancers

Greece's Economy Greece belongs to the European Union but has one of the least industrialized economies in Europe. Because of the poor, stony soil, most people living in the highlands must graze sheep and goats. Greece must import food, fuels, and many manufactured goods. Farmers cultivate sugar beets, grains, citrus fruits, and tobacco. The major crops of Greece are olives, used for olive oil, and grapes, used for wine.

No part of Greece is more than 85 miles (137 km) from the sea. Shipping is vital to the economy. Greece has one of the largest shipping fleets in the world, including oil tankers, cargo ships, fishing boats, and passenger vessels.

Tourism is another key industry. Each year millions of visitors come to Greece to visit historic sites, such as the Parthenon in the capital city of **Athens** and the temple of Apollo at Delphi. Others come to relax on beaches and to enjoy the beautiful island scenery.

The Greeks Today Greece is a parliamentary republic. About 60 percent of Greece's 11 million people live in urban areas. The Greeks today have much in common with their ancestors. They debate political issues with great enthusiasm, and they value the art of storytelling.

More than 95 percent of Greeks are Greek Orthodox Christians. Religion influences much of Greek life, especially in rural areas. Easter is the most important Greek holiday. Traditional holiday foods include lamb, fish, and feta cheese—made from sheep's or goat's milk.

✓ **Reading Check** What are two key industries in Greece?



Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** dry farming, sirocco, coalition government.

Recalling Facts

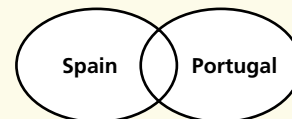
2. **Location** What three countries are located on the Iberian Peninsula?
3. **Economics** Which is the more prosperous region in Italy—north or south?
4. **Culture** List four things tourists see in Italy.

Critical Thinking

5. **Analyzing Information** Why is it expected that Greece's economy would be dependent upon the sea?
6. **Understanding Cause and Effect** Why do the Basque people feel separate from the rest of Spain?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Draw a diagram like this one. Choose two countries from this section and compare them. Write statements that are true of both countries where the ovals overlap. List information unique to each country in the outer parts of the ovals.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Turn to the political map on page 341. What body of water touches most of the southern countries of Europe?



Section 1

The British Isles

Terms to Know

moor peat
parliamentary bog
democracy
constitutional
monarchy

Main Idea

The United Kingdom and Ireland are small in size, but their people have had a great impact on the rest of the world.

- ✓ **Geography** Ireland is called the Emerald Isle because of its landscape.
- ✓ **Economics** The United Kingdom is a major industrial and trading country.
- ✓ **History** After years of conflict, a peace plan was adopted in Northern Ireland.

Section 2

France and the Benelux Countries

Terms to Know

navigable
polder
multinational
company
multilingual

Main Idea

France and the Benelux countries are important cultural, agricultural, and manufacturing centers of Europe.

- ✓ **Culture** Paris is a world center of art, learning, and culture.
- ✓ **Location** Belgium's location has made it an international center for trade.
- ✓ **Economics** Luxembourg is home to many multinational companies.

Section 3

Germany and the Alpine Countries

Terms to Know

autobahn
federal republic
reunification
neutrality
continental divide

Main Idea

Germany, Switzerland, and Austria are known for their mountain scenery and prosperous economies.

- ✓ **Economics** The German economy is very strong.
- ✓ **Economics** Switzerland produces high-quality manufactured goods.
- ✓ **Economics** Austria's economy makes use of the mountainous terrain.

Section 4

The Nordic Nations

Terms to Know

fjord
welfare state
heavy industry
sauna
geyser
geothermal energy

Main Idea

The Nordic countries have developed diverse economies, and their people enjoy a high standard of living.

- ✓ **Region** The Nordic countries include Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland.
- ✓ **Culture** Finnish culture differs from other Nordic countries.
- ✓ **Economics** Sweden's prosperity comes from forests and iron ore.

Section 5

Southern Europe

Terms to Know

dry farming
sirocco
coalition government

Main Idea

The sea has played an important role in southern European countries.

- ✓ **Location** Spain, Portugal, and Andorra occupy the Iberian Peninsula.
- ✓ **Economics** Italy is one of the world's leading industrial economies.
- ✓ **Place** Greece consists of a mountainous mainland and 2,000 islands.

Assessment and Activities



Using Key Terms

Match the terms in Part A with their definitions in Part B.

A.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. multilingual | 6. welfare state |
| 2. heavy industry | 7. polder |
| 3. coalition government | 8. autobahn |
| 4. neutrality | 9. constitutional monarchy |
| 5. dry farming | 10. multinational company |

B.

- land reclaimed from the sea
- leaving land unplanted to store moisture
- refusing to take sides
- country that uses tax money to help people in need
- company that has offices in several countries
- government that has a king or queen but is run by elected officials
- superhighway
- able to speak several languages
- two or more political parties working together to run a country
- production of industrial goods



Reviewing the Main Ideas

Section 1 The British Isles

- Region** What regions make up the United Kingdom?
- Culture** Name the two official languages of the Republic of Ireland.

Section 2 France and the Benelux Countries

- Government** What is the Fifth Republic?
- Location** Why do the Dutch have to protect their land from the sea?

Section 3 Germany and the Alpine Countries

- Government** What challenges does the reunification of Germany bring?
- Location** Why is Geneva the center of many international organizations?

Section 4 The Nordic Nations

- Economics** What makes Norway wealthy?
- Culture** What is Iceland's literacy rate?

Section 5 Southern Europe

- Culture** Why do the Basque people want independence from Spain?
- Economics** How does the rocky landscape influence Greece's economy?

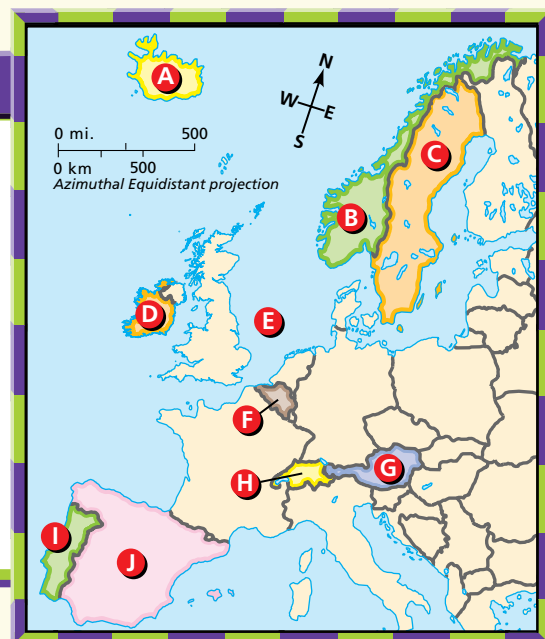


Western Europe

Place Location Activity

On a separate sheet of paper, match the letters on the map with the numbered places listed below.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. Ireland | 6. Spain |
| 2. North Sea | 7. Norway |
| 3. Belgium | 8. Portugal |
| 4. Austria | 9. Sweden |
| 5. Switzerland | 10. Iceland |





Social Studies Online

Self-Check Quiz Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 12—Self-Check Quizzes** to prepare for the Chapter Test.



Critical Thinking

21. **Analyzing Information** Why is the name Land of Fire and Ice appropriate for Iceland?
22. **Organizing Information** Create an outline for each country in Section 5. Use the following guide as your base outline.
 - I. Name of Country
 - A. Land
 - B. Economy
 - C. People



Comparing Regions Activity

23. **Culture** Visit a newsstand or library to find a magazine published for European teens. Does it have the same look and feel as a magazine you read? What common features or advertisements do you see?



Mental Mapping Activity

24. **Focusing on the Region** Create a simple outline map of western Europe, and then label the following:
 - United Kingdom
 - France
 - Germany
 - Sweden
 - Italy
 - Spain
 - Switzerland
 - Iceland

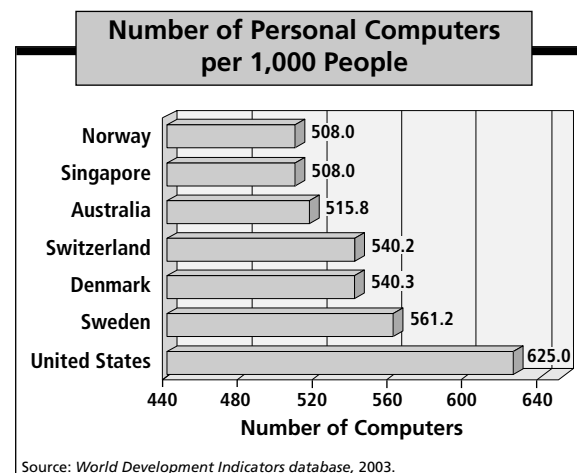


Technology Skills Activity

25. **Using a Spreadsheet** List the names of the western European countries in a spreadsheet, beginning with cell A2 and continuing down the column. Find each country's population and record the figures in column B. In column C list each country's area in square miles. Title column D "Population Density," then divide column B by column C to find the population density. Print and share your spreadsheet with the class.

Standardized Test Practice

Directions: Study the graph below, and then answer the question that follows.



1. Which Nordic country has the highest number of personal computers per 1,000 people?
 - A United States
 - B Switzerland
 - C Denmark
 - D Sweden

Test-Taking Tip: Use the information on the graph to help you answer this question. Look carefully at the information on the bottom and the side of a bar graph to understand what the bars represent. The important word in the question is *Nordic*. Other countries may have more personal computers, but which Nordic country listed on the graph has the most personal computers per 1,000 people?