

Tell us about your country

A Ray



Population: 59 million

Area: 1,220,813 km²

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.

- The student writes about their habits and what they like to do. _____
- The student gives general information about their country. _____
- The writer describes things you can see and do in their country. _____
- The student shares their personal information and their likes. _____
- The writer gives unusual information about their country. _____

2 Read the texts and choose the correct answer.

- Is Ray from South Africa?
 - Yes, he is.
 - We don't know.
 - No, he isn't.
- Where is Sofia's father from?
 - from the United States.
 - from Mexico.
 - from Peru.
- Where does Sofia live?
 - in the UK.
 - in Mexico.
 - in Germany.
- What food does Jakob mention?
 - pizza and pancakes
 - pasta and fruit
 - pasta and ice cream
- Is Annie Italian?
 - Yes, she is.
 - No, she isn't.
 - We don't know.
- What languages does Annie speak?
 - She speaks English and French.
 - She speaks French and Spanish.
 - She only speaks English.

3 Complete the notes. Then read and check.

- In South Africa, there are _____ capital cities, but Johannesburg isn't one of them.
- South Africans enjoy playing _____ and _____ cricket.
- Sofia's mother _____ and her father _____.
- In Italy you can learn about Italian _____ by visiting old buildings like the Colosseum.
- 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

- Popocatépetl, in Mexico, is an example of a _____ which is active, sometimes you can see smoke at the top.
- I love _____ down the mountain very fast.
- We often go _____ in the summer. I like sleeping outside near a lake or mountain.
- In the Winter Olympic Games®, Russians are often good at _____.
- My brother loves _____ food. His favourite is Indian curry.
- In Scotland, there are a lot of _____ of very old buildings like castles.

5 Answer the questions for you.

- Which text did you find interesting? Why?

- Answer the magazine question yourself. Tell us about your country.
