

To complete the
comprehension
activities.

Tuesday 19th January 2021



2 EUROPEAN CULTURE

Europe isn't a country but a continent. There are seven continents on Earth and each is divided into countries. Europe contains over 40 different countries, all of which have their own histories, traditions and cultures. France, Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, Norway and Spain are some of the countries in Europe.

Each individual country's culture is deeply rooted in different forms of art, architecture, literature, music, sport and even behaviour. Cultures have developed differently throughout Europe, while sharing some common themes.

Let's look at just a few of them.

German culture

German is the official language of Germany. Many other native languages are spoken too though, such as Polish, Kurdish and Danish, which shows how multi-cultural the country is. Many German classical musicians are world-famous, having composed some of the most recognisable concertos and symphonies in history. They include the composers Ludwig van Beethoven, Richard Wagner, Richard Strauss and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Sport in Germany is hugely important, too. The German men's football team has been ever-present in major competitions: they won World Cups in 1954, 1974, 1990 and 2014, and European Championships in 1972, 1980 and 1996. In motor sports, Michael Schumacher and Sebastian Vettel have also won 11 Formula 1 World Championships between them.

Some of Germany's most famous exported foods are its delicious sausages: bratwurst, currywurst, bockwurst – and many more! Germany is also world-famous for its beer. Both sausages and beer are celebrated at its annual festival, Oktoberfest.

Danish culture

When you hear 'Denmark', you may think immediately of Vikings: fierce warriors who savagely invaded and raided other countries. However, Denmark nowadays has a strong culture promoting the arts and intellectual

pursuits. Theatre, music, sculpture, photography and film receive large amounts of government funding in comparison to other countries. Involvement in the arts is believed to have a great positive impact on people's happiness.

Cycling also plays a major role in many Danes' lives. In many cities, cycle lanes are clear and wide, meaning people can cycle as a mode of transport, cycle for fun and train to cycle competitively for teams. Over 1.3 million people cycle in the city of Copenhagen each day, while Odense was named 'bicycle city of the year' for its 350-kilometre network of cycle lanes.

Greek culture

When you think of Greece, you might think of its ancient legends: perhaps of Zeus, the king of the gods; Poseidon, god of the seas; and Hades, god of the underworld. Perhaps you think about the stories of the Trojan War, Theseus and the Minotaur, or Cerberus, the three-headed dog who guarded the gates of hell. Greek culture certainly remembers its mythical past, but strongly embraces the present.

Greece holds the record for the most gold medals won at the Olympics per person in the population, and its basketball team is successful: they even beat the USA's 'dream team' in the 2006 World Cup.

Greece is also famous for its cuisine. Fresh fish from the Mediterranean sea, sun-ripened vegetables, creamy feta cheese and lashings of olive oil also make it one of the healthiest in the world.

Symbols of culture

European culture is recognised around the world and is symbolised by some historic, iconic buildings. The Colosseum in Rome, Italy, symbolises military and theatrical prowess. The Louvre Museum, in Paris, France, embodies the French love of art and all things beautiful. The Parthenon, in Greece, illustrates the country's respect for its ancient culture and gods. In London, United Kingdom, the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace represent democracy and the royal family.

Read the text and make sure you understand the language within it.

You are using this text for 3 days!

MULTIPLE CHOICE



Circle the correct answer for each of the following questions.

How many countries are there in Europe?

over 30	over 40	over 50	over 60
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When did the German men's football team first win the World Cup?

1947	1954	2014	1958
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Which culture traditionally eats currywurst?

Danish	Scottish	German	Greek
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Which culture believes in the positive impact of the arts?

Greek	German	Italian	Danish
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How many Formula 1 titles have been won by Schumacher and Vettel?

11	12	13	14
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The Greek basketball team beat which other nation's team in the 2006 World Cup?

Italy	USA	Germany	France
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Which of the following is a symbol of military prowess?

Louvre Museum	Houses of Parliament	Colosseum	Parthenon
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Which culture is famous for its use of olive oil?

Greek	German	Norwegian	Danish
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Which culture places a lot of importance on cycling?

Greek	German	Norwegian	Danish
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Which culture is known for its famous classical musicians?

Greek	German	Italian	Danish
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Task 1:

Circle the correct answer in the multiple choice section

Use the text to support completion of task.

If writing in book, write question with the answer please.

 TRUE OR FALSE



Read the sentences. Put a tick in the correct box to show which sentences are *true* and which are *false*.

There are over 50 countries in Europe.

True False

Hungary is a country found in Europe.

True False

Europe is a country.

True False

Ukraine is a country found in Europe.

True False

Kurdish is spoken in Germany.

True False

Michael Schumacher is from Denmark.

True False

Over 2 million people cycle in Copenhagen each day.

True False

Polish is spoken in Germany.

True False

Germany has many famous classical musicians.

True False

The Parthenon is in Paris.

True False

The Houses of Parliament are in Odense.

True False

The Colosseum is in Rome.

True False

Odense is a city in Denmark.

True False

A bratwurst is a type of bicycle.

True False

Danish citizens are heavily involved in the arts.

True False

Task 2 – true or false?

If writing in book, write the statement and add the true or false.



Answers on next slide

Please do not use answers unless you are finished!

MULTIPLE CHOICE

over 40

1954

German

Danish

11

USA

Colosseum

Greek

Danish

German

TRUE OR FALSE

1. False

2. True

3. False

4. True

5. True

6. False

7. False

8. True

9. True

10. False

11. False

12. True

13. True

14. False

15. True

