

12A In an ideal world ...

Activity type: Writing / Speaking – Making a poster – Groups

Aim: To create and describe a fictitious country

Language: Describing a country – Use any time after 2.1.

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of four or five learners.


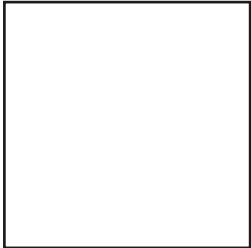

Time: 45 minutes

- 1 Before the lesson, if possible, direct learners to such references as the *CIA World Factbook* or *Wikipedia*, where they can see how information about countries is given. In the lesson, elicit similar information about the country they are studying in.
- 2 Divide learners into groups of four or five. Explain that they are going to create their own country and design a mini-poster to describe it to the rest of the class. Give a copy of the worksheet to each group. Explain that they have to mark the position of their country on the world map at the top and then draw a map of their country in the first square. They have to decide on a flag, and they draw this in the square on the right. They then complete the details below, including a name for their country and its capital (both of which they can add to the map).
- 3 Groups work together to agree on the details of their country and use their worksheet as a mini-poster which will introduce their country to the class.
- 4 Display the countries around the classroom. Learners look at the different mini-posters and then vote as a class on which country seems most appealing.

Stronger classes

Students use their mini-poster as a talking point for a presentation of their country. (The presentation will need time for set-up, practice and feedback.) You could set it up as a competition in which students have to 'sell' their country as a candidate for hosting the next Olympic Games or other important world event. The class then votes on the best candidate for the proposed event. (If you do this, it is best to tell them what the competition will be about before they create their country so that they can bear it in mind as they think about the details of the country.)

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 <p>Location</p>	 <p>Map</p>	 <p>Flag</p>
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Name of country: _____

Capital (*name and location*): _____

Introduction/History: _____

Geography (*main features*): _____

Climate: _____

People

Population: _____

Nationality: (*Noun*) _____ (*Adjective*) _____

Language(s): _____

Government

Government type (*e.g. republic; monarchy*): _____

Legislature: (*Who makes the laws? e.g. parliament*): _____

Political parties: _____

Economy

Main industry/industries: _____

Agriculture: _____

Main export(s): _____

Natural resources: _____

Other (*e.g. tourist attractions, education system, relations with other countries, national holidays, unusual facts*): _____
