UNIT I

World Geography

If a customer wants to go snorkeling on a tropical reef or shopping for precious gems in one of the world's major cities, where do you send them? If friends tell you that the trip from Macchu Picchu to Cuzco is a simple four-hour journey, how do you know whether they know what they are talking about? The answer lies in understanding destination geography, which is the study of all of the properties and characteristics of a location that influence travel. It may surprise you to learn as a student of travel, that not all places in the world are considered travel destinations. A travel destination is a location that a traveler chooses to visit.

Destination Geography

There are many factors that determine which locations become tourist destinations. Some of these include the following:

- Attractions: Proximity or nearness to attractions is one of the major factors that influence a tourist's travel decisions. Some attractions are natural, such as the Grand Canyon in the United States or the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. Other attractions are historical, such as the Great Wall in China or the Coliseum in Rome. Still others are "created" attractions, such as Disney World and the Epcot Centre in Orlando, Florida.
- Accessibility: A location's geographical position, as well as the modes of transport available to reach the location, plays a role in determining which locations become destinations. For example, it takes less time to fly 4,000 miles from Nairobi, Kenya to London, England than it does to trek (hike) the 200 miles from Nairobi to the famous mountain gorilla reserve in Rwanda. Some Travelers need comfort and efficiency, while others enjoy the challenge of reaching a remote or exotic location. However, a balance between convenient geographical position and a variety of available transport options will likely make a location a more popular travel destination.
- Costs and Standards of Living: Standards of living and costs for basic goods and services vary widely around the world. Some locations provide excellent services and luxurious goods, while others provide only basic services and simple goods. In general, those travelling to more remote destinations can expect that goods and services which they are accustomed to will be more expensive, less available and in some cases completely absent.

• Culture: Just as the standard of living varies widely from one destination to another, so do

cultures. Culture is defined as the sum of characteristics of a society, including its language,

religion, politics, art, food, customs and related elements that shape and distinguish it from

other societies. Travelers will encounter a variety of cultures around the world and even

different cultures within the same geographic area. For example, eating beef products is

considered a delicacy in one culture; in another it is considered sacrilegious. Having a basic

understanding of different cultures, and matching potential customer needs and desires with

those cultures, will help make you a more effective travel professional.

• Climate: Travelers often mention climate as one of the most important reasons for selecting

one destination over another. Many people use the terms "weather" and "climate" as though

they were the same. The terms, however, are different. Weather is a condition that happens at

a particular time, whereas climate is the average weather over an extended period of time.

Knowing a destination's future weather on any given day is impossible, but knowing something

about a destination's climate is very important for planning effective travel itineraries. Today,

several Internet websites provide accurate weather forecasts and conditions for destinations

worldwide and for a few weeks ahead. Finally, there are some characteristics of destinations

that can change rapidly. Some of these may be disease outbreaks, political unrest or uncertainty,

natural disasters, strikes or other labor shortages, extreme currency fluctuations or devaluations

and changes in governmental travel policy. Ultimately, however, what makes a destination is

an ongoing demand by travelers to visit an area. The seven most important characteristics cited

by travelers for choosing a destination.

Destination geography is the study of all the properties and characteristics of a location that

influence travel.

CHARACTERISTIC PERCENTAGE

Weather 57%

Sightseeing 44%

Beaches 39%

Entertainment 30%

Language spoken 28%

Restaurants 28%

Expensiveness 28%

Physical Geography

A good understanding of physical geography is essential to you as a travel professional as it allows you to know both the constraints and benefits of the natural world as experienced by travelers. The major land masses of the world are known as continents. Geographers typically identify 7 continents, although some geographers group Asia and Europe together as one continent, Eurasia.

The 7 continents as typically described by geographers are:

- 1. Europe
- 2. Asia
- 3. Africa
- 4. North America
- 5. South America
- 6. Australia
- 7. Antarctica

Some geographers also include sub-continents when describing world physical geography. Subcontinents include Central America, Australasia and the Pacific Islands, and the Middle East. The importance of the continents in shaping both the history and culture of geography cannot be underestimated.

Bodies of water are extremely important in the travel industry. Many travelers seek warm weather vacations that include stays on tropical beaches. Water also offers a variety of adventure travel opportunities, including white-water river rafting, parasailing, water-skiing and snorkelling.

Cultural Geography

In the previous two Sections we learned about aspects of destination geography and physical geography. In this section we will explore cultural geography, which is the study of how geography influences people's behavior, customs and habits. Cultural geography is sometimes referred to as "human geography" because of intensive focus on human behavior. There are

many components that make up cultural geography. Some of these are religion, economics, food, art, architecture, language, national boundaries, politics, agriculture and employment. All of these components affect patterns of travel and tourism.

As we have learned, travelers visit destinations for a variety of reasons. Many of these reasons shape an area of cultural geography known as touristic patterns. Touristic patterns may be defined as a predictable combination of characteristics and qualities that describe why, how and when people travel. When tourism is at its highest point, it is known as peak season. When tourism is at its lowest point, it is called off or low season. Finally, travel professionals refer to the times in between peak and off-season as shoulder seasons. Not surprisingly, a traveler can expect to pay the most for travel during peak seasons, the least during off-seasons and a price somewhere in the middle during the shoulder season.

The World's Continents

The seven continents are Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Australia and Antarctica. The following is a more detailed description of the continents and their associated boundaries. As you read these Sections please refer to an up-to-date world atlas. Suggested atlases can be found in the Appendix of this Module. Look at the appropriate areas of the atlas as you read and learn about the continents, countries and cities.

- **EUROPE:** The land mass west of the Bosporus Strait in Turkey and west of the Ural Mountains in Russia, extending west to the Atlantic Ocean. Europe also includes the island nations of Ireland, Iceland, Malta and the United Kingdom.
- **ASIA:** The land mass east of the Suez Canal in Egypt, east of the Bosporus Strait in Turkey and east of the Ural Mountains in Russia, continuing east to the Pacific Ocean. Asia also includes the island nations of Japan, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Philippines, Maldives, and Sri Lanka. Note: Sub-continents include the Middle East.
- **AFRICA:** The land mass bordered by the Indian Ocean on the east, the Red Sea and Suez Canal on the northeast, the Mediterranean Sea on the north and the Atlantic Ocean on the west. It includes the island nations of Comoros, Mauritius, Reunion, Sao Tome and Principe, Madagascar and Cape Verde, Seychelles and the Canary Islands.
- **NORTH AMERICA**: The land mass bordered by the Pacific Ocean on the west, the Arctic Ocean on the north, the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the nation of Colombia on the South. It

also includes Bermuda, the Bahamas, Greenland and the island nations of the Caribbean Sea, also known as the West Indies. Note: Sub-continents include Central America.

• **SOUTH AMERICA**: The land mass bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the east, the Pacific Ocean on the west and the country of Panama on the north. It also includes Galapagos Island and the Falkland Islands.

• AUSTRALIA: The land mass bordered by the Timor Sea, the Arufura Sea and the Gulf of Carpentaria to the north, the Indian Ocean to the west, south and northwest, the Coral Sea to the east and northeast and the Tasman Sea to the southeast. Note: Sub-continents include Oceania (Pacific Islands such as New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and tens of thousands of other Pacific islands).

• ANTARCTICA: The southernmost land mass located almost entirely south of the Antarctic Circle. It is bordered on the north by the Indian, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

Continent Area in Square Area in Square Percentage of Kilometers Miles Earth's Land

Asia 44,485,900 17,171,557 30.0%

Africa 30,269,680 11,684,096 20.4%

North America 24,235,280 9,354,818 16.3%

South America 17,820,770 6,878,817 12.0%

Antarctica 13,209,000 5,098,674 8.9%

Europe 10,530,750 4,064,870 7.1%

Australia 7,682,300 2,965,368 5.2%

Note: 1 square kilometer = .386 square miles A continent is defined as one of seven large land masses.

In addition, there are several other groupings of islands and land masses that are often referred to as sub-continents. Geographers do not agree completely on how to group these sub-continents and how certain countries fit into.

Oceans

The size of four major oceans and the percentage of the earth's water area they occupy are given below. It is very important to understand the world's natural terrain and features because this knowledge will aid you in developing effective travel plans for customers

Ocean Area (Sq Km) Area (Sq Mi) % of Earth's Water Area

Pacific 166,241,000 64,169,026 46.0%

Atlantic 86,557,000 33,411,002 23.9%

Indian 73,427,000 28,342,822 20.3%

Arctic 9,485,000 3,661,210 2.6%

Countries

Exploring the Earth's Countries As we have learned, continents are the largest geographical land units. Continental boundaries tend to be defined mainly by natural geographical features. Countries, which are the next smallest geographical unit, have boundaries that are often determined by political forces as well as geographic features. There are presently 194 independent countries in the world and this number changes with some frequency depending on political and social forces. It should be noted, however, that all countries attract tourists and have a geography, history and culture worth exploring. It is important to keep up to date about information regarding world events and borders. World events can shape the history and cultural geography of the world. These events can change rapidly and alter the locations of borders and other geographic features.

Cities- Three letter city code

All cities with an airport have their own unique code. This code is essential for various reasons:

— Cities with the same name do exist. For instance, there are three countries with a city named London, two countries with a city named Paris and three countries with a city named Sydney. In the USA, there are three cities named Lewiston and four named Albany. There are cities with very similar names such as Havre in the USA and Le Havre in France, or Macapa in Brazil and Makara in Ecuador. — A second reason for developing standard city and airport codes is to facilitate ticketing. Using full city names on travel documents would consume too much space. Therefore it is easier to display city or airport codes on airline tickets and the travel industry developed a shorthand way to identify cities and airports on travel documents.

Three-Letter City Codes

Three-letter city codes have existed for many years. When travel professionals take notes and complete reservations, they use these standard codes. These codes are required by all automated reservation systems, airport check-in systems and airport baggage tracking systems that ensure baggage is loaded on correct flights. As a travel professional, you will use three-letter city codes everywhere. Use of these codes will save time when navigating GDS systems. When you learn to use a computer reservations system to find information and generate an airline ticket, three-letter city or airport codes will represent the destinations a customer will be travelling to and from. Most travel reference books and many Web sites have a complete listing of threeletter city codes. 3.3 Coding and De-Coding Three-Letter City and Airport Codes Each city has at least one airport and some have more than one. For cities that have more than one airport, there will be more than one three-letter code. What is the difference between a city and an airport code? Well some cities have more than one airport, so each airport gets its own code, and the city itself gets a code too Normally, when a city is served by only one airport, the threeletter airport code is the same as the city code. Memorizing all three-letter city and airport codes will be helpful to you in studying this course and when you work in the travel industry. Study the following tables of city and airport codes for your course examination as you will be expected to place countries and cities (as well as oceans) on a blank map. For countries listing more than one city, their capital cities are marked with an asterisk.

City code and Airport Codes

Europe

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Switzerland	Berne*	BRN		
	Zurich	ZRH		
	Geneva	GVA		
	Basle	BSL		
Turkey	Istanbul	IST		
Ukraine	Kiev	IEV		
United Kingdom	London*	LON	Heathrow	LHR
			Gatwick	LGW
	Manchester	MAN		
	Rirmingham	RHX		
	Edinburgh	EDI		
	Glasgow	GLA		
	Belfast	BFS		

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Algeria	Algiers	ALG	Airport Hairie	All port code
Angola	Luanda	LAD		
Benin	Cotonou	COO		
DC.IIII	Porto-Novo*	000		
Botswana	Gaborone	GBE		
Cameroon	Yaounde*	YAO		
	Douala	DLA		
Congo	Brazzaville	BZV		
Congo	Kinshasa	FIH		
(Democratic				
Republic of) Côte d'Ivoire	Yamoussoukro*	ASK		
Cote d'Ivoire	Abidjan	ASK ABJ		
Djibouti	Djibouti	JIB		
Egypt	Cairo*	CAI		
-8771	Alexandria	ALY		
Equatorial	Malabo	SSG		
Guinea				
Eritrea	Asmara	ASM		
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	ADD		
Gabon	Libreville	LBV		
Gambia	Banjul	BJL		
Guinea	Conakry	CKY		
Kenya	Nairobi* Mombasa	NBO MBA		
Lesotho	Maseru	MSU		
Liberia	Monrovia	MLW		
Libya	Tripoli	TIP		
Madagascar	Antananarivo	TNR		
Mali	Bamako	ВКО		
Malawi	Lilongwe	LLW		
Mauritania	Nouakchott	NKC		
Mauritius	Port Louis	MRU		
Morocco	Rahat*	RRA	Mohammed V	CMN
	Casablanca	CAS	International	
	Marrakech	RAK	Airport	
Mozambique	Maputo	MPM		
Namibia	Windhoek	WDH		
Niger	Niamey	NIM		
Nigeria	Abuja*	ABV		
-	Lagos	LOS		
Rwanda São Tomé	Kigali San Tomé	KGL TMS		
and Principe	São Tomé	IMS		
Senegal	Dakar	DKR		
Sevchelles	Victoria	SEZ		
Sierra Leone	Freetown	FNA		
Somalia	Mogadishu	MGQ		
South Africa	Pretoria*	PRY		
	Cape Town	CPT		
	Johannesburg	JNB		
Sudan	Khartoum	KRT		
Swaziland	Manzini	MTS		
Tanzania	Dodoma*	DOD		
	Dar es Salaam	DAR		

Africa

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Algeria	Algiers	ALG		
Angola	Luanda	LAD		
Benin	Cotonou	COO		
	Porto-Novo*			
Botswana	Gaborone	GBE		
Cameroon	Yaounde*	YAO		
-	Douala	DLA		
Congo	Brazzaville	BZV		
Congo (Democratic	Kinshasa	FIH		
Republic of)				
Côte d'Ivoire	Yamoussoukro*	ASK		
	Abidjan	ABJ		
Djibouti	Djibouti	JIB		
Egypt	Cairo*	CAI		
	Alexandria	ALY		
Equatorial	Malabo	SSG		
Guinea				
Eritrea	Asmara	ASM		
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	ADD		
Gabon	Libreville	LBV		
Gambia Guinea	Banjul	BJL CKY		
	Conakry Nairobi*	NBO		
Kenya	Mombasa	MBA		
Lesotho	Maseru	MSU		
Liberia	Monrovia	MLW		
Libya	Tripoli	TIP		
Madagascar	Antananarivo	TNR		
Mali	Bamako	ВКО		
Malawi	Lilongwe	LLW		
Mauritania	Nouakchott	NKC		
Mauritius	Port Louis	MRU		
Morocco	Rabat*	RBA	Mohammed V	CMN
	Casablanca	CAS	International	
	Marrakech	RAK	Airport	
Mozambique	Maputo	MPM		
Namibia	Windhoek	WDH		
Niger	Niamey	NIM		
Nigeria	Abuja* Lagos	ABV LOS		
Rwanda	Kigali	KGL		
São Tomé	São Tomé	TMS		
and Principe	add Tome	ima		
Senegal	Dakar	DKR		
Seychelles	Victoria	SEZ		
Sierra Leone	Freetown	FNA		
Somalia	Mogadishu	MGQ		
South Africa	Pretoria*	PRY		
	Cape Town	CPT		
	Johannesburg	JNB		
Sudan	Khartoum	KRT		
Swaziland	Manzini	MTS		
Tanzania	Dodoma*	DOD		
	Dar es Salaam	DAR		

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Togo	Lomé	LFW		
Tunisia	Tunis	TUN		
Uganda	Entebbe	EBB		
Zambia	Lusaka	LUN		
Zimbabwe	Harare	HRE		

Table 3.2—Three-Letter City and Airport Codes for Africa

Asia

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Alghanistan	Kabul	KBL		,
Armenia	Yerevan	EVN		
Azerbaijan	Baku	BAK		
Bahrain	Manama	BAH		
Bangladesh	Dhaka	DAC		
		PBH		
Brunei	Paro			
Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan	BWN		
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	PNH		
China	Beging*	BUS	Ballion Capital	DEV
China	Shanghai	SHA	Beijing Capital	PEK.
l	Hong Kong (SAR)	HKG		
l	Macao (SAR)	MEM		
l	Chinese Taipei*	TPE		
East Timor-	Dili	DIL		
Timor Leste				
India	Delhi*	DEL		
	Mumbai	BOM		
l	Chennai	MAA		
	Kolkata	CCU		
Indonesia	Jakarta*	JKT	Jakarta	CGK
l	Denpasar-Bali	DPS	Soekamo-	
l			Hatta Inter- national Airport	
Iran	Tehran	THR	Transcript Property	
Iran	Baghdad	BGW		
		JRS		
Israel	Jerusalem* Tel Aviv	TLV		
		TYO	Narita	NRT
Japan	Takyo*	140		
l			Haneda	HND
l	Osaka	OSA	Kansai Airport	KIX
	Nagoya	NGO		
Jordan	Amman	AMM		
Kazakstan	Astana*	TSE		
	Almaty	ALA		
Korea North	Pyongyang	FNJ		
Korea South	Seoul	SEL		
Kuwait	Kuwait	KWI		
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	FRU		
Lacs	Vientiane	VTE		
Lebanon	Beirut	BEY		
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	KUL		
Maldives	Male	MLE		
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	ULN		
Myanmar	Yangoon	RGN		
Nepal	Kathmandu	KTM		
Oman	Muscat	MCT		
Pakistan	Islamabad*	ISB		
	Karachi	KHI		
Philippines	Manila	MNL		
Qatar	Doha	DOH		
Russia (East	Khabarovsk	KHV		
of the Urals)	The state of the s			
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh*	RUH		
	Jeddah	JED		
Singapore	Singapore	SIN		
- Marie				

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Sri Lanka	Colombo	CMB		
Syria	Damascus	DAM		
Tajikistan	Dushanbe	DYU		
Thailand	Bangkok	BKK		
Turkey	Ankara	ANK	Esenboga	ESB
Turkmenistan	Ashgabad	ASB		
United Arab Emirates	Abu Dhabi*	AUH		
	Dubai	DXB		
	Sharjah	SHJ		
Uzbekistan	Tashkent	TAS		
Vietnam	Hanoi* Ho Chi Minh City	HAN SGN		
Yemen	Sanaa	SAH		

Australasia and Pacific

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Australia	Canberra* Sydney Melbourne Perth	CBR SYD MEL PER		
Fiji	Suva* Nadi	SUV NAN		
French Polynesia	Papeete	PPT		
Kiribati	Tarawa	TRW		
Marshal Islands	Majuro	MAJ		
Nauru Island	Nauru	INU		
New Zealand	Wellington* Auckland Christohurch	WLG AKL CHC		
Palau	Koror	ROR		
Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	POM		
Samoa	Apia	APW		
Solomon Islands	Honiara	HIR		
Tonga	Nuku'Alofa	TBU	•	
Tuvalu	Funafuti	FUN	•	
Vanuatu	Port Vila	VLI		·

Table 3.4—Three-Letter City and Airport Codes for Australasia and Pacific

North America

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Antigua and Barbuda	St. John's	ANU		
Bahamas	Nassau	NAS		
Barbados	Bridgetown	BGI		
Bermuda	Hamilton	BDA		
Canada	Halifax	YHZ		
	Ottawa*	YOW		
	Montreal	YMQ	Pierre Elliott Trudeau	
	Toronto	YTO	Pearson International	YYZ
	Calgary	YYC		
	Vancouver	YVR		
Cuba	Havana	HAV		
Dominica	Roseau	DOM		
Dominican Republic	Santo Domingo	SDQ		
Greenland	Nuuk	GOH		
Grenada	Saint Georges	GND		
Haiti	Port au Prince	PAP		
Jamaica	Kingston	KIN		
Mexico	Mexico City*	MEX		
Duranta Dian	Acapulco	ACA		
Puerto Rico	San Juan	SJU		
St. Kits and Nevis	Basseterre	SKB		
Saint Lucia	Castries	SLU		
St. Vincent and the	Kingstown	SVD		
and the Grenadines				
Trinidad &	Port of Spain	POS		
Tobago				
United States of America	Anchorage	ANC		
	Atlanta	ATL		
	Boston	BOS	0111	000
	Chicago	CHI	O'Hare	ORD
	Dallas	DAL	Dallas/Fort Worth International	DFW
	Detroit	DTT	Wayne County	DTW
	Houston	HOU	Hobby Airport George Bush Intercontinental	IAH
	Los Angeles	LAX		
	Miami	MIA		
	New Orleans	MSY		
	New York City	NYC	John F Kennedy La Guardia Newark	JFK LGA EWR
	Orlando	MCO		
	Salt Lake City	SLC		
	San Francisco	SFO		
	Washington D.C.*	WAS	Dulles International Ronald Reagan National	DCA

Central America

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Belize	Belmopan	BCV		
Costa Rica	San Jose	SJO		
El Salvador	San Salvador	SAL		
Guatemala	Guatemala City	GUA		
Honduras	Tegucigalpa	TGU		
Nicaragua	Managua	MGA		
Panama	Panama City	PTY		

Table 3.6—Three-Letter City and Airport Codes for Central America

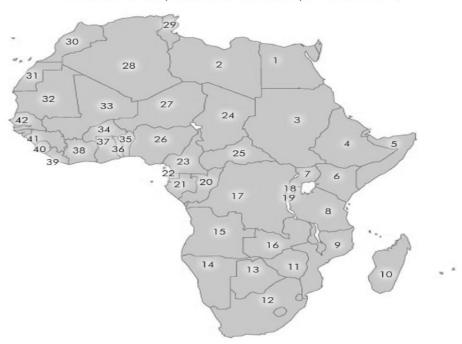
South America

Country	City	City Code	Airport Name	Airport Code
Argentina	Buenos Aires	BUE	Ezeiza Ministro Pistarini	EZE
Bolivia	La Paz	LPB		
Brazil	Brasilia*	BSB		
	Rio de Janeiro	RIO	Galeão Inter- national Airport	GIG
	São Paulo	SAO	Guarulhos International Airport	GRU
Chile	Santiago de Chile	SCL		
Colombia	Bogota	BOG		
Ecuador	Guayaquil	GYE		
	Quito*	UIO		
French Guiana	Cayenne	CAY		
Guyana	Georgetown	GEO		
Paraguay	Asunción	ASU		
Peru	Lima	LIM		
Suriname	Paramaribo	PBM		
Uruguay	Montevideo	MVD		
Venezuela	Caracas	CCS		

Table 3.7—Three-Letter City and Airport Codes for South America

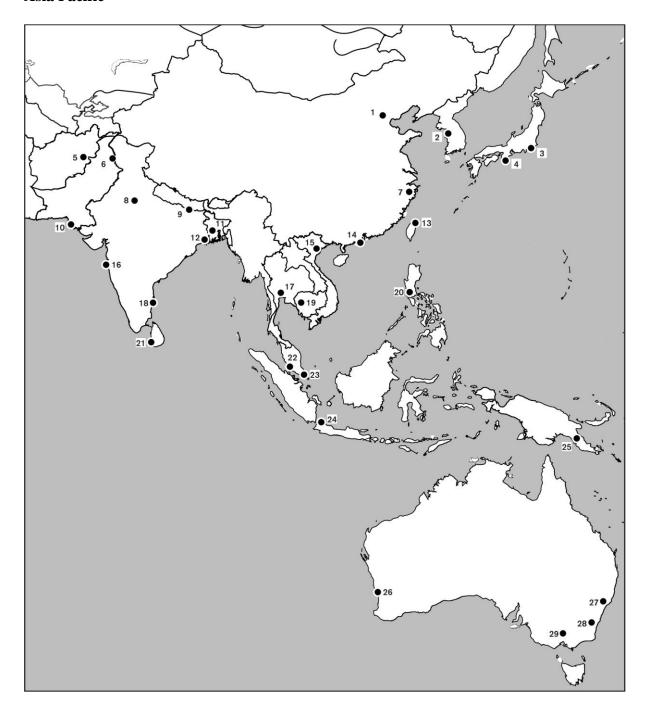
Map Work

Africa

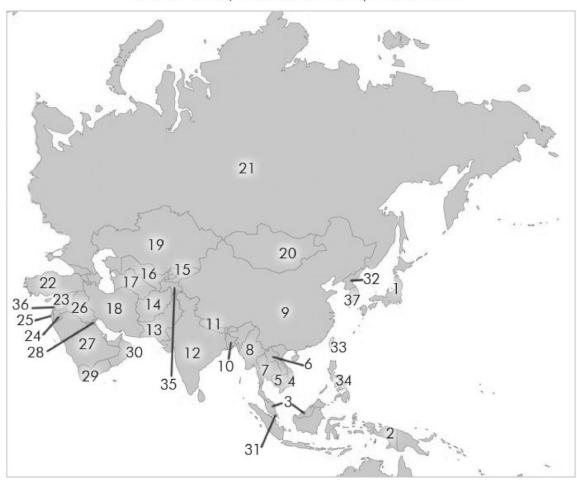


1:	10:	
2:	11:	
3:	12:	
4:	13:	
5:	14:	
6:	15:	
7:	16:	
8:	17:	
9:	18:	

Asia Pacific



AsiaFill in the country names in the fields provided below.



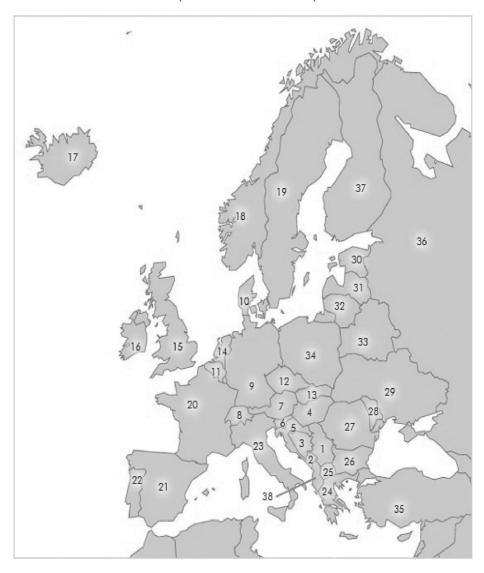
10:	
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18:	

Australasia



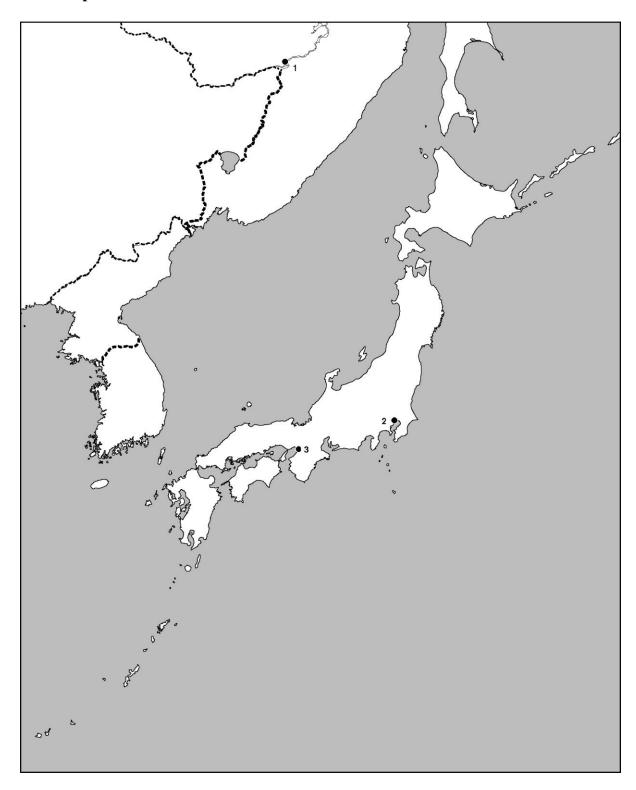
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3:	7:
4.	8:

Europe

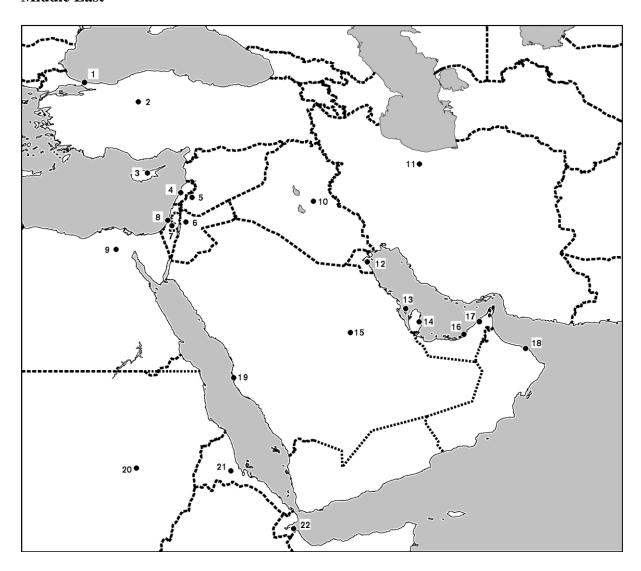


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9:	18:

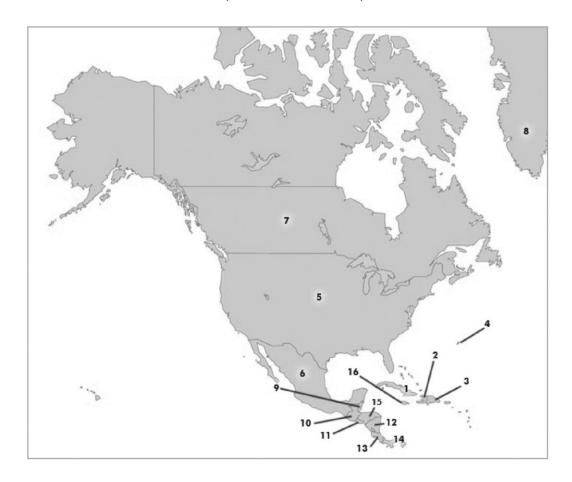
Korea Japan



Middle East



North America



1:	9:	
2:	10:	
3:	11:	
4:	12:	7
5:	13:	
6:	14:	- V
7:	15:	
8:	16:	

South America



1:	8:	
2:	9:	
3:	10:	
4:	11:	
5:	12:	
6:	13:	
7.		

South East Asia

