



Name: _____



Class: _____



Date: _____

The continent of Europe

Where is it?

Europe is in the world's northern **hemisphere**. It is **surrounded** by the Arctic Ocean to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the west, Asia to the east and Africa to the south.

It is one of the **smallest** continents in size. Countries in Europe include France, Norway, Poland and Bulgaria.

What is in Europe?

- The **largest** country in Europe is Russia. More people live there than any other country in Europe. Russia is **spread across** two continents: Europe and Asia.
- Big cities in Europe are Stockholm (in Sweden), Paris (in France), London (in the United Kingdom) and Berlin (in Germany).
- The River Volga in Russia is the **longest** river in Europe. It is 2,193 miles (3,529 km) long. That's about three times the length of Great Britain.
- The Alps are a famous mountain range in Europe. They are **spread over** 8 different countries.
- Many countries in Europe have a temperate **climate**. This means they don't get extremely hot or very cold, although this is changing due to climate change.



Facts about Europe:

1. More than 200 languages are spoken in Europe.
2. Europe is the birthplace of democracy.
3. The world's smallest country is in Europe.
4. Europe has over 400 UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
5. Europe is home to some of the oldest universities in the world.

Homework Task:

Read the facts about Europe again, and then answer the following questions using full sentences and punctuation. You will need to use research tools to complete this task.

1. Name five of the languages spoken in Europe.
2. In which country did democracy originate?
3. What is the world's smallest country?
4. Name three UNESCO World Heritage Sites and where they are.
5. What is one of the oldest university in Europe and which country is it in?

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The European Union

What is the EU?

The European Union (EU) is an **economic** and **political** union of 27 countries. The EU is **governed** by a decision-making triangle of The **Council** of the European Union, The European **Parliament** and European Commission. This **political system** is unique and does not fall into any traditional **legal** category. It has been evolving for over the last 50 years.



What are the main aims of the EU?

The five top aims of the EU are:

1. To promote economic and **social** progress
2. To speak for the EU on the **international** scene
3. To introduce European **citizenship**
4. To develop Europe as an area of freedom, security and justice
5. To maintain and build an established EU **law**

The European Economic Area (EEA)

The EEA includes EU countries and also Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. It allows them to be part of the EU's single market. Switzerland is not an EU or EEA **member** but is part of the single market. This means Swiss **nationals** have the same **rights** to live and work in the UK as other EEA nationals.

How does the EU govern?

European Commission - This branch proposes laws and manages daily operations.

European Parliament - This body represents citizens and votes on laws.

Council of the EU - This group represents member state governments.

The **flag** is made up of 12 gold stars and a clear blue sky. The blue sky represents harmony and solidarity among the peoples of Europe, and the 12 stars symbolise completeness and entirety.



Task: Draw a line to match each English word with its Italian translation:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. citizenship | economico |
| 2. law | cittadinanza |
| 3. economic | sociale |
| 4. political | legge |
| 5. council | consiglio |
| 6. parliament | internazionale |
| 7. social | parlamento |
| 8. international | politico |

Homework task:

Answer the questions below using full sentences and punctuation. You will need to use research tools to complete this task.

1. Who were the EU's original six members?
2. Which country officially left the EU in 2020?
3. How frequently does the rotating presidency of the EU change?