

Exploring Europe with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify the location of Europe and understand key geographical features of the continent.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below in full sentences.

Finn the dolphin loves to travel across the blue oceans to visit different lands. Recently, Finn swam around the coast of Europe, the sixth-largest continent in the world. Europe is a fascinating place made up of over forty different countries. To the north, the waters are chilly, while the southern coast is warmed by the Mediterranean Sea.

Finn enjoys looking at the physical geography of the land. He often spots the Alps, a massive mountain range that stretches across several countries, including France, Switzerland, and Italy. Because Europe is a peninsula—land surrounded by water on three sides—it has a very long coastline. This means many people who live there work in fishing or shipping. Finn also notices how busy the cities are, with trains and roads connecting different countries, making it easy for people to visit their neighbours. Whether it is the snowy peaks in the winter or the sunny beaches in the summer, Finn thinks Europe is a wonderful place to explore.

Word bank: continent · mountain range · border · peninsula · geography

1. Name two countries mentioned in the text that are part of the Alps mountain range. (2 marks)

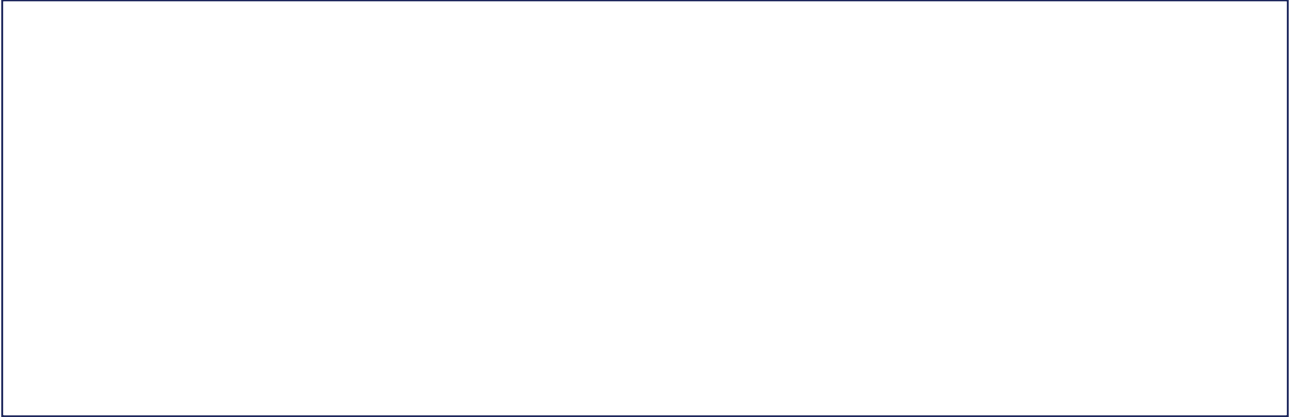
2. What does it mean to say that Europe is a 'peninsula'? (2 marks)

3. Why might the long coastline of Europe be important for the people who live there? (2 marks)

4. Based on the text, why is it easy for people in Europe to travel between different countries? (2 marks)

5. If you could visit any part of Europe, would you rather visit the snowy mountains or the sunny beaches? Explain your reason. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Europe and label the Mediterranean Sea and the Alps mountain range.



Extension challenge: Research one European country. Find out its capital city, what language they speak, and what its flag looks like. Present your findings on a fact card.