

Exploring the Continent of Europe with Finn

Learning objective: To understand the geographical location and diverse features of the European continent.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below. Use your geography skills to explain your reasoning.

Finn the dolphin loves travelling along the coastlines of Europe, a continent characterised by its incredible variety. Europe is bordered by the Arctic Ocean to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the west, and the Mediterranean Sea to the south. It is home to over 40 countries, each with unique traditions and landscapes. From the frozen, treeless tundra of the far north to the sun-drenched, rocky shores of the Mediterranean, the climate shifts significantly.

Major physical features include the Alps, a vast mountain range that stretches across several countries, and the mighty River Danube, which flows through ten different nations. Many parts of Europe are peninsulas, meaning they are surrounded by water on three sides. This geography has shaped how people live, trade, and travel for centuries. Whether it is a bustling capital city or a quiet mountain village, Europe offers a complex puzzle of human and physical geography. Finn enjoys mapping these features, noting how the changing terrain influences the weather and the wildlife he encounters on his travels.

Word bank: continent · mountain range · tundra · peninsula · diverse · landscape

1. Identify two oceans or seas that border Europe according to the text. (2 marks)

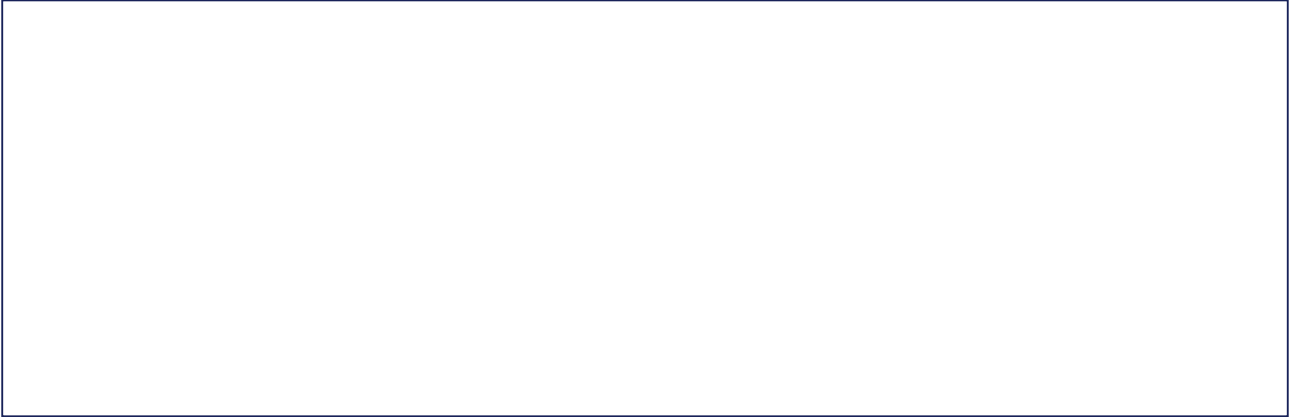
2. What does the term 'peninsula' mean in the context of European geography? (2 marks)

3. Explain why the climate might be different in the north of Europe compared to the south. (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the physical landscape of the Alps with the coastline Finn explores. Why might these differences matter to a traveller? (4 marks)

5. Justify why Europe is considered a 'diverse' continent based on the information provided. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Europe, including the Alps and one ocean, and label them clearly._____



Extension challenge: What might happen to trade and travel if Europe were an island instead of a continent connected to Asia? Write a short paragraph explaining your theory.