

Finn's Grand Journey Across Asia

Learning objective: To identify key geographical features and diverse landscapes within the continent of Asia.

Read the passage below carefully. Use the information provided and your own geographical knowledge to answer the questions. For the extension task, use your best analytical writing skills.

Finn the dolphin recently completed an incredible expedition across Asia, the world's largest and most populous continent. Finn discovered that Asia is a land of extreme contrasts. In the north, he observed the freezing, vast plains of Siberia, where the climate remains bitter for most of the year. Traveling south, he reached the majestic Himalayas, a colossal mountain range home to Mount Everest, the highest point on Earth. Finn was fascinated by the diverse geography; while some countries are landlocked, meaning they have no direct access to the sea, others are part of a massive archipelago, like Indonesia, which consists of thousands of islands. He marvelled at the lush rainforests near the equator and the arid, scorching deserts found in the Middle East. Whether navigating the bustling coastal cities or the quiet, high-altitude plateaus, Finn realized that Asia's landscape is shaped by its immense size and varied altitude. Every region offers a unique story, from the monsoon rains that nourish the rice paddies to the dry winds that sculpt the desert dunes.

Word bank: continent · landscape · archipelago · Himalayas · climate · diverse · landlocked

1. Name the mountain range mentioned in the text that contains the world's highest peak. (1 mark)

2. According to the text, what does it mean if a country is 'landlocked'? (1 mark)

3. Why might the climate in Northern Asia be different from the climate near the equator? (2 marks)

4. Explain why Finn might have found it difficult to map the geography of Indonesia compared to a landlocked country. (2 marks)

5. Which part of the Asian landscape do you find most interesting and why? Justify your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Asia or a scene depicting the contrast between a snowy mountain range and a tropical rainforest.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: Imagine you are an explorer traveling from the coast of the Arabian Sea to the peaks of the Himalayas. Write a journal entry describing how the landscape and temperature might change during your journey. Justify why you would need different equipment for each part of your trip. What might happen to the local wildlife if the climate in these regions were to change significantly?