

Exploring the Wonders of Africa

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills while exploring the diverse physical and human geography of Africa.

Read the passage about Africa carefully. Use the information provided, as well as your own geographical knowledge, to answer the questions in full sentences.

Africa is the world's second-largest continent, covering over 30 million square kilometres. Finn the dolphin often enjoys hearing tales from travellers about the incredible variety of landscapes found there. The continent is home to the Sahara, the largest hot desert on Earth, which stretches across much of North Africa. In contrast, Central Africa features lush, tropical rainforests that are rich in biodiversity. Moving towards the east and south, you will find the vast savanna—a grassy plain with few trees, home to iconic wildlife. The Equator runs right through the middle of the continent, meaning many parts of Africa enjoy a warm climate year-round. Beyond its geography, Africa is a tapestry of cultures, with over 1,000 different languages spoken across its 54 countries. From the bustling, modern cities like Lagos and Cairo to the peaceful mountain ranges of the Great Rift Valley, Africa offers a unique blend of ancient history and rapid development. Whether it is the golden sands of the desert or the misty peaks of the mountains, every corner of Africa tells a different story.

Word bank: continent · equator · savanna · Sahara · diversity · landscape

1. Identify two different types of landscapes mentioned in the text that can be found in Africa. (2 marks)

2. According to the text, how many countries are there in Africa? (1 mark)

3. Why might the climate in many parts of Africa be consistently warm? (2 marks)

4. Based on the text, why is it accurate to describe Africa as having 'diversity'? (2 marks)

5. Which part of Africa's geography do you find most interesting and why? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of the African continent and label three different geographical features, such as the Sahara Desert, the Equator, or a tropical rainforest.



Extension challenge: Research one of the 54 countries in Africa. Find out its capital city, its main language, and one famous landmark. Present your findings in a short fact file.