

Exploring the Vast Continent of Asia with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To locate and identify key geographical features, countries, and climate zones across the continent of Asia.

Use your knowledge of world geography and an atlas to answer the following questions about Asia. Remember to provide detailed explanations to demonstrate your understanding.

Finn the Dolphin has been mapping the world's oceans and coastlines. Now, he is turning his attention to Asia, the largest and most populous continent on Earth. From the frozen reaches of the Arctic north to the tropical islands of the south, Asia is a land of incredible geographical diversity. Finn needs your help to understand the complex physical and human features of this fascinating region.

Word bank: Himalayas · Archipelago · Monsoon · Tundra · Tectonic plates · Topography · Urbanisation · Biome

1. Asia contains the world's highest mountain range. Identify this range and explain how its physical height influences the climate of the surrounding countries. (3 marks)

2. Many countries in South-East Asia are classified as an 'archipelago'. Define this term and provide one specific example of an Asian nation that fits this description. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the climate of Northern Asia (Siberia) with the climate of South Asia. Why do these regions experience such vastly different weather patterns? (3 marks)

4. Justify why Asia is considered the most populous continent. Consider factors such as land mass, historical trade routes, and modern urbanisation. (3 marks)

5. If a traveller were to cross the continent from the west to the east, what major changes in topography might they encounter? Describe at least two distinct landforms. (2 marks)

6. What might happen to the local ecosystem if the annual monsoon rains failed to arrive in a region that relies on them for agriculture? Explain the potential impact on both the environment and human society. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Asia including the labels for the Arctic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, and the Himalayan mountain range. Use shading to show the difference between a desert region and a tropical rainforest region.



Extension challenge: Research the 'Ring of Fire' which borders the eastern coast of Asia. Write a short paragraph explaining why this area experiences high levels of volcanic and seismic activity, and how this impacts the lives of the people who live there.