

Finn's European Expedition: A Geographical Sorting Challenge

Learning objective: To identify, classify, and compare the diverse physical and human geographical features of European countries.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the waters and coastlines of Europe. He has gathered a list of landmarks, capital cities, and physical features. Your task is to sort these items into three categories: 'Capital Cities', 'Physical Landscapes', and 'Human-made Landmarks'. Once sorted, use your knowledge to justify why specific features are found in their respective regions.

Word bank: The Alps · Paris · The River Danube · The Eiffel Tower · Berlin · The Colosseum · Madrid · The Pyrenees · The Parthenon · London · The Black Forest · The Thames

1. Sort the items from the word bank into the three categories mentioned in the instructions. Create a table to display your findings. (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the physical landscapes of Southern Europe with those of Northern Europe. Why might the climate influence these differences? (3 marks)

3. The River Danube flows through ten different countries. Explain why major rivers have historically been important for the development of European capital cities. (3 marks)

4. Justify your answer: If you were tasked with building a new major landmark in Europe, what geographical factor would you consider most important, and why? (3 marks)

5. What might happen to local tourism if a physical landmark, like a mountain range, were to be significantly altered by climate change? (2 marks)

6. Choose one European city. Research the average cost of a museum entry ticket (in £). If a family of four visits, calculate the total cost and explain if this represents good value for money based on historical significance. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Europe and label the locations of three items from your sorted list. Illustrate the landscape or landmark next to its location on the map.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an explorer like Finn. Write a short, persuasive travel journal entry (150 words) encouraging others to visit a specific European region, highlighting one physical landscape feature and one human-made landmark, using sophisticated geographical vocabulary.