

READING A TABLE

Passport: Earth

Use the World in Focus tables in this issue (pp. 20-29) to learn more about the countries of the world.

DIRECTIONS: Choose and complete one task for each continent/region listed in this chart.

	TASK 1	TASK 2	TASK 3
North America	Find the North American countries with the largest and smallest populations. Write one thing that the two countries have in common.	Using land area, determine how many times North America's smallest country could fit inside its largest country.	Create a simple bar graph showing the five North American countries with the highest per capita gross domestic product (GDP).
South America	Make a chronology showing the dates of origin for all of the countries in South America.	Name the most common political system in South America. Determine the percent of South American countries with this system.	If you were to move to South America, which item(s) of information in the tables would you use to choose a country? Write a paragraph sharing which country you would choose and why.
Africa	List the four countries in Africa with the largest gap between male and female literacy rates.	Tunisia is Africa's northernmost country. South Africa is its southernmost country. Describe three other differences between these two countries.	Count the number of African countries in which English is a major language. Express your finding as a fraction and as a percent.
Europe	Spain, France, Italy, and Greece make up Europe's Mediterranean region. Find the average life expectancies for males and females in this region.	Name 10 European countries in which the population is decreasing each year.	Create a simple bar graph showing the five European countries with the largest land areas.
Asia	Find the country in Asia with the oldest date of independence. Write a paragraph listing at least three facts about this country.	Choose any country in Asia and find its population density. (<i>Hint:</i> Divide the population by the area.) Convert the answer to a percent.	Make a simple bar graph showing the five Asian countries with the greatest percent of people living in urban areas.
Oceania	Make a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the two largest countries in Oceania.	List Oceania's three countries with the highest percent of kids under age 15, and its three with the lowest percent of kids under age 15.	Rank the countries of Oceania in order of their per capita gross domestic product (GDP), with 1 being highest.