

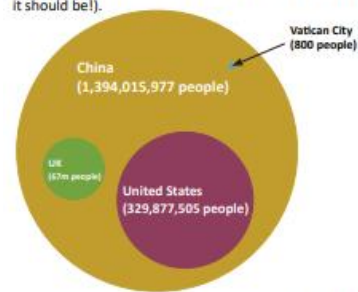
Country Comparison

STAGE 3

Every country in the world is different. Some have millions of people living there whereas others only have a few hundred. Some countries are very rich but others are not. Some things are free in some places but expensive elsewhere. Let's have a look around the world.

POPULATION

China and India both have populations of over 1.3 billion people! The United States is third with 330 million. That's a big jump! You can see the difference with the circles below. The least populated country is Vatican City. There are only 800 people living there (the tiny dot is still nearly a thousand times bigger than it should be!).



VIVE LA FRANCE

France welcomed nearly 87 million visitors in 2017. That makes it the most visited country on Earth! The second most popular holiday destination was Spain with 82 million people dropping in to say "Hello". The United States came third with 77 million.



A TIGHT SQUEEZE

There are 7.5 billion people living on planet Earth today. That's a vast number of bodies to support. However, if we were to all stand shoulder to shoulder, we would all fit into the city of Los Angeles! That's comforting to know!



COST OF EDUCATION

Getting a degree at university can be expensive. It doesn't have to be, though. Some countries don't charge for university at all!

| | |
|-----|---|
| £££ | United States: £20,000 per year |
| | New Zealand: £14,300 per year |
| | Australia: £11,500 per year |
| ££ | Canada £10,400 per year |
| | United Kingdom (Except Scotland): £9,500 per year |

So, which countries are free?

£ Scotland, Argentina, Greece, Sweden and Finland!

HOT AND COLD

Most countries experience different temperatures throughout the year. Some countries on the Equator don't have these seasons. But where are the hottest and coldest temperatures on Earth?

The hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth was at Death Valley in the United States of America. The temperature reached a scorching 54.4C on Sunday 16th August, 2020.

At the other end of the scale, the coldest temperature ever recorded on the ground was in July 1983. The temperature plummeted to -89C in Antarctica. Since then, satellites have measured temperatures as low as -98C in inaccessible spots close by! You'd better take a coat!

RETRIEVAL FOCUS

1. Where in the world has a population of roughly 300 million people?
2. What is the coldest temperature ever recorded on Earth?
3. If everybody squeezed together, which city would we all fit into?
4. Which country had the second highest number of tourists in 2017?
5. When was the hottest temperature on Earth recorded?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

| | |
|---|--|
| I | Why might more people study at university in Argentina or Greece than in Australia or Canada? |
| V | Find a word with a definition close to "dropped quickly". |
| V | What is a "destination"? |
| I | Why might satellites have been able to detect temperatures that scientists on the ground couldn't? |
| E | What is the effect of showing the different populations as circles on top of each other? |