



Year 3 Western Europe Reading Booklet

Lesson Series:

1. Countries and Settlements in Western Europe
2. Climate of Western Europe
3. Trade in Western Europe- What do people make, buy and sell?
4. France
5. A comparison of London and Paris
6. Assessment: Essay Question

Name: _____

Class: _____

Lesson 1

Where is Western Europe? There are no exact boundaries for Western Europe, however in this unit the countries we will be looking at are: France (capital city: Paris), Germany (capital city: Berlin), Belgium (Capital city: Brussels), The Netherlands (capital city: Amsterdam), Luxembourg (capital city: Luxembourg City), Austria (capital city: Vienna) and Switzerland (capital city: Bern). Western Europe is known as a 'Peninsula', which means it is a piece of land surrounded almost completely by water. In this case, mostly by the Atlantic ocean.



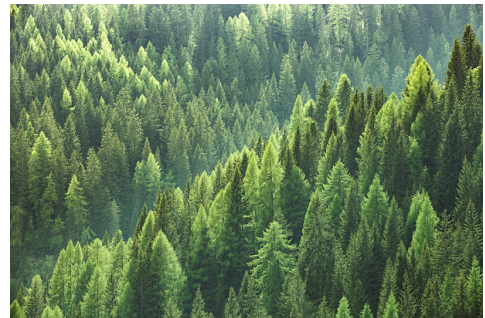
(Map showing Western Europe)

Lesson 2

What does the word Climate mean?

Climate means the weather in a place over a long time - not just comparing the weather today, to the weather tomorrow. Northern Europe has a colder climate because it is closer to the North Pole. In Western Europe, the climate is described as being **temperate** which means that it is not too hot, not too cold and a little wet... a middle sort of climate with not much **extreme weather**. In a temperate climate we have four seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. This cool and fairly wet climate makes it a perfect environment for growing many types of plants and crops.

Did you know? Germany used to be completely covered in forest, but because of the weather, much of the forest has been cleared over time to create settlements and grow crops.



Lesson 3

What is Trade?

Trade is the process of buying and selling goods. Countries in Western Europe produce many **goods** or things that have value. This could be that they grow certain crops, or have skilled workers that produce high quality steel or cheese. Not all countries produce the same goods so they often trade the things they produce with another country, either for different goods or money.



Countries that buy goods from other countries are importing them or bringing them into the country. That same country might sell goods to another. This is called exporting. Think of 'export' as having a part of the word 'exit' in it, which means leave. When a country exports goods, they leave the country to go somewhere else.

The word **import** comes from the Latin word: importare 'bring in', from in- 'in' + portare 'carry'.

The word **Export** comes from the Latin word exportare, from ex- 'out' + portare 'carry'.

Lesson 4

All about France!

Can you find France in an Atlas? It is a beautiful country with a diverse landscape. You might see long sandy beaches, snowy mountain tops, green fields and of course in the capital city of **Paris**... the Eiffel Tower! **The Eiffel Tower** was built along one of France's two longest rivers, the river **Seine** (the other is the river **Rhone**). It was built by Gustave Eiffel in 1887, and finished in 1889 to mark the 100 year anniversary of the French Revolution. The Eiffel tower is a **human feature** as it was built by humans. The river Seine is a **physical geographical feature**. France is also known for reporting goods like cheese and wine.



Lesson 5

London vs Paris!

London and Paris are both capital cities in Western Europe. London is the capital of England and Paris is the capital of France. London is a much larger city than Paris covering 607 square miles whilst Paris covers 40.7 square miles. Over 8 million people live in London and over 2 million in Paris. The Eiffel Tower is 1,063 feet tall, the Shard is 1,017 feet tall. London has the world's oldest underground train network, Paris has the world's second oldest underground train network. The River Thames runs through London and the River Seine runs through Paris. London and Paris both have a temperate climate, with warm summers and cool winters. Both have moderate rainfall year-round. Both London and Paris attract many visitors each year because of their buildings, museums, landmarks, theatres and good places to eat.





Western Europe



Climate	
Temperate Climate	The weather conditions in an area over a long period of time.
Trade	A climate where the conditions do not get extremely hot or extremely cold .
Import	Buying and selling things, for example food, machines, books
Export	Buying things from other countries.
Agriculture	Selling things to other countries.
The Alps	The farming of plants and/or animals.
	A large mountain range located in Western Europe.



FRANCE



GERMANY



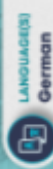
BELGIUM



SWITZERLAND



AUSTRIA



THE NETHERLANDS



LUXEMBOURG

