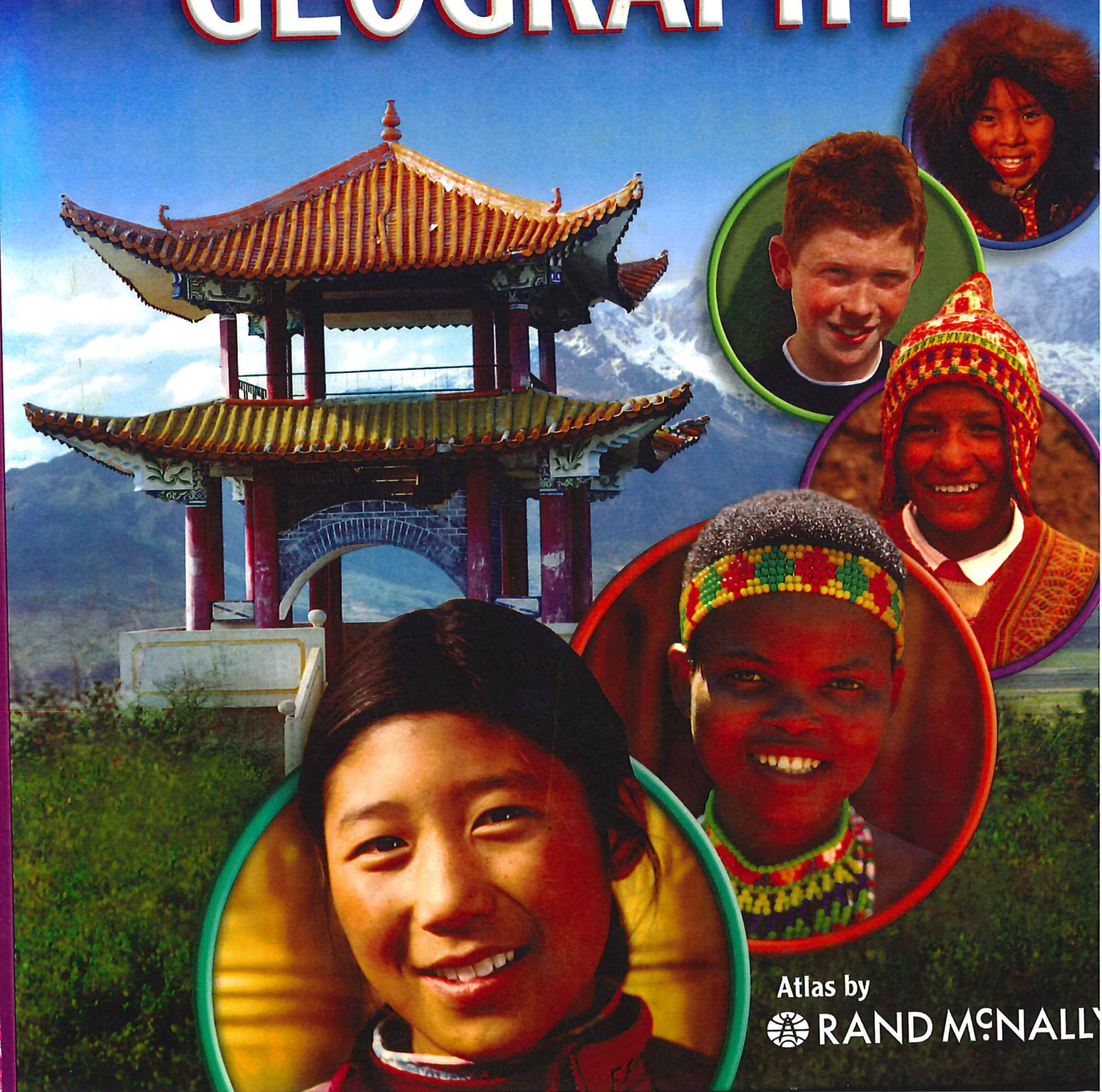


McDougal Littell

World Cultures *and* GEOGRAPHY



Atlas by



RAND McNALLY

SECTION
2

Reading for Understanding

▶ Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

People belong to specific groups that share a common culture.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

Cultures do not remain the same but change over time.

▶ Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

agricultural revolution the shift from gathering food to raising food

innovation something new that is introduced for the first time

technology people's application of knowledge, tools, and inventions to meet their needs

diffusion the spread of ideas, inventions, and patterns of behavior from one group to another

cultural hearth an area where a culture originated and spread to other areas

BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

domestication the raising and tending of a plant or animal to be of use to humans

nomad a person who has no set home but moves from place to place in search of food for animals



Visual Vocabulary nomad group

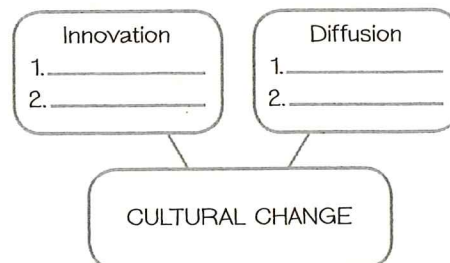
▶ Reading Strategy

Re-create the diagram at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the diagram to analyze the causes and effects of cultural change.



Skillbuilder Handbook, page R8

ANALYZE CAUSE AND EFFECT



GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Go to Interactive Review @ ClassZone.com

How Does Culture Change?

Connecting to Your World

Think about all the information and communication tools you have in your daily life. Did you include cell phones, mp3 players, DVDs, digital cameras, or laptop computers? When your parents were your age, none of these devices were available to them. These improvements in technology have changed the ways many people live their lives—and this change has taken place in only one generation. Cultural change happens much more rapidly now than it did in the past.



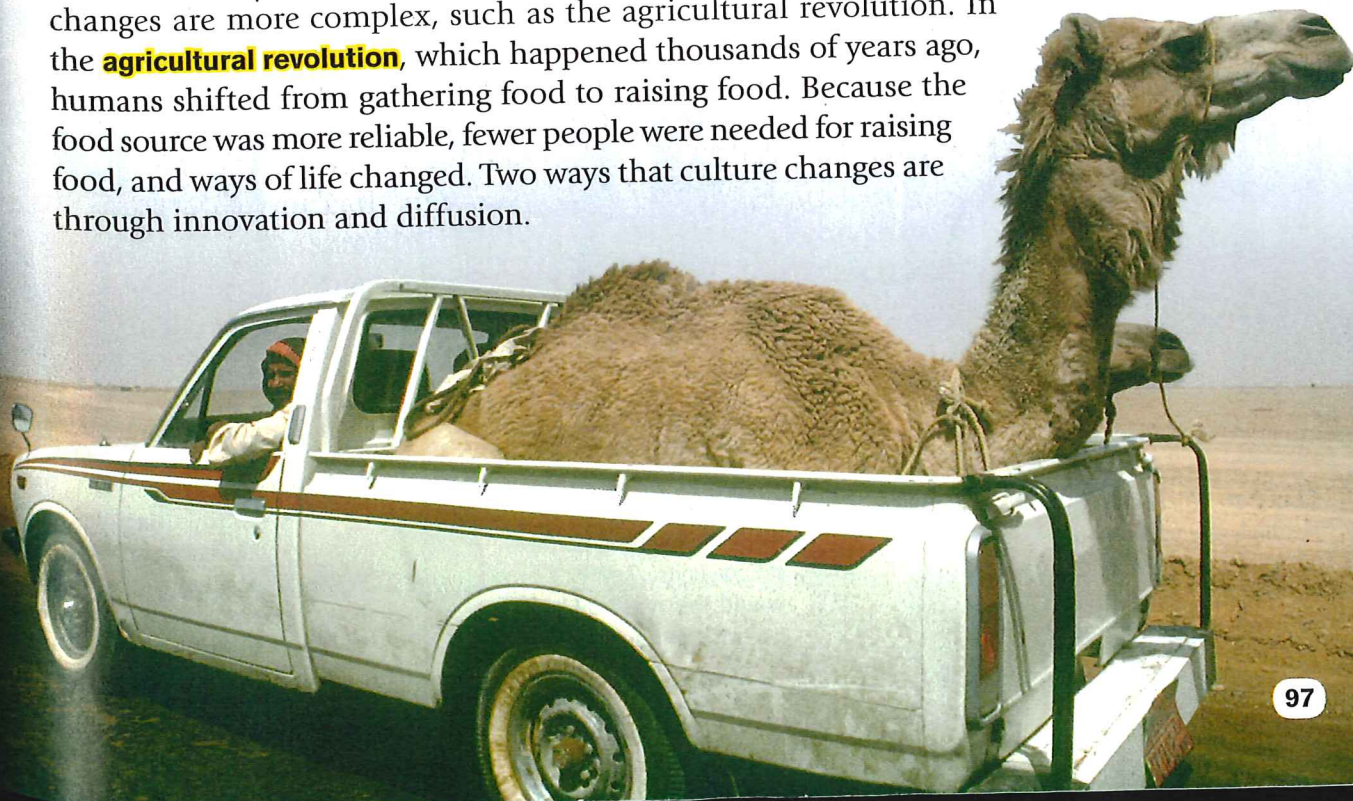
Zulu Girl, South Africa, with Cell Phone

Culture Change and Exchange

▶ **KEY QUESTION** How does culture change?

Culture changes over time. The changes may be very slow or quite rapid. Some changes are simple, such as changes in clothing styles. Other changes are more complex, such as the agricultural revolution. In the **agricultural revolution**, which happened thousands of years ago, humans shifted from gathering food to raising food. Because the food source was more reliable, fewer people were needed for raising food, and ways of life changed. Two ways that culture changes are through innovation and diffusion.

▶ **Camels Go to Pasture** Traditional ways are replaced by modern ones.



Innovation Something new that is introduced for the first time is called an **innovation**. New ideas, inventions, and patterns of behavior are types of innovations that change a culture. The computer is an example of an invention that changed cultures in the United States and around the world. Innovation may take place by accident, or it may be deliberate. The prehistoric control of fire was probably an accident, but it forever changed the way people lived. However, the use of existing resources and technology to solve an old or a new problem is a deliberate innovation. **Technology** refers to people's application of knowledge, tools, and inventions to meet their needs.

Some innovations can dramatically change the way people live. The domestication of wild plants thousands of years ago was such a change. **Domestication** means to raise or to tend plants or animals to be of use to humans. Dependence on agriculture resulted in more densely populated settlements.

Like most cultural changes, the agricultural revolution led to other changes. These settled societies needed to be organized differently from groups of **nomads**, who had no set home but moved from place to place to find food for their animals. This led to more innovations. For example, people needed to find ways to water crops in the field and to store the food once harvested. Look at the pictures below to see how different cultures used the resources and technology available to them to solve a storage problem. New or different tools were also needed to farm the land.

COMPARING Storage Unit Innovations



Clay Pot Where clay was plentiful, clay pots served as storage units. 1. What would be the advantage of a clay pot for storage?



Basket Woven grass or reeds created light, portable storage units. 2. Why would this material be used for storage?



Leather Bag Hides made into bags made storage units easy to transport. 3. What would be a disadvantage of this type of storage?

The Spread of Agriculture

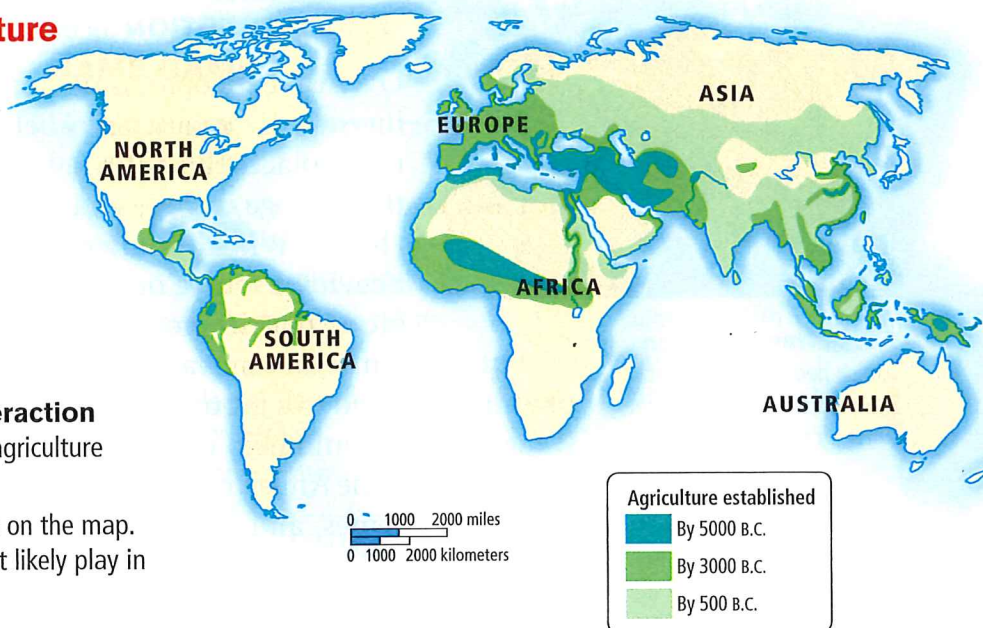
The spread of agriculture is the most significant change in human history. Having available food year-round allowed people to settle and eventually to develop specialized labor and cities.

CRITICAL THINKING

1. Human-Environment Interaction

Which continent did not have agriculture established by 500 B.C.?

2. **Region** Look for river valleys on the map. What role did river valleys most likely play in the spread of agriculture?



Diffusion The spread of ideas, inventions, and patterns of behavior from one group to another is called **diffusion**. Whenever a group of people comes in contact with another group, diffusion is possible.

The spread of agriculture is an early example of diffusion. The spread of U.S. fast-food restaurants around the world is a modern example. In early times, traders often brought new ideas and inventions to other cultures. Written language, the use of coins, and religious beliefs all moved along ancient trade routes. Missionaries and invaders also carried cultural elements with them.

Geographers study diffusion to see patterns in the development of cultures across the Earth's surface. One pattern they have observed is diffusion from cultural hearths. A **cultural hearth** is an area with an advanced culture from which ideas or technology spread. The map above shows where early cultural hearths existed.

In the past, the spread of culture was usually slow because of geographic barriers. Large bodies of water, mountains, or deserts often made it difficult for people to interact with others. Sometimes political boundaries limited contact between peoples. In today's world, it's almost impossible to avoid some kind of interaction with other groups of people. Satellite television, the Internet, and other forms of mass communication speed new ideas, practices, and inventions around the globe.

FIND MAIN IDEAS Identify the ways that culture changes.



Amish Transportation

Amish people choose not to drive automobiles, but use horse-drawn vehicles.

Accepting Cultural Change

KEY QUESTION Is cultural change always accepted?

Over time, people come in contact with different ideas, inventions, or patterns of behavior. If a cultural exchange takes place, the culture begins to change. Sometimes this change is slow, and people just become used to the change. When the effects of cultural change—such as a new food source or a tool—are positive, the lives of the group may improve.

But sometimes an innovation is unacceptable, such as use of lands or animals sacred to a group. Sometimes a group may need to decide if the change would help or harm their society. For example, in the United States, the Amish choose not to drive cars, not to have electricity in their homes, and to send their children to private, one-room schoolhouses. They do this because they reject the impact of modern life on their way of life.

Change may sometimes be forced on a group. This often happens when a region is invaded. For example, Spanish conquerors pressed their culture on the native peoples of the Americas in the 1500s.

MAKE GENERALIZATIONS Explain why some cultural changes might be rejected.

ONLINE QUIZ
For test practice, go to
Interactive Review
@ClassZone.com

Section 2 Assessment

TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of

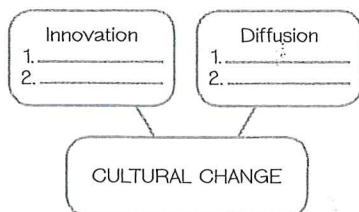
- innovation
- technology
- diffusion
- cultural hearth

USE YOUR READING NOTES

2. Analyze Cause and Effect

Use your completed web diagram to answer the following question:

What role do cultural hearths play in changing cultures?



KEY IDEAS

3. What are two ways that bring about cultural change?
4. How does deliberate innovation take place?
5. What three groups helped to spread culture in earlier times?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Make Inferences** What are some reasons why a group may accept cultural change?
7. **Draw Conclusions** How has mass communication changed the way culture spreads?
8. **CONNECT to Today** How has the United States been affected by cultural exchange in recent times?
9. **TECHNOLOGY** **Make a Multimedia Presentation**
Plan a power presentation slide show illustrating three inventions in transportation and three in communication that brought cultural change. Each slide should have a visual of the invention and a description of the change.

CHAPTER SUMMARY



Key Idea 1

Human beings are members of social groups that have shared and unique behaviors and attitudes.

Key Idea 2


Cultures do not remain the same but change over time.

 For Review and Study Notes, go to [Interactive Review @ClassZone.com](#)



NAME GAME

Use the Terms & Names list to complete each sentence on paper or online.

- I am the spread of ideas, inventions, and patterns of behavior from one group to another.
_____ **diffusion**  _____
- I am a scientist who studies culture.

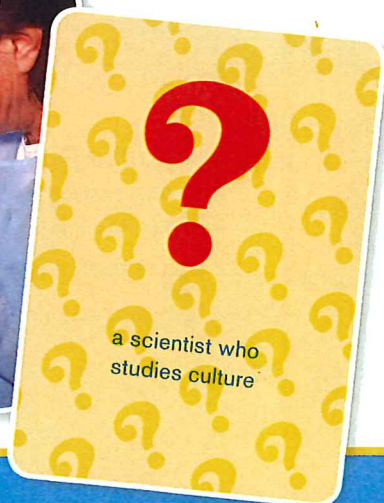
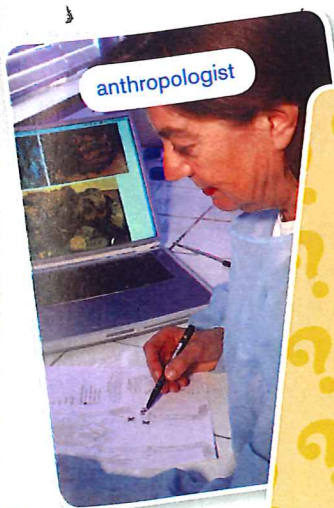
- I am a people that shares a language, customs, and a common heritage. _____
- I am the methods, materials, or tools available to complete a task. _____
- I am the total way of life held in common by a specific group of people. _____
- I am something new that is introduced for the first time. _____
- I am a group of languages that have a common origin. _____
- I am an area where the transfer of elements of culture between two groups occurs. _____
- I am human communication, either written, spoken, or signed. _____
- I am an organized system of beliefs in a god or gods and a set of practices. _____

agricultural revolution
anthropologist
culture
cultural hearth
diffusion
domestication
ethnic group
innovation
language
language-family
missionary
nomad
religion
technology

Activities

Flip Cards

Use the online flip cards to quiz yourself on terms and names introduced in this chapter.

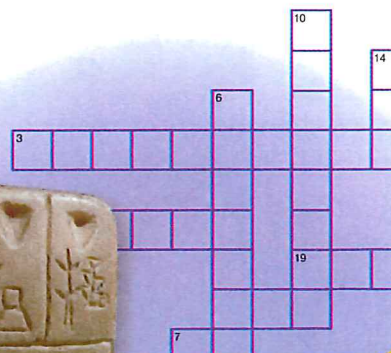


Crossword Puzzle

Complete an online crossword puzzle to test your knowledge of culture.

ACROSS

- human communication, either written, spoken, or signed



VOCABULARY

Explain the significance of each of the following.

1. culture
2. ethnic group
3. religion
4. language
5. technology

Explain how the terms and names in each group are related.

6. culture, religion, and language
7. innovation, diffusion, and cultural hearth
8. domestication and agricultural revolution

KEY IDEAS

1 What Is Culture?

9. Why are there different cultures?
10. How do people learn about their culture?
11. What are two of the most important elements of culture?
12. What are the three types of religious beliefs?
13. Why is language important to a culture?
14. How does language change?

2 How Does Culture Change?

15. How does innovation change culture?
16. How does diffusion change culture?
17. What is a cultural hearth?
18. Why was culture change a slow process in earlier times?
19. Why might a people accept a cultural change?
20. In what way is cultural change forced upon a people?

CRITICAL THINKING

21. **Categorize** Create a table to list the factors that have helped or limited cultural change over the years.

HELP	LIMIT

22. **Make Generalizations** What makes each culture unique?
23. **Make Inferences** Why are families important in a culture?
24. **Connect to Economics** Why was the agricultural revolution such a dramatic cultural change?
25. **Five Themes: Movement** How have aspects of culture been spread throughout history?
26. **Connect Geography & Culture** How important is culture to a person's sense of identity?

Answer the
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How does culture develop, and how does it shape our lives?

Written Response Write a two- or three-paragraph response to the Essential Question. Be sure to consider the key ideas of each section and the fact that all human beings are a part of a culture.

Response Rubric

A strong response will:

- explain the nature of culture and its elements
- discuss how culture shapes the lives of individuals



- Online Test Practice @ ClassZone.com
- Test-Taking Strategies and Practice at the front of this book

STANDARDS-BASED ASSESSMENT

THEMATIC MAP

Use the map and your knowledge of geography to answer questions 1 and 2 on your paper.



- Which of the following countries has a large Buddhist population?
 - India
 - Sri Lanka
 - Bangladesh
 - Nepal

- Which of the following countries has a large population of Muslims?
 - Bhutan
 - Sri Lanka
 - Bangladesh
 - India

CHART

Study the chart below. Use the information in the chart to answer questions 3 and 4.

Languages of Europe	
Country	Languages Spoken
Austria	German, Slovene, Croatian, Hungarian
Belgium	Flemish, French, German
France	French
Germany	German
Netherlands	Dutch, Frisian
Switzerland	German, French, Italian, Romansch

Source: *Infoplease database 2006*

- In which countries is a single language spoken?
- If you only spoke German, in which countries would you need a translator?

GeoActivity

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY—MATHEMATICS

With a small group, research world religions on the Internet. Use a computer program to create a database and a graph showing the three countries with the largest number of members for each of the major religions, and the total population of those countries.

2. WRITING FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

Reread the paragraphs on the elements of culture. Then write a paragraph describing the culture of your community. Discuss such elements as religion, language, government, and economic activities.

3. MENTAL MAPPING

Create a map of your town or neighborhood showing schools and places of worship. Be sure to include

- elementary, middle, and high schools, public and private
- any places of worship