

Magazine Article Planning Pages

We have been studying the geography of Africa and how its physical features, climate/vegetation, and natural resources affect people’s lives. In this activity you will write an article to report on how the people, of an African country of your choosing, could diversify (add variety to) their economy. In addition to writing an article about your diversification proposal, you will also design a magazine cover, using an online tool, for the magazine that will feature your article.

Part 1: Gather Research on an African Country

Directions: Take notes about your country’s land, water, climate and vegetation in the graphic organizer below. To access this information look at the menu on the left hand side of the webpage, then look for **People and Places** and finally select **Land and Climate**.

<p>Land and Water</p>	<p>Big Idea: What physical features (rivers, mountains, deserts, etc.) can be found in your country?</p> <p>Land: What is the land like in your country? Is it mostly deserts or grasslands? Are there mountains and plateaus or is it mostly flat?</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>Water: Are there any major bodies of water in or surrounding your country? You answer may include rivers, lakes, seas or oceans.</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/>
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Climate	<p>Big Idea: What is the <u>climate</u> (the weather in a specific location over a long period of time) like in your country?</p> <p>Climate: What is your country's climate like? What climate zone is your country located in? Is your country located in more than one climate zone?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Vegetation	<p>Big Idea: What is the <u>vegetation</u> (plant life that grows wild without the help of humans) like in your country?</p> <p>Vegetation: What is the vegetation like in your country?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Directions: Take notes about your country's natural resources. To access this information look at the menu on the left hand side of the webpage, then look for **Society** and finally select **Money and Economy**.

Natural and Manufactured Resources (Economy)	<p>Big Idea: What natural resources (both renewable and nonrenewable) does your country have access to?</p> <p>What types of renewable natural resources (i.e. crops, trees, wildlife) are grown/ raised in your country?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <p>What non-renewable natural resources (i.e. minerals and fossil fuels) can be found in your country?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <p>What types of products does your country manufacture?</p> <hr/> <hr/>
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Part 2: Writing your Article

To help you write your article, use the research notes that you gathered, along with any class notes and flipped videos to complete the attached planning pages. Please remember, this is a rough draft and provides a place for notes, ideas, and an opportunity to organize your information. This is not the final copy.

Background: Most of Africa's workers are farmers. That makes their economy sensitive to factors outside of their control. These factors can include the amount of rainfall an area receives or the price of crops. For example, if there is not enough rain, then a farmer's crops cannot thrive and they will not be able to make a living. To avoid this, African countries are trying to diversify their economies. A country with a diverse economy will not be hurt as much if a major cash crop fails.

Task/ Purpose: Propose a solution for how your country can diversify its economy.

Your Introduction Should Include:

- Make a general statement about your topic or use a hook.
- Provide background information about your country's:
 - physical geography
 - natural resources
 - climate
 - current economy
 - vegetation
- Present a problem that the people of your country are facing and how you will attempt to solve it

Your Body Paragraph Should:

- Describe the problem(s) that the people in your African country face that are caused by Africa's landforms, climate and reliance on natural resources.
- Explain how these problems affect how the people of your country make a living
- Include your proposal for how the people in your country should diversify their economy and an explanation for how this will help the people of your country make a living.

Your Conclusion Paragraph Should Include:

- Reintroduces your proposal
- Summarize why your proposal is the best choice for the people of your country
- Write a concluding sentence that keeps your reader thinking

Remember that you are writing a magazine article. This means that you should assume that your audience is not familiar with the African country or content that you will be writing about. Be sure to define any key vocabulary terms for your reader.

Introductory Paragraph:

Intro or Hook: Start your article with a little known fact about your country or a question that will get your reader's attention.

Background information: Provide information about your country's (1) physical geography, (2) its climate, (3) its vegetation, (4) its natural resources and (5) your country's current economy (how the people make a living).

Thesis/Claim: Present a problem that the people of your country are facing and how you will attempt to solve it.

Body Paragraph: Describe the problem(s) that the people in your African country face that are caused by Africa's landforms, climate and reliance on natural resources.
How do these problems affect how they make a living? Expand upon your proposal for how the people in your country should diversify their economy and an explanation for how this will help the people of your country make a living.

Topic Sentence: Introduce your proposal.

Concrete Details (C.D.) and Commentary (C) - Expand upon your proposal for how the people in your country should diversify their economy and an explanation for how this will help the people of your country make a living.

C.D. #1 _____

C # 1 _____

C.D. #2 _____

C # 2 _____

C.D. #3 _____

C # 3 _____

Concluding Sentence: (Sum it up)

Concluding Paragraph

This paragraph summarizes your information. Include the articles focus, main points and something to keep the reader thinking about the topic.

Restate your proposal:

Review main points:

Conclusion/make a judgment/ look to the future:

Part 3: Creating Your Magazine Cover

Directions: Using the link that can be found on the Magazine Article and Cover Page website, design a magazine cover for the magazine that is featuring your article. Please be sure to fill in the following information when creating your magazine cover:

- Upload a picture for your magazine cover
- Title/Name of the magazine
- Tagline for the magazine
- Publication date
- Cost
- Title of your article (Enter this information on line 17.)

The final draft of your article is due on **Friday, November 20th, 2015.**

*Your final draft must be either hand written in pen or typed.