



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Island Nations

An extension of "Japan goes back to hunting whales"

Singapore is a tiny island nation. There are other island nations worldwide, and most are much larger. Each has some features in common with Singapore and some that are different. Work in pairs on this exercise to help you to better appreciate island nations.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Work in groups of two or three students each. Read "**Japan goes back to hunting whales**" (page 14, *What's Up* January 2019) to warm up. Two of the whaling countries mentioned in this story are island nations.

2. SELECT one country from the list below. All of them consist entirely of islands. List every group's choice on the white board to make sure that not more than three groups have picked the same nation. You may select an island nation that is not listed below.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australia | <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland | <input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bahamas | <input type="checkbox"/> Indonesia | <input type="checkbox"/> Papua New Guinea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cuba | <input type="checkbox"/> Ireland | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiji | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamaica | <input type="checkbox"/> Solomon Islands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland | <input type="checkbox"/> Japan | <input type="checkbox"/> Sri Lanka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Haiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Madagascar | <input type="checkbox"/> United Kingdom |

3. Discover all you can about your group's focus nation. Compare and contrast your group's focus island nation with Singapore using this table.

<i>Jot down key points in this table.</i>	Singapore	Island Nation: _____
a. Location: In which continent? Which hemisphere? Neighbours?		
b. History: Year nation was born? Colonised in the past? If so, by whom? How did it get freedom?		
c. People: How many? Ethnic groups? Rich-poor divide?		
d. Climate: Effect of climate change? Other environmental factors? Pros and cons of location?		
e. Natural resources: Wild life? Land? Minerals/ores? What else?		
f. Economy: Sources of income? Jobs? Businesses? What else?		
g. Current government: How are leaders chosen?		

4. Share your findings with your class. Talk about what you learnt through this exercise.