

MyNext WRITING

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My Country

1. Warm up

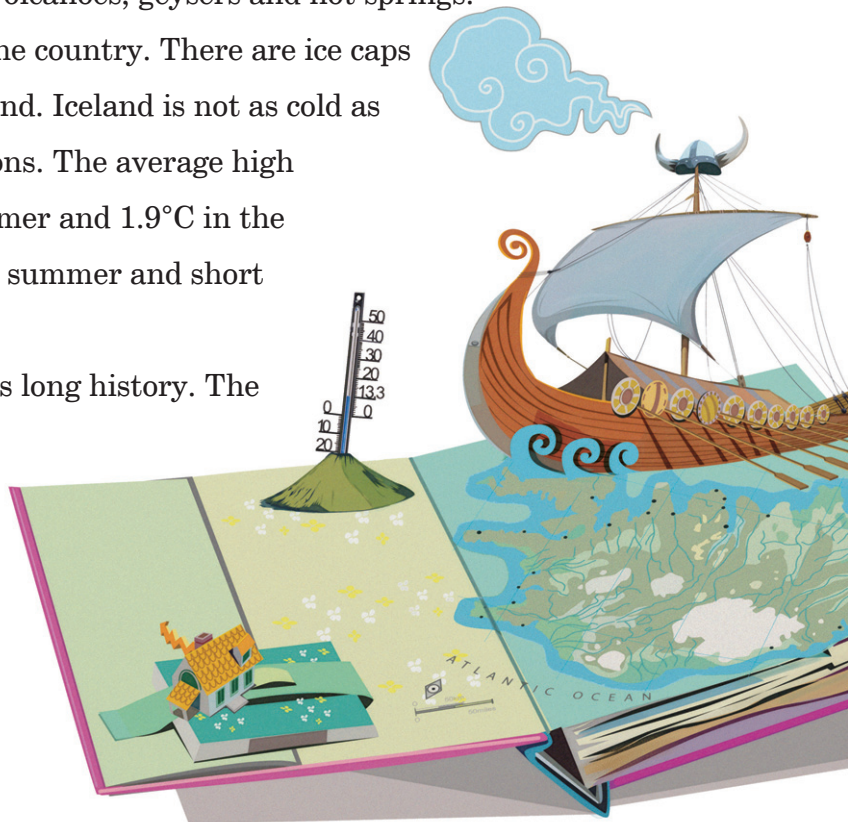
A. Talk about the picture and read the essay.

Iceland

My country, Iceland, is one of the most beautiful countries on Earth. It is an island country. It is located in Europe, in the North Atlantic Ocean. About 320,000 people live here. Most of us speak English, but our official language is Icelandic, the language of old Vikings.

My country has marvelous landscapes with a mild climate. Iceland is called the land of fire and ice. There are active volcanoes, geysers and hot springs. Hekla is one of the famous volcanoes in the country. There are ice caps and glaciers, and they cover 11% of the land. Iceland is not as cold as you might think. We have four mild seasons. The average high temperature is around 13.3°C in the summer and 1.9°C in the winter. We have long bright nights in the summer and short days in the winter.

I am very proud of my country and its long history. The Vikings, my ancestors, were the world's greatest travelers. Iceland-born explorer, Leifur Eiriksson, discovered America more than 500 years before Columbus.



B. Discuss the questions about the essay.

1. What is Iceland like? Where is it?
2. What is the population? What is the official language?
3. What are the landscapes like?
4. What is the climate like in Iceland?
5. How does Jens feel about his country?

2. Practice Vocabulary

A. What is the country like? Match and write the sentence.

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1. Singapore | ○ | ○ a large country with the Amazon rainforest |
| 2. Madagascar | ○ | ○ a beautiful country with Roman Empire heritage |
| 3. Brazil | ○ | ○ one of the smallest countries on Earth |
| 4. Italy | ○ | ○ a beautiful island country with a lot of wildlife |

1. Singapore is one of the smallest countries on Earth.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

B. Where is the country? Choose and complete the sentences.

the Atlantic Ocean
Southeast Asia

the Mediterranean Sea
Indonesia

South America
Southern Europe



1. Brazil is the largest country in _____.
There is _____ to the east.
2. Italy is a boot-shaped country in _____.
There is _____ to the south.
3. Singapore is an island nation in _____.
It is located between Malaysia and _____.

C. What do you see in the country? Choose and complete the sentence.

1 ~ 5	mountains	plains	rainforest	river	volcanoes
6 ~ 10	beaches	desert	islands	lakes	waterfalls

1.  There are many high _____. People go skiing in the winter.
2.  We have several active _____. You never know when they will erupt.
3.  We have broad _____ in the south. We grow rice there.
4.  We have a _____. It is home to many animals and plants.
5.  We have the Nile. It is the longest _____ in the world.
6.  We have Niagara Falls. They are very famous _____.
7.  There is a large, dry _____. We hardly get any rain there.
8.  We have long sandy _____. They get very crowded in the summer.
9.  My country has many small _____, but few people live there.
10.  We have huge _____. They are so big that they look like the sea.

D. What is the climate like? Circle the correct word.

1. It is very cold in the winter. It / a lot in the mountains.
2. We get a lot of rain in the summer. It's very hot and / .
3. Our winter is / . It is nice and warm.
4. There are many / days in the summer, but it rains too.
5. It is warm and hot all year round. The temperature / much.

3. Practice Writing Longer Sentences

A. Choose and complete the sentence. Discuss your choices.

- of my country's history
- with many large cities
- in the summer
- of Norway

1. The USA is a country _____.

2. I am very proud _____.

3. Oslo is the capital city _____.

4. We get a lot of rain _____.

- in the North Atlantic Ocean
- around my country
- on the east coast
- in the world

5. Iceland is located _____.

6. My country is one of the most beautiful countries _____.

7. The famous beaches are located _____.

8. There are wonderful places to visit _____.

B. Choose and complete the sentence. Discuss your choices.

- as cold as
- as big as
- as high as
- colder than
- bigger than
- higher than

1. Mt. Fuji is not _____ **as high as** _____ Mt. Everest.

2. Mt. Everest is _____ Mt. Fuji.

3. The winter in Iceland is not _____ the winter in Finland.

4. The winter in Finland is _____ the winter in Iceland.

5. Moscow is not _____ New York City.

6. New York City is _____ Moscow.

4. Practice Writing Details

A. Read the model essay on page 14 again. Match the idea with the details and write the letters.

Details	<p>a. There are ice caps and glaciers, and they cover 11% of the land.</p> <p>b. The average high temperature is around 13.3°C in the summer and 1.9°C in the winter.</p> <p>c. There are active volcanoes, geysers and hot springs.</p> <p>d. We have long bright nights in the summer and short days in the winter.</p> <p>e. We have four mild seasons.</p> <p>f. Hekla is one of the famous volcanoes in the country.</p>
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○	Idea	Details
	1. Iceland is called the land of fire and ice.	
	2. Iceland is not as cold as you might think.	

B. Choose and write the details of the idea. Make your own sentences for question 4.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is called Uluru. • There are rainforests in the north. • It is a continent, a country and an island. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. • It is the largest rock in the world. • More than one-third of Australia is desert.
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○	Idea	Details
	1. Australia is a country in the southern hemisphere.	1a
		1b
	2. Australia has interesting landscapes.	2a
		2b
	3. There is a famous rock in the center of Australia.	3a
		3b
	4. There are many interesting animals in Australia.	4a
		4b

5. Write Your Beginning Paragraph

The **beginning paragraph** introduces the topic of the essay.

A. Discuss your topic with a partner.

1. What is your country like? Where is it?
2. What is the population? What is the official language?
3. What are the landscapes like?
4. What is the climate like in your country?

B. Read the beginning paragraph of the model essay on page 14 again and complete the chart.

○ Writing Guide Questions	Beginning Paragraph of the Model Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your country like? Where is it? 	<p><i>My country, Iceland, is one of the most beautiful countries on Earth.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the population? What is the official language? 	

C. Make a plan for the beginning paragraph of your essay and complete the chart.

○ Writing Guide Questions	Beginning Paragraph of Your Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your country like? Where is it? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the population? What is the official language? 	

6. Write Your Middle Paragraph

The **middle paragraph** describes the main idea of the topic.

A. Read the middle paragraph of the model essay on page 14 again and complete the chart.

○ Writing Guide Questions	Middle Paragraph of the Model Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write the topic sentence. 	<p><i>My country has marvelous landscapes with a mild climate.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the landscapes like? Explain. 	<p><i>Iceland is called the land of fire and ice.</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the climate like? How many seasons are there? Explain. 	<p><i>Iceland is not as cold as you might think.</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

B. Make a plan for the middle paragraph of your essay and complete the chart.

○ Writing Guide Questions	Middle Paragraph of Your Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write the topic sentence. 	<p><i>My country _____.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the landscapes like? Explain. 	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the climate like? How many seasons are there? Explain. 	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

7. Write Your Ending Paragraph

The **ending paragraph** adds one last thought to the topic.

A. Read the ending paragraph of the model essay on page 14 again and complete the chart.

○ Writing Guide Questions	Ending Paragraph of the Model Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do you feel about your country and its history? Explain. 	<p>I am very proud of my country and its long history.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

B. Make a plan for the ending paragraph of your essay and complete the chart.

○ Writing Guide Questions	Ending Paragraph of Your Essay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do you feel about your country and its history? Explain. 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

8. Complete Your Essay

>> Photocopy the writing task form on page 113 and complete your essay.

Step 1 Title	Write the title of your essay.
Step 2 Beginning Paragraph	Use the chart in Activity 5C and write it.
Step 3 Middle Paragraph	Use the chart in Activity 6B and write it.
Step 4 Ending Paragraph	Use the chart in Activity 7B and write it.
Step 5 Revise and Edit	Read your essay and make necessary changes.