Africa: The Real Melting Pot

Movies, television, and even the news sometimes falsely describe Africa. They refer to the continent of Africa as if it were a single country. Not every part of the continent is the same. These sources sometimes stereotype all of Africa as a region that is underdeveloped.

In reality, Africa is many things. There are isolated, remote areas. There are also modern cities. Africa is home to 54 countries. People speak more than 1,000 languages. There are hundreds of ethnic groups. Each group has its own history and traditions.

African countries are among the most diverse in the world. In Chad alone, there are more than 100 ethnic groups. Togo is a country smaller than the state of West Virginia. Yet in Togo, people speak 39 different languages. These differences make the culture of each African country special. They also create challenges. Schools can be hard to run because there are so many languages. Wars have been sparked by ethnic differences.

1. What do movies, television, and the news often falsely describe about Africa?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. What types of diversity are there in Africa?

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______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. What are some of the challenges of having a very diverse country?

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Directions: Read the text, and study the photo. Then, answer the questions.
Country Research Packet

Name: _________________________________________________________

Country Research
At the beginning of each new region, you will be assigned a country to briefly research. You may use the internet, books, documentaries, etc. You will fill out the attached worksheet and the top ten list below. On the Round Table discussion for this region, you will present your information to the table and tell us why you think your country should be the winning vacation destination for the region. You may bring in extra items (photos, props, music, costumes, etc.), but they aren't necessary. After we debate the countries, the class will vote on the winning country.

Top 10 Most Amazing Things About the Country of ____________________________:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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