



GLOBAL-PC

In studying World Geography, often students (and sometimes teachers) have difficulty organizing and process all the factual information about different countries and regions. One way to organize this data is to use the graphic organizer GLOBAL-PC. GLOBAL-PC provides students with a means for organizing both the physical geography and the cultural geography of a country or region. The GLOBAL part refers to the cultural components of a place while the PC portion examines the physical geography of the place.

GLOBAL:

When students are asked to look at a culture, they sometimes have difficulty understanding the true meaning of the word “culture.” Some feel it is the language, while others like to look at the native clothing. There are a wide variety of factors that set cultures apart from each other.

One method students can use to help define a culture is to use the GLOBAL part of the **GLOBAL-PC** graphic organizer. Each letter of the word “GLOBAL” represents an aspect of culture. Students can easily remember these aspects and then readily analyze any culture given to them. Combined together, students can get a clearer picture of a society. The cultural components are:

- **Groups** =>
 - Does the society that you are currently studying have different social classes? If so what are they?
 - What kind of ethnic groups are there?
 - How many different types of languages are spoken?
 - Are certain members of the society separated from the rest? If so, why?
 - Does this culture use a type of caste or feudal system? If so, construct a social pyramid demonstrating the social classes.

- **Learning** =>
 - Is there free public education?
 - Do all members of this society have access to education? If not, who does not and why not?
 - Are there centers of higher education? If so, how many? If not, why not?
 - What is the literacy rate of that society?
 - Is the literacy rate of women higher or lower than that of men?

- **Organization** =>
 - How is the government of the society structured?
 - Who is in charge?
 - How did they get their power? (for example, through elections, military power)
 - What kinds of freedoms are given to the people?

- **Beliefs** =>
 - Is there religious freedom in the society?
 - How many different types of religions are there?
 - What are the main religious groups in the society?
 - Is religion part of the government?

- **Arts** =>
 - How does this society express itself artistically?
 - What is their music and literature like?
 - Are there any museums?
 - What is the native dress like?

- **Labor** =>
 - How does the society make money?
 - How do most people make a living?
 - What are the largest industries?
 - Does this society depend on imports? What are the main imports?
 - Do other societies depend on their exports? What are the main exports?

PC

The PC in GLOBAL-PC refers to the physical environment of the country or region. The physical geography includes the land forms, water features, the climate, soil, resources, animals, and vegetation. The two components of this part of the graphic organizers are:

- **Physical Features** =>
 - What are the main land forms and water features?
 - What does the topography look like?
 - What is the altitude?
 - Do the physical features encourage or discourage trade?

- **Climate** =>
 - What are the climatic features?
 - What factors influence the climate?
 - What is annual rainfall?
 - What kind of vegetation grows naturally?

Technology Tie-In

1. One of the largest online resources available for free is the CIA Factbook. Go to the CIA's homepage at <http://www.cia.gov> and then click on the link for the CIA Factbook. There you will find statistics, maps, and tons of useful information on any country in the world!
2. If you are going back in time, use the popular search engine Google and use specific terms such as, "German Education in the 1930's." Google can be found at <http://www.google.com>.
3. Use a spreadsheet program such as Excel to create graphs demonstrating economics, ethnic makeup, religions, mortality rates, and literacy rates.
4. Use Word or Excel to create a comparative chart between different cultures within an area such as a continent or within a certain time period.



G L O B A L – P C

Country: _____

	Characteristics
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Date _____ Period _____ Name _____

Country: _____

	Characteristics
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