European Countries and Geography

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Which country occupies most of the western edge of the Iberian Peninsula?
   - A. Portugal
   - B. Italy
   - C. Greece
   - D. Belgium

   Correct answer: A. Portugal
   Mainland Portugal lies west of Spain and faces the Atlantic Ocean.

2. Which of these countries occupies a North Atlantic island and has no land border with another country?
   - A. Austria
   - B. Poland
   - C. Iceland
   - D. Hungary

   Correct answer: C. Iceland
   Iceland is separated from its neighbors by ocean. The other three countries are on the European mainland.

3. Which country completely surrounds both San Marino and Vatican City?
   - A. France
   - B. Italy
   - C. Spain
   - D. Switzerland

   Correct answer: B. Italy
   Both San Marino and Vatican City are independent states surrounded by Italy.

4. Which of these countries is one of the three Baltic states?
   - A. Austria
   - B. Slovakia
   - C. Slovenia
   - D. Latvia

   Correct answer: D. Latvia
   Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania form the Baltic states. Latvia lies between the other two.

5. In which country would you visit the abbey on Mont-Saint-Michel?
   A. Ireland
   B. France
   C. Portugal
   D. Denmark
   Correct answer: B. France
   Mont-Saint-Michel is off the Normandy coast of France.

6. Which country shares a land boundary with Denmark on the Jutland Peninsula?
   A. Germany
   B. Sweden
   C. Norway
   D. Poland
   Correct answer: A. Germany
   The Danish portion of Jutland meets Germany at its southern end.

7. Which country lies across the Adriatic Sea from Italy and has a long coastline that includes the city of Dubrovnik?
   A. Switzerland
   B. Hungary
   C. Slovakia
   D. Croatia
   Correct answer: D. Croatia
   Dubrovnik lies on Croatia’s Adriatic coast. The sea separates the Croatian and Italian shores.

8. Which of these countries has no coastline?
   A. Belgium
   B. Slovenia
   C. Switzerland
   D. Lithuania
   Correct answer: C. Switzerland
   Switzerland is landlocked. Slovenia has a short Adriatic coast, Belgium faces the North Sea, and Lithuania borders the Baltic Sea.

9. Which two countries both have coastlines on the Bay of Biscay?
   A. France and Spain
   B. Spain and Italy
   C. France and Belgium
   D. Portugal and Ireland
   Correct answer: A. France and Spain
   The bay lies off western France and northern Spain.

10. Which sovereign country contains the Giant’s Causeway in County Antrim?

A. Norway
B. Ireland
C. Iceland
D. United Kingdom

Correct answer: D. United Kingdom
County Antrim is in Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom.

11. Which of these countries is grouped in Western Europe in the UN’s M49 statistical classification?

A. Spain
B. Sweden
C. Netherlands
D. Poland

Correct answer: C. Netherlands
M49 places the Netherlands in Western Europe. It lists Sweden in Northern Europe, Spain in Southern Europe, and Poland in Eastern Europe.

12. Which country lies between Romania and Ukraine and borders both?

A. Bulgaria
B. Moldova
C. Serbia
D. Montenegro

Correct answer: B. Moldova
Moldova borders Romania on the west and Ukraine on the north, east, and south.

13. Which country has a land border with both France and Spain and with no other country?

A. Liechtenstein
B. Monaco
C. Luxembourg
D. Andorra

Correct answer: D. Andorra
Andorra sits in the Pyrenees between France and Spain.

14. Which of these countries shares a land border with Austria and a land border with Ukraine?

A. Slovakia
B. Czechia
C. Slovenia
D. Poland

Correct answer: A. Slovakia
Slovakia borders Austria at its western end and Ukraine at its eastern end.

15. UNESCO lists Białowieża Forest as a shared site between Poland and which neighbor?

A. Czechia
B. Germany
C. Belarus
D. Slovakia

Correct answer: C. Belarus
The protected forest crosses Poland’s eastern boundary into Belarus.