

1 UKRAINE

1 If you were asked to recommend your country as a travel destination, what would you say about it? Tell the class.

2 a) Look at the pictures. What information do they give you about Ukraine? Read to find out.

Reading

Ukraine is a country in Eastern Europe. It has a long history, beautiful countryside and warm-hearted people who have a deep sense of culture and tradition. Ukraine lies on the shores of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. There are also many rivers and lakes. The most important are the Dnipro, Dnister and Southern Buh rivers and Shatsky Lakes. The climate of Ukraine is continental. Winters are usually snowy and cold, and summers are mostly hot – the temperature often rises above 30° C.

Ukraine is an independent and well developed country. It is the world's largest producer of sunflower oil, which is why the sunflower is the country's national flower. It is often called 'the bread basket of Europe', as it produces and exports enormous amounts of grain, sugar beet, vegetables, beef and milk. Apart from agriculture, the country is also known for its aircraft and engineering industries and IT specialists. It is also home to many talented singers and outstanding sportsmen.

Official name:	Ukraine
Population:	44,429,471
Capital:	Kyiv
Official language:	Ukrainian
Currency:	Ukrainian hryvnia
Area (km²):	603,500
Largest cities:	Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Kryvyi Rih

b) Read the text again and choose the part of the sentence which is true according to the text.

- 1 The Ukrainians have a great sense of **humour/ tradition**.
- 2 Winters can get extremely **snowy/dry** in Ukraine.
- 3 Ukraine produces the most **milk/sunflower oil** in the world.
- 4 There are many gifted Ukrainian professionals in the areas of engineering and **computers/ songwriting**.
- 5 At first, the An-225 Mriya was created to carry **aircraft/spacecraft**.
- 6 The trembita is the world's **longest/oldest** musical instrument.

Did you Know?

- 1 The famous Christmas song 'Carol of the Bells' or 'Ring Christmas Bells' comes from 'Schedryk', a folk song written by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych.
- 2 Ukrainians invented the world's largest cargo plane – the An-225 Mriya, which was originally designed for spacecraft transportation.
- 3 Arsenalna Metro Station, located in Kyiv, is one of the deepest in the world (105 metres below ground).
- 4 One of the world's heaviest silver coins is found in Ukraine. The coin, named '10 years of hryvnia revival', was first produced in 2006 and weighs exactly 1 kilogramme.
- 5 Ukraine has the longest musical instrument in the world, the trembita. It is 4 metres long and can be heard from ten kilometres away.

CHECK THESE WORDS

warm-hearted, sense, lie, shore, climate, continental, independent, well developed, producer, sunflower oil, produce, export, grain, sugar beet, agriculture, aircraft, engineering, industry, IT specialist, talented, outstanding, folk song, composer, invent, cargo, originally

3 Read the text again and complete the fact file.

Country:	
People:	
Where it is:	
Capital city:	
Rivers/Lakes:	
Climate:	
Products:	
Famous for:	

Vocabulary

4 Use: *enormous, folk, shores, agriculture, continental, cargo, talented and industry* to complete the sentences. There are two extra words. Use the extra words to make sentences based on the text.

- 1 is a big part of Ukraine's economy, as the country grows a lot of fresh produce.
- 2 Many professionals come from Ukraine.
- 3 Ukraine's climate means the country has hot summers and very cold winters.
- 4 A song by a Ukrainian composer became a world-famous Christmas carol.
- 5 The An-225 carries, not passengers.
- 6 Ukraine exports amounts of different products around the world.

Speaking & Writing

5 Use the information in Ex. 3 to give a two-minute talk to the class about Ukraine.

6 **ICT** Look up information on the Internet to find five more interesting facts about Ukraine. Read the facts to the class.