

## Guided Reading

### Activity one:

Read the passage below, taking note of any words that you do not understand. Get an adult to help you if you need to.

France is the largest country in Western Europe. It is a land of green, open spaces dotted with small cities and picturesque towns. The weather in northern France is cool and wet but the south, with its Mediterranean coast, is dry and warm. Mountain ranges line the southwest and eastern borders, including the Pyrenees and the Alps. Mont Blanc, located in the Alps, is Europe's tallest peak, and stands about 4,807m tall. Fashion and perfume are two of France's best known industries. France also produces about a quarter of the world's wine. One fifth of the population of France live in and around Paris. It is one of Europe's most popular cities, with many famous monuments and museums. The Eiffel Tower is one of the most famous buildings in the world. It stands 324m tall and was built in 1889. The Louvre in Paris is the most visited art gallery in the world. There are churches in every village and cathedrals in the cities. France is a mainly Roman Catholic country. France has many good restaurants and the quality of ordinary daily food is very high. French cheeses like camembert, brie and emmental are eaten all over the world. The Tour de France takes place every summer and is the world's most famous cycling race. It lasts for three weeks and always finishes in Paris.

### Activity two:

Fact finding. Answer the retrieval questions below. You may have to read the article again to find the answers.

1. What is the most popular city in Europe?
2. Which building stands at 324m?
3. How does the author describe the weather in France?
4. Name four products which come out of France.
5. What is the Tour de France?

Challenge: Use inverted commas to include quotes from the text to support your answers.

### Activity three:

Assessing the article.

1. How do we know that this article is non-fiction (not a made up story)?
2. What features has the writer used?
3. What is the main theme and purpose of this article?
4. Who do you think that the article is aimed at?
5. Is there any way that you think this article could be improved?

### Activity four:

If you were going to research a country to write a detailed article like this, what questions would you need to ask yourself?

Write a list of questions that you think the author of this article has answered. Are there any which you think are more important? Rearrange them in order of importance and justify your answers.

### Activity five:

Choose a country in Europe (you may want to look at a map and choose one at random to make it more interesting).

Using the list of questions that you wrote yesterday, research your country and see if you can find all of the information that you would need to write an article about it.

Record the information that you find in note form (you can use bullet points and do not have to write in full sentences, but make sure that you will be able to understand your notes later and that you have enough information to write full sentences from them).