

# Exploring Europe

## How are the lesson plans structured?

Each lesson takes a similar format which can be seen in the table below. The key headings of each lesson are listed with the accompanying icon/ symbol.

### Icon Legend



**AIMS**



**TIME REQUIRED**



**LEARNING OUTCOME**



**MATERIALS OR SOURCES REQUIRED**



**PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS**



**POTENTIAL PARTNER ACTIVITY**

Slight variations between lessons may exist where appropriate, but for the most part the structure of each lesson includes the following format:

- » Introduction
- » Group/Individual/Pair or Whole Class work
- » Assessment
- » Conclusion

# 1. What do we already know?



## Your aim

To introduce students to a variety of aspects about Europe and the European Union from a historical, geographical and cultural perspective.



## Learning Outcome

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to assess how much they already know about the EU and its member states.



## Time

- » Double period

The suggested time above can be adapted and lengthened by increasing the number of quiz rounds. These additional rounds could include a picture or aural music round. This can be done creatively through the use of media pictures of current MEPs, national anthems of countries and there could also be a flag round or famous buildings from each country.



## Materials or Sources required

- » Question sheet 'What Do We Already Know?'
- » Sets of answer sheets for each round for each team of 4-5 students
- » Board/ flip chart to show results



## Preparation

- » Photocopy required number of sets of answer sheets
- » Divide class into teams
- » List teams on score board/flip chart
- » Select markers (if necessary)



## Link to Part II: Investigating Europe

- » Activity I – The European Union in Ireland
- » Activity II – Holidaying in Europe



## Potential Partner Activity

Given in the lesson

## Introduction

The teacher begins the lesson by explaining to the class that they are going to participate in a table quiz so that they can assess how much information they already know about Europe.

S/he will explain that the quiz has seven rounds, each round consisting of ten questions. (This explanation may vary depending on the number of rounds that the teacher decides to use.)

## Group Work

The teacher divides the class into teams of four to five students. Each team is given a few minutes to decide on a name for their team. Once agreed, each team name will be listed on the board/flipchart. (The teacher can draw a grid with the team names as the rows and the round numbers e.g. 1-7 along the top of the page as the columns headings.)

Each team is then given a set of answer sheets. Each answer sheet should be marked with the number of the round and the team name.

Before beginning, the teacher should have decided how the answer sheets will be marked. Here are a number of possible options:

1. **A student acts as the official marker**
2. **Teams exchange sheets between them and correct one another's answers;**
3. **The teacher collects the sheets and correct them outside class time, giving the results to the students in the next class (although this loses the immediacy and excitement of the quiz format, as well as adding to the teacher's workload)**

The teacher then calls out the quiz questions, round by round. It may be better to correct the answers at the end of each round and display them on the grid. Also, the answers to the previous round's questions can be called out either throughout the quiz or at the end of the session.

## Conclusion

The teacher can end the class by asking the students to highlight a number of new facts they learned about Europe.

## Homework Option

Ask each student to develop a set of five questions on Europe which can be used as a starter activity to each European Studies class or as a dedicated lesson to focus on these questions. They could be used as questions for a second class quiz. Alternatively, these questions can be used as a resource for the teacher to use during the year.

Students can be encouraged to record/ highlight the new pieces of information they have learned during the lesson

Students could be asked to organise a European Studies folder to record all material they learn throughout their studies. Students should be encouraged to bring into class any newspaper or media clippings about Europe throughout the year. They should be encouraged to pass on this newly acquired knowledge to the class at the beginning of each lesson



### Link to Investigating Europe

- » Part II – Investigating Europe Activity I, The European Union in Ireland or
- » Part II – Investigating Europe Activity II, Holidaying in Europe



### Potential Partner Activity

- » Devise a table quiz on Europe which could be put on the European Studies website or your school website for your partner school to use. Organise a designated table quiz day.
- » Devise a PowerPoint presentation of facts and figures about Ireland and send them to your partner school and include a short table quiz as part of the assessment.

## Question sheet: What do we already know?

Round 1	
1. What is the most northerly country in the EU?	Finland
2. Name the EU capital city which is both the most easterly and the most southerly one?	Nicosia
3. In which country was Pope Benedict XVI born?	Germany
4. How many gold stars are there on the EU flag?	12
5. Name the country which is NOT in Europe but takes part in the Eurovision song contest?	Israel
6. In what year did Ireland join the EEC (later to become the EU)?	1973
7. What did the Hungarian inventor Erno Rubik invent?	Rubik's Cube
8. From which country do Edam and Gouda cheese originate?	Netherlands
9. From which country is the actress Penelope Cruz?	Spain
10. What colour is the 20 euro note?	Blue

## Round 2

1. The Treaty of Rome, which set up the EEC (forerunner of the EU) was signed in what year?	1957
2. How many countries signed the Treaty of Rome and were consequently the first countries of the EEC?	Six
3. Which of the EU institutions was set up to represent the people of Europe?	The Parliament
4. In which country did the characters Hercule Poirot and Tintin originate?	Belgium
5. Which planet has a moon called Europa?	Jupiter
6. Which EU country has the same name as its capital city?	Luxembourg
7. Name the port city at the mouth of the River Rhine?	Rotterdam
8. In which city is the International Court of Justice?	The Hague
9. On which sea are Latvia and Lithuania situated?	Baltic
10. The Canary Islands are part of which country?	Spain

## Round 3

1. Which country is famous for a type of stew called Goulash?	Hungary
2. In which country was LEGO invented?	Denmark
3. Which EU country has its map on its flag?	Cyprus
4. On what date each year is Europe Day celebrated?	9th May
5. In which country are the football clubs PSV Eindhoven and Ajax?	Netherlands
6. What is the capital city of Latvia?	Riga
7. In which country was Alfred Nobel, famous for the science and peace prizes, born?	Sweden
8. In which country is the EU Court of Justice located?	Luxembourg
9. Anne Frank wrote a famous diary of her time in hiding during World War II. In which country did she live?	Netherlands
10. In which city would you travel in a gondola on a canal?	Venice

## Round 4

1. In which city was Handel's 'Messiah' first performed?	Dublin
2. From which country did the group ABBA come?	Sweden
3. Which composer's Ninth Symphony includes 'Ode to Joy' which has become the European Anthem?	Beethoven
4. How many member states are in the EU at present?	27
5. In which country is the flamenco a famous dance?	Spain
6. One of the most famous pieces by the composer Sibelius, is named after the country where he was born – what is it?	Finland (Finlandia)
7. Johann Strauss composed a waltz, which he named after a major river where he lived (he suggested the river was blue) – can you name the river?	Danube
8. The cancan dance is most associated with which city?	Paris
9. The composer Mozart was born in which country?	Austria
10. From which city did the famous band the Beatle's come from?	Liverpool

## Round 5

1. What two new member states became part of the EU in 2007?	Romania and Bulgaria
2. What is the capital of Slovenia?	Ljubljana
3. In which city is the European Commission based?	Brussels
4. From which country are the stories about Pippi Longstocking – who is said to be the strongest girl on Earth?	Sweden
5. In which country is the tourist area of the Algarve?	Portugal
6. From which country does the dish 'paella' come?	Spain
7. Which European city had the first underground rail system?	London
8. In which city is the Trevi fountain, where tourists traditionally make a wish?	Rome
9. In which year did the Euro notes and coins come into general use?	2002
10. What is the nickname given to the countries in the Eurozone, which use the euro?	Euroland

## Round 6

1. Which country is the world's largest producer of cork stoppers for bottles?	Portugal
2. Of which country's alphabet are Alpha and Omega the first and last letters?	Greek/Cypriot
3. What year did the Irish language become an official EU language?	1 January 2007
4. In which year did a group of ten additional countries join the EU?	2004
5. In which city is the statue of Hans Christian Anderson's heroine the Little Mermaid?	Copenhagen
6. The scientist Albert Einstein was born in which country?	Germany
7. The scientist Galileo who claimed that the Earth rotated on an axis came from which country?	Italy
8. Which is the smallest EU country?	Malta
9. Which EU country, by winning the World Ice Hockey title in 2005, has won the title five times in the previous 10 years?	Czech Republic
10. The Karst region in Slovenia is similar to what limestone landscape in Ireland?	The Burren

## Round 6

1. Which vegetable is the main ingredient in the dish moussaka?	Aubergine
2. From which country do Brie and Camembert cheeses originate?	France
3. Which country did the painters Rembrandt and Van Gogh come from?	Netherlands
4. The philosopher Socrates was from which country?	Greece
5. The islands Sicily and Sardinia are part of which country?	Italy
6. In which country are the football clubs 'Benfica' and 'Porto'?	Portugal
7. In which country are the car racing circuits Monza and Imola situated?	Italy
8. Which country joined the EU in 2004 and has a coastline on the Adriatic Sea?	Slovenia
9. With which country are saunas most associated?	Finland
10. Which country won football's Euro 2004 competition?	Greece

## What do we already know?

### Answer sheet

Team Name	Round
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	