

African Nation Brochure

The Project: For this project each of you will have an assigned African nation. You will produce a brochure that contains information as well as analysis, comparing that nation to the United States on the basis of education, healthcare and the economy/communications. Think about how those topics are related to each other as you do this project.

Using CultureGrams: You will find all of the information required using CultureGrams, which is located in the list of databases. Once in CultureGrams, click on World Edition, and then click on the continent of Africa, then click on the country assigned. Use the table of contents tabs that are on the left side of the main page for the country to find the specific pieces of information that you will need. You will also print out from CultureGrams a copy of all charts used (these will **NOT** be the ones in brochure).

Three Points of Comparison: For the three points of comparison you will use the following pieces of information from CultureGrams which you will place in teacher-made tables:

Education: Adult literacy, male literacy, female literacy

Healthcare: Infant mortality, probability of surviving to 40, number of doctors

Economy: total GDP, (and from **Communications**) internet and cellular service

Be careful as you enter information to make sure you enter the proper units for each piece of data. The numbers do not mean anything unless we know what they are actually measuring.

You will produce the brochure using Microsoft Publisher, (*click on "Publications for Print", then click on "Brochures", and make your choice from "Informational"*) and then clear the columns, because we will be adding in our own charts and information.

The brochure must conform to the following standards:

Background information for African nation: (column 2) All of the above mentioned information still needs to be understood in the historical context of the country as well as the culture of its people. Therefore you will give a brief history (origins of the country, name and border changes and the corresponding dates). This should comprise at least half of column two. The history will be done in paragraph form. The rest of the column will have the list of the country's natural resources and religions as well as three examples of lifestyles and customs. The lists of the natural resources will be just the items listed but separated by commas and not bullets in order to save space. The customs will be done in sentences.

Brochure Format (required)

Side #1 (Outside of brochure)

- Column 5 chart/data and analysis comparing the economy/communications
- Column 6 flag, **Bibliography** (use generate citation link in CultureGrams)
- Column 1 Cover: Country (name of nation, map of nation, population, square mileage, climate, main language(s) spoken), your name

Side #2 (Inside of brochure)

- Column 2 Background information: history, resources, religion, customs
- Column 3 chart/data and analysis comparing education
- Column 4 chart/data and analysis comparing healthcare

Analysis

The purpose of the analysis is to make you think about the differences between lives in the United States versus that of the people in the country you are researching. As you look at the data reflect on what it means for the people in that nation and the impact on their lives. What conclusions can you draw logically from the information? What are the short term (one year or less into the future) and long term (more distant future) consequences of the situation? What problems might arise? How do these categories impact one another? These are the types of questions that you are trying to address.

You will not find the answers in the sources; you will develop them on your own. It will not be enough to just report on something, you will need to evaluate and interpret information on your own. This part will not be easy, but developing any skill worth having (such as critical thinking) never is. Moreover people in all walks of life engage in data analysis and interpretation as part of their jobs and lives all the time. The ability to do this will help make you a better informed person who can see through problems to solutions as well as lies and misrepresentations that exist in our world.