

Passives Guess the Country Game

Read out clues about one of the countries below until your partner guesses which country you are talking about. Start with the most difficult ones to guess from.

Argentina

- A lot of meat is eaten there
- Cans of corned beef are usually imported from there
- Spanish is spoken there
- Penguins are often seen in the south of this country
- Cowboys called gauchos can still be seen there
- This country was named after the Latin word for silver
- This country was defeated by the British in the Falklands War in the 1980s
- The football World Cup has been won by this country twice

Australia

- The 2004 Olympics were held there
- In this country, barbeques are often held on the beach
- English is spoken in this country
- This country was settled by criminals from England

Austria

- Arnold Schwarzenegger was born there
- Sacher Torte (chocolate cake) was first eaten there
- The croissant was invented there
- Adolf Hitler was born in this country
- German is spoken in there

Belgium

- The saxophone was invented by someone from there (called Adolph Sax)
- Many types are famous and expensive chocolates (e.g. Godiva) are exported from there
- French and Flemish (= Dutch) are spoken there
- Many books were written about a detective from there (by Agatha Christie/ called Hercules Poirot)
- The world's best beer is brewed there

Brazil

- Portuguese is spoken in this country
- The footballer Ronaldinho was born there
- Samba music was first played there
- Five football world cups have been won by this country
- The world's most famous carnival is held there every year

Canada

- A lot of maple syrup is exported from there
- English and French are spoken there
- Cirque de Soleil was founded in this country

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China

- The 2008 Olympics were held there
- The idea for pasta was taken from there to Italy (by Marco Polo)
- Tea was first drunk there
- Dairy products are traditionally not eaten there
- IBM brand PCs are now produced by a company from there (called Lenovo)
- Paper was invented there
- The compass was invented there
- Gunpowder was first used there
- Paper money was first used in this country
- Rice and soybeans were first grown there
- The oldest fork in the world was found in this country and is up to 4,500 years old

Colombia

- This country was named after Christopher Columbus.
- Lots of cocaine is smuggled out of this country

The Czech Republic

- The first Budweiser beer was made there
- The novelist Kafka was born there

Cuba

- Spanish is spoken there
- This country was led by Fidel Castro for many years
- Bacardi (white rum) was first produced there
- Salsa music was first played here

Denmark

- The toy company Lego is based there
- Carlsberg beer is brewed there
- The Little Mermaid was written by a writer from there (called Hans Christian Andersen)

Egypt

- Beer was invented there
- Cats were worshipped there (= They thought cats were gods)
- This country was ruled by kings called "pharaohs"

Ethiopia

- Coffee was first drunk there
- Yergacheffe coffee is grown there
- The ex-Emperor of this country is worshipped by Rastafarians (= Rastas, the religion of Bob Marley and other people associated with reggae music)

Finland

- The mobile phone company Nokia is based in this country
- Santa Claus is said to live in this country
- The 2008 Nobel Prize for Peace was won by someone from this country (called Marti Ahtisaari)

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France

- The most famous sparkling wine is made there
- The first gothic cathedral was constructed (= built) there
- Frogs' legs are eaten there
- Snails are eaten there
- Horse is eaten there
- Perrier (and Evian) mineral water is bottled there
- The 1998 football world cup was won by this country

Germany

- The motorcar was invented there
- The hamburger was named after a city there
- The frankfurter was named after a city there
- Poodles were first bred there
- Lots of sausages are eaten there
- Lots of sauerkraut (= pickled cabbage) is eaten there
- The software company SAP is based there
- Most BMW and Mercedes cars are manufactured there
- The football world cup has been won three times by this country

Greece

- The first Olympic games were held there (thousands of years ago)
- Black olives are often eaten there
- Pita bread is often eaten there
- A lot of feta cheese (= soft goats' milk cheese) is produced there.
- The language of this country isn't written with the Roman script
- The language from this country is used for medical and scientific words in many languages

Holland/ the Netherlands

- The painter Vincent Van Gogh was born there
- Smoking marijuana in cafes is allowed there
- Many tulips are grown in this country
- The electronics company Phillips is based in this country
- Heineken beer is brewed there
- New York was first settled by people from this country (who named it "New Amsterdam")
- Indonesia was colonised by this country

Hong Kong

- Jackie Chan was born there
- Cantonese is spoken there
- This country was colonised by the British but was handed over to the Chinese
- The original of the Martin Scorsese movie The Departed was made in this country (and was called Infernal Affairs)

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India

- Buddhism was started there
- Lots of spices are added to food there
- Assam tea is grown there
- Darjeeling tea is grown there
- Chess was first played there
- The most films (= movies) of any country are produced there

(The Republic of) Ireland

- Guinness stout (= black beer) was first made there
- Jameson's whiskey and Baileys liqueur are produced there
- English is spoken there

Italy

- Leonardo DaVinci was born there
- Latin was first spoken there
- The Roman Empire was founded there
- Ferraris are manufactured there
- Gucci clothes are designed there
- Opera was first performed there
- Espresso, café latte and cappuccino are often drunk in this country
- The explorer Christopher Columbus was born in this country
- The real Santa Claus (Saint Nicholas) is buried in this country

Japan

- Ricoh photocopiers are made there
- Conveyor belt sushi restaurants were invented there
- Raw horse meat is eaten there
- A lot of raw fish is eaten there
- Asahi beer is brewed (= made) there
- Yakult yoghurt was first made there
- Godzilla movies are filmed there
- The original version of the movie The Ring was filmed there
- The original version of the movie Shall We Dance was filmed there
- The traditional houses there are usually made of wood

Korea

- Taekwondo was invented there
- Lots of hot pepper is used in the cooking
- The future Hollywood film My Sassy Girl is based on a movie that was made in this country
- The present United Nations Secretary General was born in this country
- The 2000 Nobel Prize for Peace was won by someone from this country (called Kim Dae Jung)

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Mexico

- Spanish is spoken there
- Jalapeno hot peppers are often eaten there
- Corona beer is brewed there
- Chihuahua dogs were first bred there

New Zealand

- Bungee jumping was invented there
- The Lord of the Rings movies, The Piano and King Kong were filmed there
- The movie Last Samurai was about Japan but was shot in this country
- The actor Russell Crowe and the director Peter Jackson were born there
- English is spoken there
- This country was colonised by the British
- This country was settled by the Maoris about 1000 years ago

Norway

- Fish is often pickled there
- Edvard Munch, the painter of the picture "The Scream", was born there
- A language that is similar to Swedish and Danish is spoken there

Saudi Arabia

- Islam was founded there
- Mohammed was born there
- Drinking is banned (= forbidden) there
- Women aren't allowed to drive there
- Pork is never eaten there
- Veils are often worn there
- A lot of oil is produced there

Scotland

- Golf was first played there
- Scotch whiskey is produced there
- Kilts (like skirts for men) are sometimes worn there
- The traditional music of this country is played with bagpipes

South Africa

- Nelson Mandela was imprisoned in this country for many years
- Penguins and elephants are often seen in this country
- Many diamonds are found in this country

Spain

- Green olives are grown there
- Picasso was born there
- Ham is often eaten there
- The traditional music from this country is played with a guitar and castanets (and is called flamenco)
- The language from this country is spoken in most of Latin America

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Sri Lanka

- It used to be called Ceylon
- Ceylon tea is grown there

Sweden

- The Nobel prizes were started there
- Volvo cars and trucks were first made there
- The four members of Abba were born there
- A smorgasbord (buffet style breakfast) is often provided in hotels in this country

Switzerland

- German, French and Italian are spoken by most people there
- Fondue (melted cheese) is often eaten there
- The food company Nestle is based there
- Chocolate and cheese from there are eaten by people all over the world
- Watches from there are worn by people all over the world

Thailand

- Tiger Wood's mother was born there
- Lemon grass is quite often used in the food there
- Many people were killed there in the 2004 tsunami
- The Vietnam movies The Deer Hunter and Good Morning Vietnam were actually shot in this country

Turkey

- The world's oldest city was discovered there
- Lots of lamb and mutton is eaten there
- Kebabs were invented there
- The word "yoghurt" was taken from the language of that place
- The real Santa Claus (Saint Nicholas) was born in this country

UK (= United Kingdom = Great Britain and Northern Ireland = England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)

- The 2012 Olympics will be held there
- The Titanic was built and launched from there
- Tesco's supermarkets were set up there
- Gin was first drunk there
- David Beckham was born there
- Punk music was first played there
- Corgis were first bred there (by the royal family)
- Vegetables are usually boiled in this country
- Meats are often roasted in this country
- Sausages are traditionally eaten for breakfast in this country
- Ale (= brown beer) is brewed in this country
- Tea is often drunk in this country
- The 2007/8 Champions League was won by a team from this country
- Table tennis was first played in this country

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USA

- Disposable razors were invented there (by Gillette)
- English is spoken there
- Pizza Hut and Dominoes Pizza were started there
- Haagen Daz ice cream was first sold there

Note for teachers

With good groups you could blank out the verbs to give them more practice of producing passives. As an extension with more practice of the grammar, ask them to brainstorm true passive sentences about one of the countries (either ones they can remember from the worksheet or their own idea).