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Classroom Activities

Advanced version

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Commonwealth celebrates 60th anniversary (Page 1)

Instructions: Read the article 'Commonwealth celebrates 60th anniversary'.
Answer questions 1-16.

1. When was Commonwealth Day?

2. How many countries are members of the Commonwealth?

3. Who is the head of the Commonwealth?

4. What anniversary was celebrated this year?

5. Where was the event held?

6. When was the Commonwealth formed?

7. Who were the original members?

8. Why do some people call it the world's largest multi-faith organization?

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Commonwealth celebrates 60th anniversary (Page 1) *continued*

9. What are the requirements for becoming a member?

10. Who runs the Commonwealth?

11. Who is the current Secretary-General?

12. Explain why South Africa was not invited to join in 1961?

13. Why is Zimbabwe no longer a member?

14. Name some former British colonies that have never wanted to join?

15. Why is Mozambique unusual?

16. What theme was announced at the anniversary event?

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President of Sudan accused of war crimes (Page 8)**Instructions:** Read the article 'President of Sudan accused of war crimes'.

The answers to the questions are given for 1-10. Write the questions.

1. **Q.** _____
A. Omar al-Bashir.
2. **Q.** _____
A. International Criminal Court.
3. **Q.** _____
A. War crimes and crimes against humanity.
4. **Q.** _____
A. Darfur.
5. **Q.** _____
A. Around 300,000.
6. **Q.** _____
A. The Janjaweed.
7. **Q.** _____
A. The Hague, in The Netherlands.
8. **Q.** _____
A. Genocide.
9. **Q.** _____
A. U.S.A., China, Sudan and India.
10. **Q.** _____
A. Oxfam and Médecins Sans Frontières.

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President killed in Guinea-Bissau (Page 4)

Instructions: Read the article 'President killed in Guinea-Bissau'.
Check either true or false for the following statements.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. João Bernardo Vieira was president of Guinea-Bissau.		
2. Guinea Bissau is one of Africa's most wealthy countries.		
3. Mogadishu is the capital of Guinea-Bissau.		
4. The head of the army has become the new president of Guinea-Bissau.		
5. Guinea-Bissau is on the west coast of Africa.		
6. Guinea-Bissau exports cashew nuts to other countries.		
7. Raimundo Pereira is the speaker of Guinea-Bissau's parliament.		
8. Guinea-Bissau is a former Spanish colony.		
9. New elections now have to be held in Guinea-Bissau by January 1, 2010.		
10. President Vieira's funeral was held in Sierra Leone.		

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Shakespeare's portrait? (Page 5)

Instructions: Read the article 'Shakespeare's portrait?' and fill in the spider diagram below with the details.

**KNOWN LIFE OF
SHAKESPEARE**

**KNOWN LIKENESSES OF
SHAKESPEARE**

**SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS**

NEWLY-DISCOVERED PAINTING

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Kepler space probe (Page 6)**Instructions:** Read the article 'Kepler space probe'.

Draw a line to connect the correct links. The first is done for you.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Photometer

German astronomer

Water

Light-detecting instrument

NASA

Detecting tiny changes in brightness of stars

Cygnus

The Swan

Milky Way

Not too hot and not too cold

Johannes Kepler

Essential for life

Goldilocks zone

Our galaxy

Transit method

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Japan's economic problems (Page11)

Instructions: Read the article 'Japan's economic problems'.
Answer questions 1-4.

1. What well-known items are made in Japan and what reputation do Japanese factories have?

2. Explain what is meant by a trade deficit.

3. Explain what is meant by a trade surplus?

4. What may many Japanese companies now be forced to do and why will they have to do it?

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World Map (Page 11)

Instructions: Solve these anagrams. Each answer is a country that appears on the World Map. Each anagram has one extra letter. Together the extra letters form another anagram. The answer is a mystery country. One is already done for you.

1. **A**NDUSA**S** **U** **D** **A** **N**

2. YANKEE

□ □ □ □ □

3. SANGBALDHER

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

4. AGEINO – SUBISA

□ □ □ □ □ □ – □ □ □ □ □ □

5. ACRISTALUA

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

6. SRUI ANKLA

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

7. IDOESDINNA

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

A

□

□

□

□

□

□

Mystery country = □ □ □ **A** □ □ □

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Issue 88 Elimination

Instructions: Read issue 88. Now eliminate from the list 13 pairs of words or phrases that go together. You will have one word or phrase left over. That is the answer. One pair is already done for you.

Toyota

Kamalesh Sharma

Guinea-Bissau

Darfur

Earl of Southampton

Central Asia

Dolphins

Italy

Neptune

Kepler

AirPod

Mardi Gras

~~Barbie~~

Goldilocks zone

~~Mattel~~

Sudan

Botai people

Portugal

Echolocation

Sony

Lahore

Fat Tuesday

William Shakespeare

Silvio Berlusconi

Commonwealth

Pakistan

Compressed air

Odd one out = _____

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Issue 88 multiple choice quiz**Instructions:** Read issue 88 and circle the correct answers for questions 1-10.

1. **What is a fangblenny?**
 - a. Tool used for cutting rock
 - b. Type of fish that changes color
 - c. Container for storing milk
 - d. Old word used to describe a mistake
 - e. Flower found in the Himalayas
2. **Of which country is Taro Aso the prime minister?**
 - a. Laos
 - b. Japan
 - c. Thailand
 - d. Taiwan
 - e. China
3. **Between which two places is the Strait of Messina?**
 - a. Sri Lanka and India
 - b. Denmark and Sweden
 - c. Singapore and Malaysia
 - d. Italy and Sicily
 - e. Australia and New Zealand
4. **Of which African country is Omar al-Bashir the president?**
 - a. Sudan
 - b. Ethiopia
 - c. Liberia
 - d. Chad
 - e. Egypt
5. **Which planet in the solar system orbits the Sun every 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days?**
 - a. Saturn
 - b. Mars
 - c. Venus
 - d. Jupiter
 - e. Earth
6. **What is koumiss?**
 - a. Dust-like substance found in space
 - b. Cloth made from goat's hair
 - c. Drink made from horse's milk
 - d. Type of rice grown in Vietnam
 - e. Plant grown in Afghanistan
7. **By what name was Sri Lanka formerly known?**
 - a. Xanadu
 - b. Shangri-La
 - c. Burma
 - d. Formosa
 - e. Ceylon
8. **Of which country is Sheikh Hasina prime minister?**
 - a. Maldives
 - b. Mauritius
 - c. Indonesia
 - d. Nepal
 - e. Bangladesh
9. **What is a clepsydra?**
 - a. Medical instrument
 - b. Underground lake
 - c. Group of shooting stars
 - d. Type of shellfish found in Australia
 - e. A water clock
10. **How many countries are currently members of the Commonwealth?**
 - a. 41
 - b. 46
 - c. 53
 - d. 57
 - e. 61