

"BUILD YOUR OWN COUNTRY" PROJECT

Project #1: For project number one you will be building or creating your own country! This project will assess your research skills, critical thinking and problem solving, and give you an opportunity to do what we all would like to do: RULE YOUR OWN COUNTRY!  This packet contains all of the information you need to complete this specific project, make sure not to lose it, it is incredibly valuable! \$\$\$

A FEW RULES ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY:

1. Your country must be located somewhere on the surface of the Earth. You **can't** colonize the moon, sun, etc. or form your own planet. You **can** create an island or you can place your country between real countries, the choice is yours.
2. Based on the location of your country your climate and vegetation (plants) must be realistic. You cannot have a tropical forest in a desert. IT. MUST. BE. LOGICAL.
3. You must have detailed responses to the list of questions provided. Questions must be answered in full sentence format. Writing must be legible or it will be asked to be redone.
4. *You must complete all tasks assigned.* Or you will receive no credit.
5. Everything turned in must be neat, clean, and formatted appropriately or it will not be accepted.

Task I: The Country

Build a country of your own. Use your imagination. The sky is the limit, so have fun. Want your country to be underground? Go for it! Want your people to speak only in monosyllabic grunts? Fine! Just remember that it must be **logical**, and you must answer the questions provided in detail about your country. Task one asks you to complete eight questions in detail about your country. The questions **MUST** be answered in correct full sentence format, beginning capitalization and ending punctuation are a must, we are eighth graders after all!!! **ALL EIGHT QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED.** The questions must be answered on the question page provided to you! If you run out of space you may ask for additional paper.

Task II: The Map

Create a map of your country. Your map must be on an 8 x 12 piece of **WHITE** computer paper - lined paper, construction paper, or crinkled up papers will not be accepted. I suggest using pencil for the map portion of the assignment. Be sure to include the following on your map in order to receive full credit, (*while these pieces are mandatory feel free to add other map features as you please* ☺):

- A key representing – mountains, bodies of water, desert, rainforest, etc.
- A compass rose showing the four cardinal directions, compass should be in either upper left hand corner or lower right hand corner.
- Your nation's capital city
- At least 5 other cities
- Any mountains, rivers, lakes, oceans, rainforest, desert, etc. – bodies of water, deserts, forests, etc. should have names!
Ex: Lake Erie, Amazon River, Gobi Desert, etc.

Task III: The Flag

Create flag on an 8 x 12 piece of WHITE computer paper. Lined paper, construction paper, crinkled up papers will not be accepted. Be sure to be creative. The flag should be about the size of the page. While creating your countries flag **be sure to check the rubric for all necessary components**. Are there any important symbols of your country? What about the colors you use, what is the significance? Do certain colors represent different things? On the back of the flag **IN PENCIL**  neatly write a paragraph (4-6 sentences) explaining the flag and choices you made pertaining to it. Think about the above questions, you may use those to help guide your paragraph.

Task IV: Choice Topics

You will choose one of the following options to complete for the fourth task.

Option #1: "Immigration Test" – Create a 25 question test that someone immigrating to your country would take to become a resident. You must use all four question types: multiple choice, true/false, matching, and fill in the blank. The test must be written neatly in test format on a lined sheet of paper. Include an answer key and "study guide" for immigrants to study to pass the test.

Option #2: "Native Language" – Create a chart of your country's alphabet and numerical system. Think Rosetta Stone, if you don't know what the Rosetta Stone is I urge you to research it! Also include ten words written using your countries alphabet and be sure to translate the words to English!

Option #3: "Important Occupations" – In a one page written report, identify four different jobs or occupations that are typical or unique to your country. These should be jobs not found in the United States. Each job or occupation should consist of one paragraph (4-6 sentences). Explain what the job is in detail, who normally performs the job, why the job is important, and how the job contributes or helps your countries society or economy. You also need an introduction paragraph and closure. This is a fun way to show me what your country is all about. These jobs can be silly or serious.

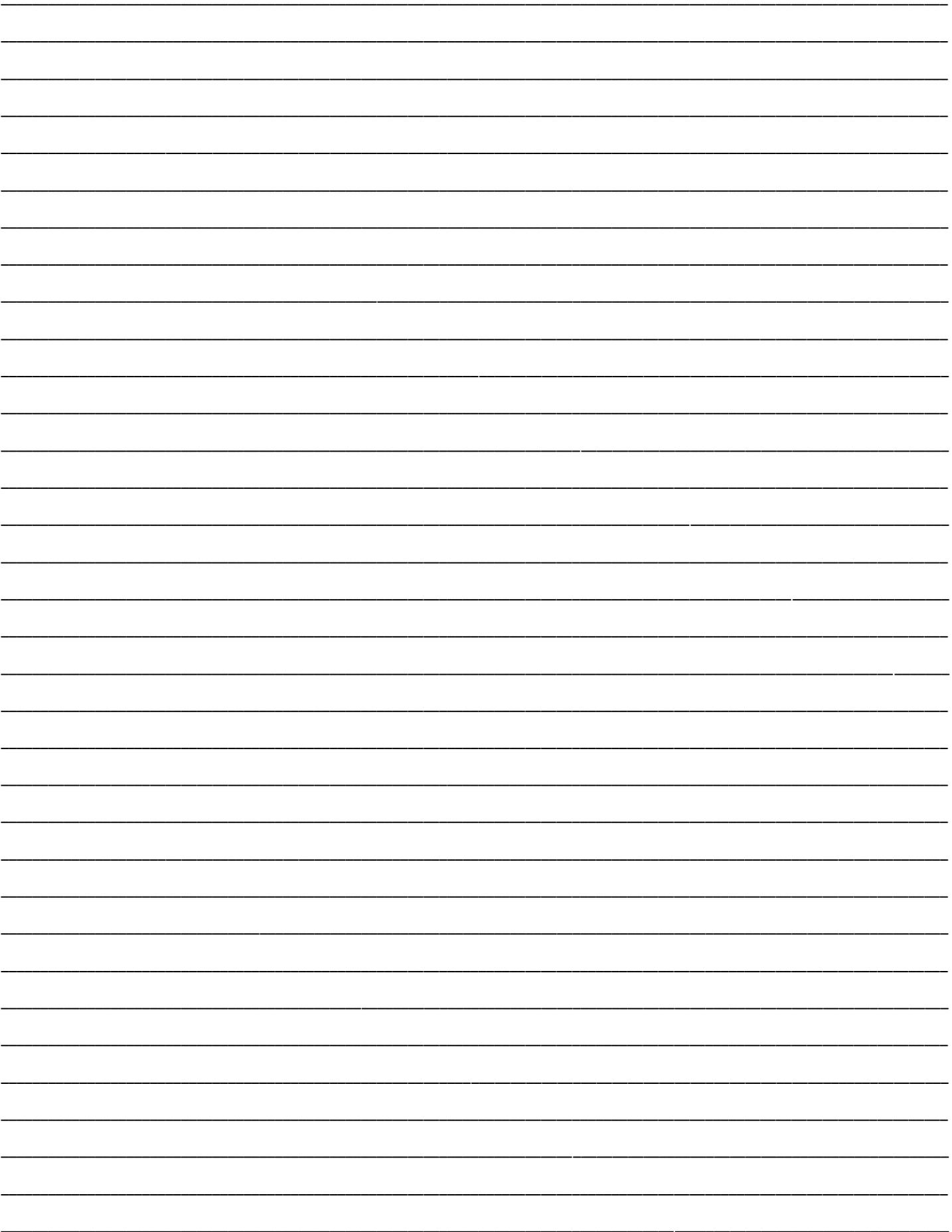
Task I: The Country

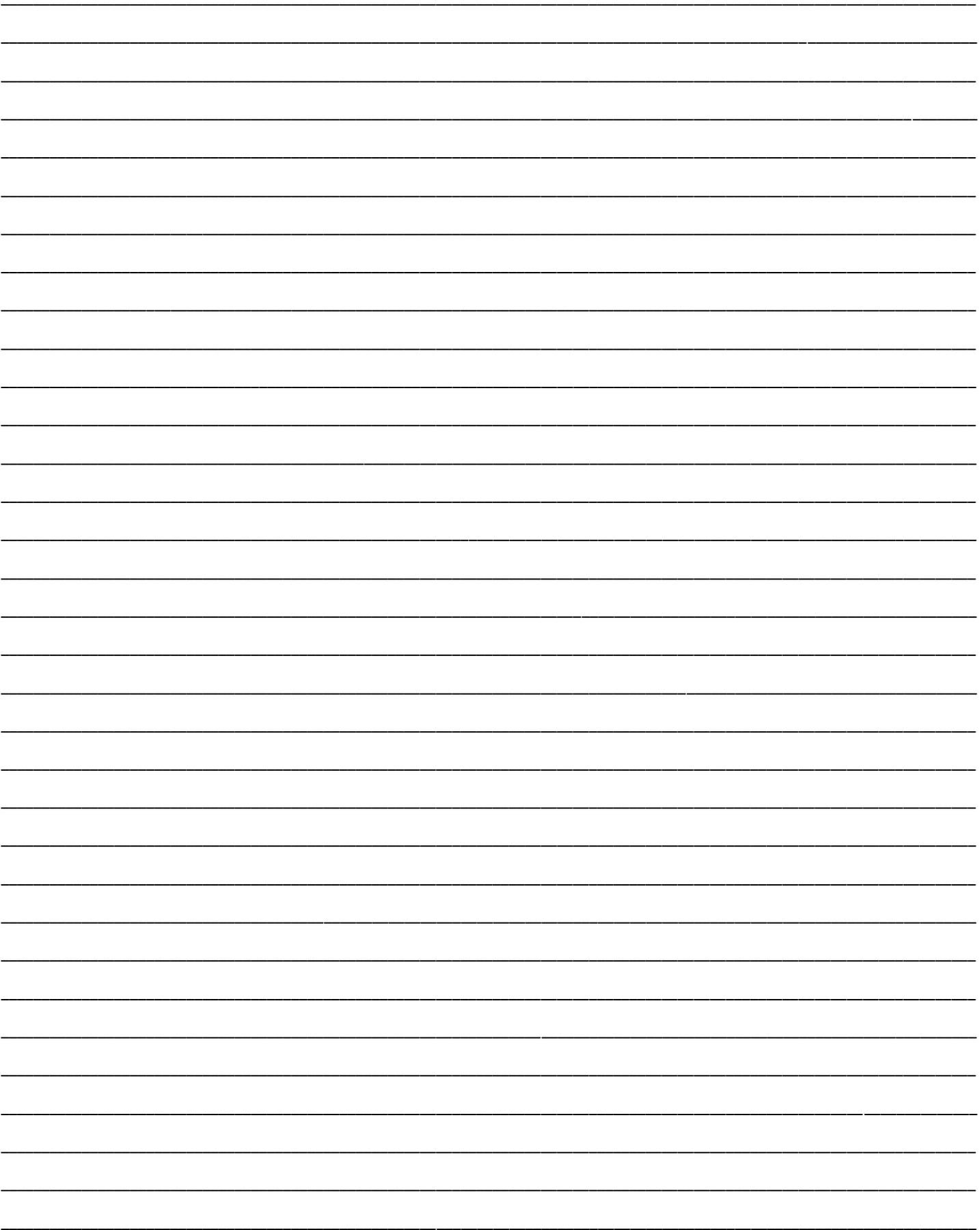
Name: _____

Questionnaire Page

Directions: Complete eight questions **in detail** about your country. The questions **MUST** be answered in correct full sentence format, beginning capitalization and ending punctuation are a must, we are eighth graders after all!!! **ALL EIGHT QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED.** It may take multiple sentences to answer each question, they need to be detailed. The questions must be answered on the question page provided to you! Hint: THIS IS THE QUESTION PAGE. Use the lined paper that follow the questions to answer them. Make sure you number your questions. If you run out of space you may ask for additional paper.

1. What is the name of your country?
2. Where is your country located? Be specific
3. Describe the physical geography of your country: Does it have mountains?, Is it an island?, Is it landlocked?, Does it have multiple regions? Etc.
4. Describe the climate and vegetation of your country: What kind of weather does your country normally get?, Is it cold and snowy?, Is it dry and hot?, Is it wet and humid?, Is it a tropical region?, Is it a desert?, Does it have rain forests?. Remember to take your countries physical geography (aka where it's located on the planet) into account when discussing its climate.
5. Describe the population of your country: Where do people live?, why do they live there?, Does your country have a huge population or a very small one?, Is your countries population growing? Why or why not?, Do people in your country migrate a lot or do they stay put?
6. Describe your countries cultural traits: What kind of work do they do?, What are their beliefs?, Do they have any interesting ways of doing things?, What kinds of food do they eat?, What is the language of your country?, Do they have multiple languages?, Are there any challenges to your country's culture or cultures?
7. Describe the religion of your country's people: Are they Christians?, Are they Buddhists?, Are they polytheistic (believing in man gods), Do they worship trees? You may be very creative with this question.
8. What kind of political system does your country have?, Is it a monarchy with a king and queen?, Is it a dictatorship with an all-powerful ruler?, Is your country governed by one big central government or is it run by many smaller governments at local levels?





Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

“BUILD YOUR OWN COUNTRY” PROJECT

Rubric

Task I: The Country

	Possible Points	Points Earned
All eight questions answered in detail:	8	
Full sentences used – beginning capitalization & ending punctuation:	8	
Questions answered on correct paper:	1	
Spelling and grammar:	8	

Task II: The Map

	Possible Points	Points Earned
Map is on a 8 x 12 white piece of computer paper:	1	
Map includes – a key, a compass rose, your nation’s capital, 5 other cities, and <i>at least</i> two of the following - mountain, river, ocean, rainforest, desert, etc.:	20	
Map is creative, colorful, neat, and legible:	4	

Task III: The Flag

	Possible Points	Points Earned
Flag is on a 8 x 12 white piece of computer paper:		
Flag includes at least one color:		
Flag includes at least one symbol:		
Flag is creative, colorful, and neat:		
A detailed explanation of the flag is included on the back in PENCIL:		

Task IV: Choice Topics

	Possible Points	Points Earned
All requirements of the option are completed: Ex: 25 questions made, 10 vocab words in native language, four occupations, etc.:	20	
Work is neat, organized, creative, detailed, and legible:	5	