

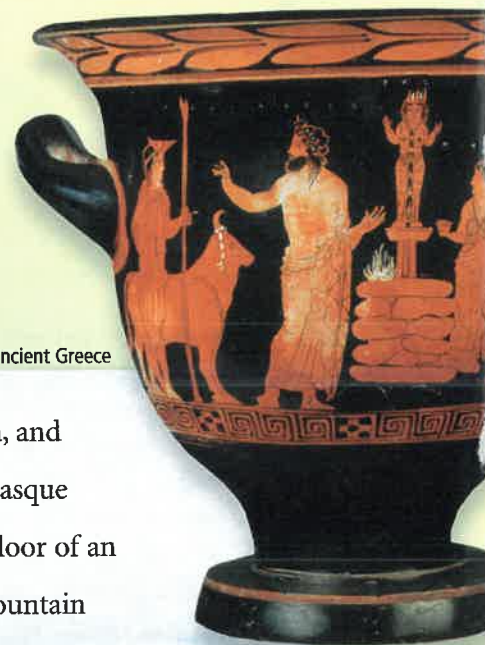
Southern Europe and the Balkans



Gondolier in Venice, Italy

Southern Europe is made up of three large peninsulas. Most of the countries there share a similar physical geography. However, the cultures of the region's countries are very different.

Red-figure pelike (wine container) from ancient Greece



Aupa! (Basque for “What’s up?”) My name is Nagore Perez España, and I am 17 years old. I live in Bilbao, which is the biggest city in the Basque Country in northern Spain. My parents and I live on the seventh floor of an apartment block that is 14 stories tall. Our balcony overlooks a mountain and a road. Our apartment block is near other apartment blocks just like ours, and there is a big square in between them. We have always played there since we were kids.

I attend the Elorrieta Institute, the local public high school, which is about a 15-minute walk from my apartment. I am in the equivalent of your senior year of high school. I have not decided what to do for a career, but I’m thinking of doing something related to the tourism industry. In Spain there are good possibilities of finding jobs in tourism.

I go skiing with my parents about five times a year and sometimes with my friends as well. In the summer, or when the weather is good, we go climbing mountains and also to the beach. On Saturdays I sometimes eat lunch out with my parents. We prefer the local dishes rather than hamburgers, pizzas, or hot dogs. Other people eat those things for an occasional change of pace. On Sundays I always eat lunch with my parents at my grandmother’s. She cooks such good food!



Section
1

The Iberian Peninsula

READ TO DISCOVER

1. How have past events affected Spain?
2. How is Portugal both similar to and different from Spain?

Reading Strategy

TAKING NOTES Taking notes while you read will help you understand and remember the information in this section. Your notes will be useful for reviewing the material. Before you read, create 2 columns on a sheet of paper by drawing a line down the center of the page. Label the columns Spain and Portugal. As you read the section, write down the information you learn. Include key terms and their definitions.

HOLT

Geography's Impact Video Series

Watch the video to understand the impact of ethnic conflict in Sarajevo.

DEFINE

autonomy
cork

LOCATE

Madrid
Balearic Islands
Strait of Gibraltar
Barcelona
Bay of Biscay
Lisbon
Porto



Southern Europe and the Balkans: Physical-Political





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FOR: Web sites about southern Europe and the Balkans

Spain

Spain and Portugal share the Iberian Peninsula, or Iberia. Spain, southern Europe's largest country in area, covers about 85 percent of Iberia. Much of Spain is surrounded by water. At one time, this feature helped make Spain a great seafaring country.

History and Government The early history of Spain is similar to that of most of the Mediterranean region. Various Mediterranean peoples, including the Romans, have ruled the area. In the A.D. 700s an Arabic people called the Moors invaded Iberia from North Africa. The Moors brought the Islamic religion, new irrigation techniques, and new crops to Iberia. They also built universities and brought many crafts and trades. However, Christian rulers eventually forced the Moors out of Spain. In 1492 the Moors surrendered their last stronghold there—Granada in southern Spain.

During the 1500s Spain used its strong navy to build a worldwide empire. At its peak, the Spanish Empire included most of Central and South America. Spain also ruled what is now the southwestern United States. In addition, the empire included small colonies in Africa and islands in the Caribbean and Pacific. However, Spain had lost almost all its overseas empire by the end of the 1800s. During the 1800s the country was also shaken by wars. Spaniards who wanted a monarchy fought those who wanted a more democratic government. The struggle for power continued in the 1900s and led to a terrible civil war in 1936. The democratic forces lost the war. A dictator, Francisco Franco, then ruled Spain from 1939 to 1975. After Franco's death Spain quickly made a transition to a democratic system of government.

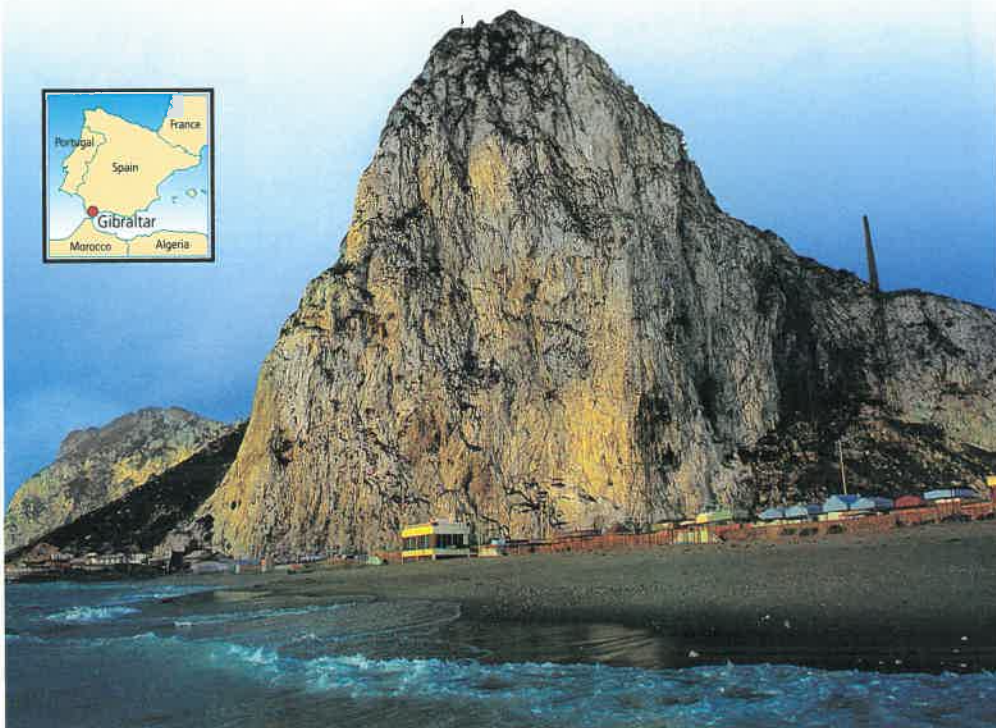
Although Spain's global empire is gone, the country retains control over the Canary Islands in the Atlantic and the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean. Two small ports in North Africa are also part of Spain. Spain has spread its language and religion around the world. More than 400 million people speak Spanish. Many live in Mexico, Central America, and South America.

Today Spain is a constitutional monarchy with a king and elected legislature. Spain has a number of regions that are culturally or historically distinct.



Some 14,000 years ago, people painted bison, a deer, and horses on a cave ceiling near what is now Altamira, Spain. Today the paintings are treasured as some of the world's greatest artworks.

The Rock of Gibraltar towers over the Mediterranean Sea near the southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula. Captured by British forces from Spain in the early 1700s, Gibraltar is now a British colony and important naval base. It is strategically located near the entrance to the Mediterranean from the Atlantic Ocean.





INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Thousands of festivals take place across Spain each year and are important events in local towns and communities. Many festivals in Barcelona feature gegants, or "giants." These large figures are actually men on stilts underneath elaborate costumes. The gegants often represent biblical or historical figures. Why might festivals like this one be important to a culture's identity?

In the past, some of these regions were independent kingdoms. After Franco's death in 1975, some wished to be independent again. To prevent this, Spain's central government gave the country's 17 regions different levels of **autonomy**, or self-government. These regional governments make decisions about health and social programs, urban planning, education, and other local issues. The central government still controls policies for the whole country, such as foreign relations and national defense.

✓ **READING CHECK:** *Human Systems* How did Spain spread the Spanish language and Roman Catholicism around the world?

People and Culture Nearly all people in Spain today are Roman Catholic. About 75 percent speak Castilian Spanish. Castilian is a dialect from the Castile region around Madrid, the country's capital. Spain's other languages include Basque and Catalan, which are both spoken in regions near the Pyrenees.

Spain's villages and cities have many open spaces for people to meet. The plaza is a common feature in Spanish towns. A plaza is a square surrounded by public buildings, such as a church, a marketplace, and government offices. These squares serve as social gathering places, particularly on warm evenings and weekends. Plazas are also found throughout Central and South America and much of southern Europe.

Moorish influences can still be seen in Spain. For example, Arabic architectural styles are common in many towns, particularly in southern Spain. These styles include horseshoe-shaped arches and geometric decorations. Many natural features and settlements with Moorish place-names still dot the Spanish landscape. (See Geography for Life: Arabic Place-Names in Iberia.)



INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD *In mostly Roman Catholic Spain the church has long played an important role in the educational system. For example, many students attend Catholic schools. However, in recent decades the government has increased its control over Spain's private religious schools. How does this classroom compare to yours? Do you think parochial schools are as common in your community?*

Major Exports of Spain and Portugal

Spain	Portugal
machinery, motor vehicles, foodstuffs, other consumer goods	clothing and footwear, machinery, chemicals, cork and paper products, hides

Source: Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook 2003*

INTERPRETING THE CHART *Spain's most important exports are motor vehicles and a wide range of foodstuffs, such as fresh fruits, olive oil, vegetables, and nuts. Portugal's leading exports include clothing, footwear, and cork. What does the information in this chart suggest about the level of development in Spain and Portugal?*

Economy Spain manufactures a variety of products. These goods include textiles and clothing, footwear, ships, and automobiles. The country is also a member of the European Union (EU). Tourism is an important part of Spain's economy. Warm sunny weather and beautiful scenery attract tourists to areas like the Costa del Sol in southern Spain. Many people also visit the Pyrenees and the Balearic (ba-lee-AR-ik) Islands in the Mediterranean Sea. Famous historical and cultural sites are found throughout the country. Although tourism is a major source of income, it has also caused problems. For example, tourism has brought more traffic, pollution, and overbuilding to scenic areas.

Agriculture also plays a major role in Spain's economy. The country is a leading producer of olive oil and wine. Farmers also grow many crops that the Moors brought to the region, such as citrus fruits. The area around Valencia is particularly famous for producing oranges. Other crops, such as corn, potatoes, and tomatoes, were first imported from Spain's American colonies. Spain shipped these crops to many places in its empire. Now crops that were originally American are common in Europe and other parts of the world.

Issues and Challenges Spain's economy has been growing rapidly over the last several decades. This growth further improved when the country joined the EC in 1986. Continued economic development is one of Spain's goals. However, the country still has one of Western Europe's highest unemployment rates.

Immigration has also become an issue. Morocco lies across the Strait of Gibraltar just about 8 miles (13 km) from Spain. Many North Africans cross the strait to find work in Spain and other European countries. They usually move to the big cities, such as Barcelona, Spain's main port. However, many of these immigrants do not find jobs.

Spain also faces political challenges. As you read earlier, Spain's regions have a certain amount of autonomy. Several of those regions used to have active independence movements. However, since the regions received more autonomy, some of those movements have quieted. However, the Basques still work to make their region a separate country. Catalonia borders France and the Mediterranean Sea. The Basque Country lies along the Bay of Biscay and the Pyrenees in northern Spain. The Basques have ancient origins. Their ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Europe. The ancient Basque language seems to be unrelated to any other European language. Some Basques have turned to violence in an effort to win independence from Spain. One group, known as ETA, has killed many government officials and others. Non-Basques in the region, as well as many Basques, oppose ETA and their violent struggle for Basque independence.

 **READING CHECK: Human Systems** How has Spain addressed the desire for independence in some of its regions?

Portugal

Portugal lies in the western part of Iberia and faces the Atlantic. Both Portugal and Spain have many cultural similarities.

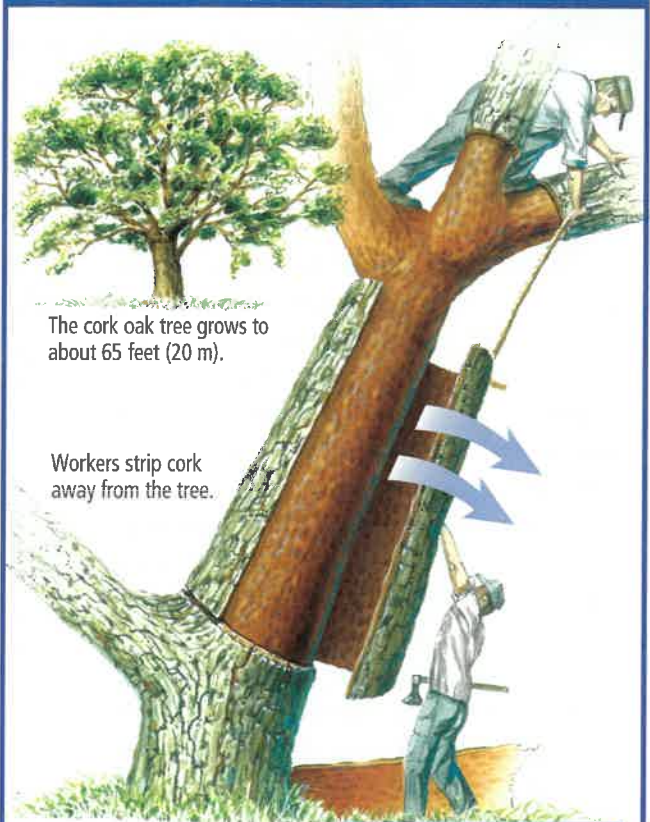
History and Culture Much of Portugal's history closely mirrors Spain's. Portugal, too, was under the control of Rome and then the Moors. Like Spanish, the Portuguese language developed from Latin, the language of the Romans. Portuguese also contains many words from Arabic. These words became part of the language when Moors ruled the region. After the Moors were driven from Iberia, the Portuguese built a powerful colonial empire. That empire included parts of Africa, Asia, and South America. Portugal's former colonies include Angola, Brazil, Mozambique, and part of Timor, an island in Southeast Asia. The Atlantic islands of Madeira and the Azores are all that remain of the old empire.

Economy Like Spain, after losing its empire Portugal entered a period of economic decline and limited personal freedoms. Now Portugal's government is democratic, and its economy, helped by membership in the EU, is growing. The country's new freeways, car factories, and high-speed trains reflect this growth. However, even the moderate increase in prosperity has drawn immigrants to Portugal, particularly from North Africa. They crowd into Portugal's cities, which include Lisbon and Porto. Lisbon is the country's largest city and capital. Porto, the second-largest city, is a major seaport in the north.

As in Spain, tourism is important to Portugal. The country is also the world's leading **cork** producer. Cork is a bark that is stripped from the trunks of cork oaks. These trees grow in southern Europe and North Africa. Some types of insulation and flooring are made from cork. However, most cork is used to seal wine and other bottles. Portugal, along with other Mediterranean countries, is a major producer and exporter of wine.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Human Systems** How are the histories of Spain and Portugal similar?

The Cork Industry



The cork oak tree grows to about 65 feet (20 m).

Workers strip cork away from the tree.

Bark is removed from the tree but will grow back over the years.



Cork products

Much of Portugal is covered with cork oak trees, which provide the basis for the country's cork industry. Some trees can provide cork for more than 100 years.



Section 1 Review

Define

autonomy, cork

Working with Sketch Maps

On a map of southern Europe and the Balkans that you draw or that your teacher provides, label Spain, Portugal, Madrid, Balearic Islands, Strait of Gibraltar, Barcelona, Bay of Biscay, Lisbon, and Porto. Use the description in the text to shade in the Basque Country.

Reading for the Main Idea

- Places and Regions** How did Roman and Moorish rule in Spain and Portugal influence the countries' modern cultural landscapes?
- Places and Regions** How has Spain influenced the diffusion of foods between the Americas and Europe?
- Human Systems** How is immigration affecting urbanization in Spain and Portugal?

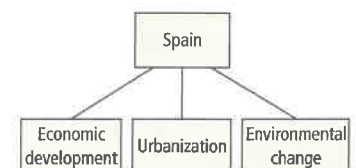
Critical Thinking

- Analyzing Information** Why has crossing the Strait of Gibraltar been an important migration route?

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Organizing What You Know

- Copy the chart below. Use it to show how economic development, urbanization, and environmental change are shaping Spain.



Geography for Life

Arabic Place-Names in Iberia

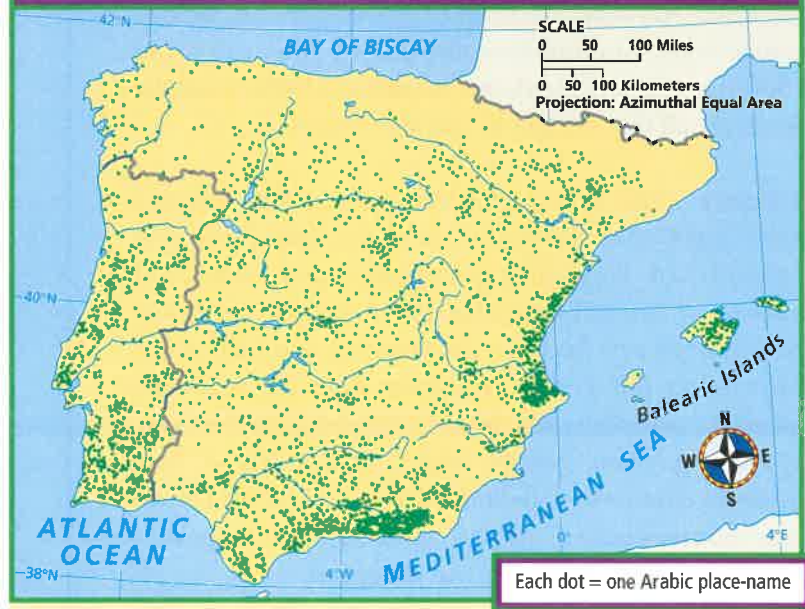
Settlements and the patterns they form on Earth's surface can provide a historical record to modern researchers. One of the patterns that tells a story is the arrangement of place-names, also known as toponyms. Place-names can provide clues about certain ethnic groups that live in a region or about invasions that have happened there. They may also indicate other information, such as the physical conditions at the time the name was first used.

Many place-names consist of two parts—generic and specific. The generic part refers to features found in many places, like mountains, rivers, or valleys. The specific part refers to something unique to a certain place. For example, consider Battle Creek, a city in Michigan. *Battle* refers to a specific event that happened in 1824. *Creek* is the generic term and refers to a common physical feature.

The study of place-names can also help us learn about places where different groups of people lived before recorded history. For example, some European place-names date back hundreds or even thousands of years. In many places, few written records remain from these eras.

The Iberian Peninsula provides a good illustration of how place-names can be studied to learn about the past. Moors from North Africa invaded the region in the A.D. 700s and ruled for about seven centuries. They brought the Arabic language with them to Spain and Portugal. Although the Moors were eventually driven out by speakers of Romance languages, their language survives in many Iberian place-names. An example is the prefix *guada-*, which derives from the Arabic word *wadi*, meaning "river" or "stream." The prefix *guada-* appears in the names of some major Iberian rivers. *Guadalquivir*, from the Arab name *Wadi al-Kabir*, means "the great river" because *al-Kabir* means "the most great." Similarly, *Guadalimar* comes from *Wadi al-Ahmar* and indicates a red river. Note that these terms also

Arabic Place-Names in Iberia



INTERPRETING THE MAP Arabic place-names are found throughout Iberia but are most common in coastal areas of southern and eastern Spain and southern Portugal. **What might be some reasons that Arabic place-names are most densely concentrated in these areas?**

contain generic (*guada-*) and specific (*-quivir*, *-imar*) parts. Other Arabic place-names in Iberia include *Madrid*, which comes from the Arabic name *Medshrid* and relates to the abundant wood supply in the region that the Moors used for building.

The many Arabic names in Spain and Portugal indicate the Moors' cultural imprint on the region. In what other ways do you think the Moors influenced Spanish and Portuguese cultures?

Applying What You Know

- 1. Summarizing** How do place-names help geographers learn about the past?
- 2. Analyzing Maps** Examine the map. What might the map indicate about the direction from which the Moors invaded? What does it tell you about the extent of their empire?

Section 2

The Italian Peninsula

READ TO DISCOVER

1. How has Italy's history affected its culture?
2. What is Italy like today?

Reading Strategy

READING ORGANIZER Before you read, create a spider map. Label the map the Italian Peninsula. Create a leg for each of the main ideas in the section. As you read the section, fill in the map with details supporting each main idea. Include key terms and their definitions.

IDENTIFY

Renaissance

DEFINE

microstates

LOCATE

Sicily

Sardinia

Alps

Rome

Locate, continued

Florence

Genoa

Venice

Milan

Turin

Po River

Bologna

Trieste

Naples

History and Culture

Italy occupies the boot-shaped peninsula that stretches southward from the middle of Europe into the Mediterranean Sea. Italy also includes two large islands, Sicily and Sardinia. To the north, Italy is separated from the rest of Europe by the Alps. Despite this barrier, Italy has influenced European culture for more than 2,000 years. Italians have created some of the world's most beloved architecture, literature, music, painting, and sculpture.

History The Etruscans created one of the earliest civilizations to occupy the Italian Peninsula. Later, the Romans set up a republic in central Italy about 500 B.C. Over time the Romans built a huge empire. This empire stretched across much of Europe, North Africa, and Southwest Asia. The city of Rome lay



In A.D. 79 Mount Vesuvius near present-day Naples erupted and completely buried three Roman towns in volcanic ash. In Pompeii, the largest of the towns, archaeologists have found the remains of more than 2,000 victims.



INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

The Colosseum in Rome is just one example of the many engineering marvels built by the Romans. Officially dedicated in A.D. 80, the Colosseum was used to stage battles between soldiers, slaves, and wild animals and could hold some 50,000 spectators. How do you think the Colosseum influenced the architecture of modern sporting arenas today?

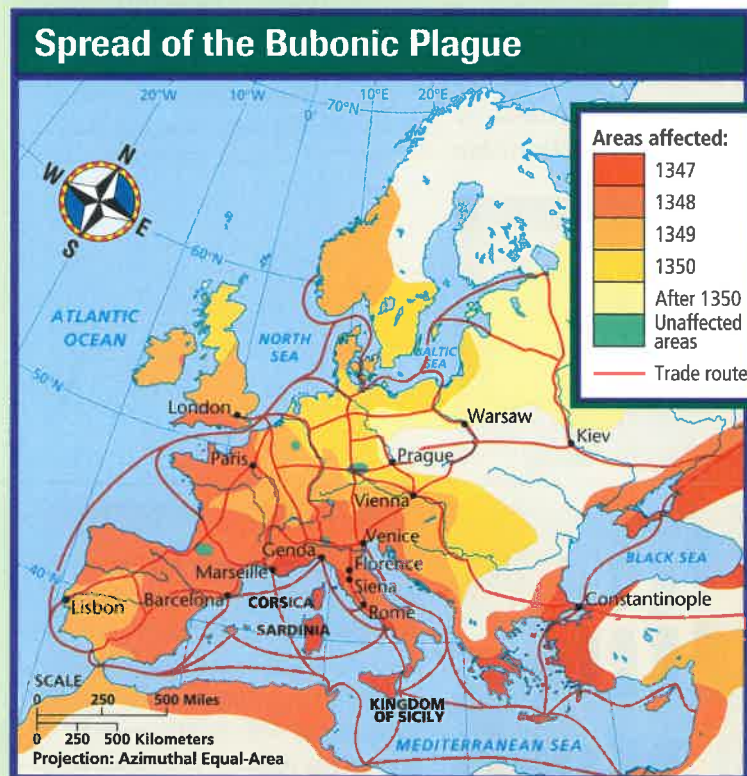
The Plague

A terrible plague, which Europeans came to call the Black Death, swept across Europe in the mid-1300s. Trading ships brought it from Asia to Italian and other southern European ports in 1347. Infected fleas living on rats spread one form, bubonic plague. A second form, pneumonic plague, could also be spread by infected people. Together the two forms spread across almost all of Europe. (See the map.)

A few areas were spared, but the plague killed as many as 30 million people. That total would have been about a third of Europe's population. The many deaths disrupted people's ways of life. Workers, in short supply as so many died, demanded higher wages. Tensions between upper and lower classes increased. In addition, the power and influence of the Roman Catholic Church declined. Some people—terrified by the spreading death—turned to other beliefs and practices for comfort and protection.

Drawing Inferences and Conclusions How might modern technologies allow disease to spread even more rapidly today?

INTERPRETING THE MAP How did trade routes influence the diffusion of the plague? What effects did the plague have on the regions into which it spread?



at its center. It was one of the first cities to have more than 1 million people. Roman culture, including language, laws, architecture, and urban lifestyles, diffused throughout the empire. The Romans also helped spread Christianity throughout Europe. The Western Roman Empire collapsed in the A.D. 400s. Italy remained a mix of separate states and cities for long afterward.

The influences of Roman law, literature, and language can still be seen in many European countries. For example, all the Romance languages—including Catalan, French, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, and Spanish—are derived from Rome's Latin language. Rome is also the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. The seat of the church is at Vatican City, an independent country in the heart of Rome.

During the Middle Ages many Italian cities grew rich from trade. These great cities included Florence, Genoa, and Venice. During this time, northern Italy was one of the wealthiest and most culturally advanced regions in Europe. Trade not only brought wealth to Italy but also new ideas. Almost 1,000 years after the fall of the Roman Empire, Italy became the center of the **Renaissance** [re-nuh-SAHNS]. *Renaissance* is a French word meaning “rebirth.” It describes the renewed interest in learning that spread throughout Europe from the 1300s to the 1500s. This time was particularly important

for the development of architecture, painting, and sculpture. Some of the world's most famous artists, such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael, worked during this time. Today millions of people visit Florence, Rome, and Venice to see the great art and architecture of the Renaissance.

Italy did not become a united country until 1861. It fought on the side of the Allies in World War I. In the early 1920s a dictator named Benito Mussolini took control of Italy's government. He formed an alliance with Germany, and the two countries were allies during World War II. However, Mussolini was finally overthrown in 1943, and Italy was later controlled by Allied forces. Since World War II, Italy's economy and industries have grown tremendously. Today the country is a member of NATO and the EU.

✓ **READING CHECK: Human Systems** What role did Italy play in the Renaissance, and how does this affect its economy today?



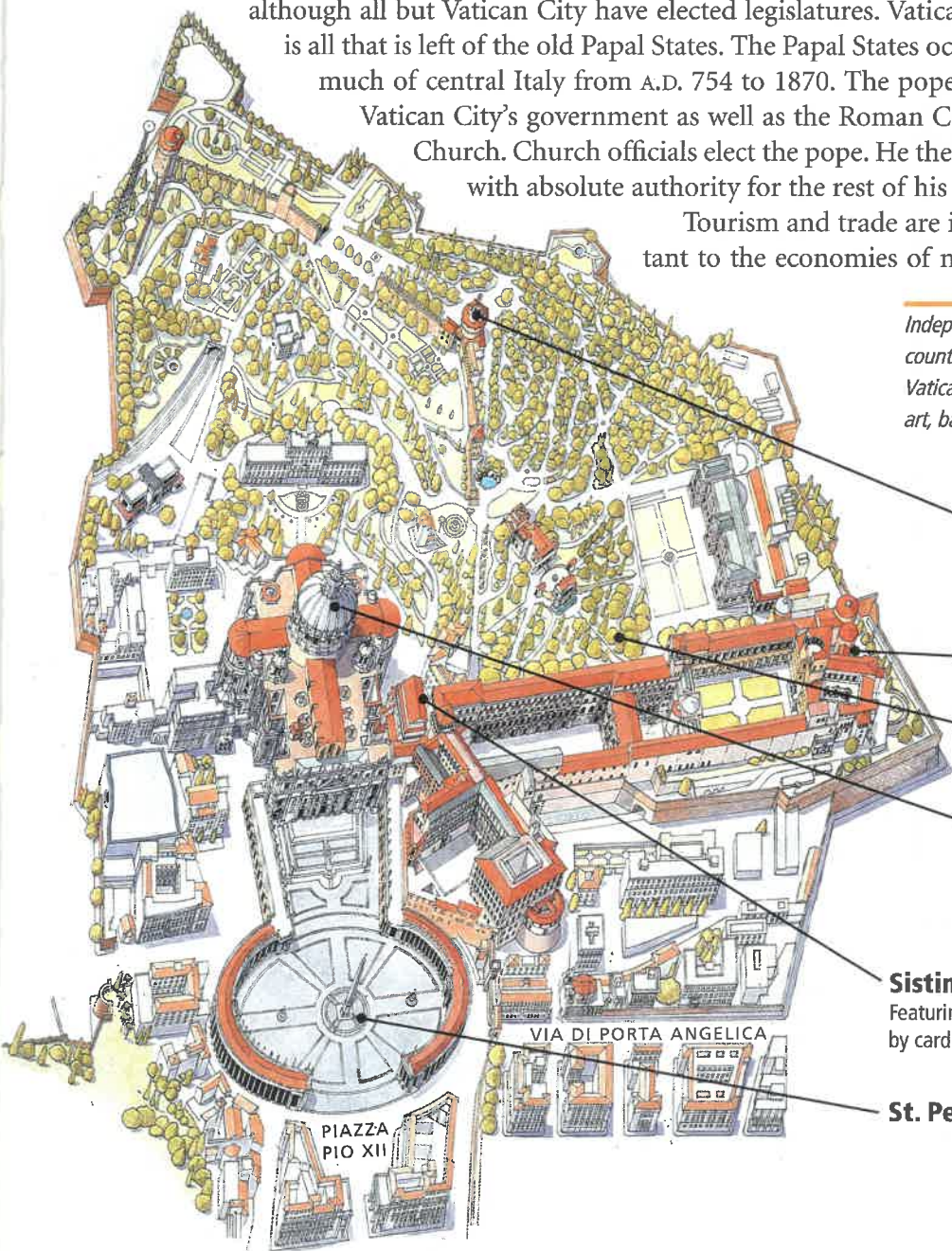
Europe's Microstates On a mountain slope in west-central Italy may be Europe's oldest country. The people of San Marino trace their country's history back to the A.D. 300s. At that time a small group of Christians came to the area. There they found a safe place to live and practice their religion. Mountains and wise choices of allies have isolated and protected the country since then.

Today San Marino is surrounded by Italy. It is one of the world's smallest countries—just 24 square miles (61 sq km) in area. In Europe just Monaco in southern France and Vatican City in Rome are smaller. These countries are so small that we call them **microstates**. A number of other tiny countries are also found in Europe. Andorra lies in the Pyrenees between Spain and France. Liechtenstein (LIKT-uhn-shtyn) is located in the Alps between Austria and Switzerland. Malta is a small island country between Italy and Africa.

These countries have survived for a variety of reasons, such as physical isolation and international treaties. They have different kinds of governments, although all but Vatican City have elected legislatures. Vatican City is all that is left of the old Papal States. The Papal States occupied much of central Italy from A.D. 754 to 1870. The pope heads Vatican City's government as well as the Roman Catholic Church. Church officials elect the pope. He then rules with absolute authority for the rest of his life.

Tourism and trade are important to the economies of most of

Independent since 1929, Vatican City is the world's smallest country at just 109 acres (44 ha). About 870 people live in Vatican City, home to extensive museums, famous works of art, banks, a post office, and a radio station.



Vatican Radio

Vatican Radio broadcasts the pope's messages in more than 40 languages to countries around the world.

Vatican Museums

Vatican Gardens

St. Peter's Basilica

One of the largest churches in the world, St. Peter's is also one of Catholicism's most sacred shrines, drawing pilgrims and tourists from around the world.

Sistine Chapel

Featuring paintings by Michelangelo, the Sistine Chapel is used by cardinals when they meet to select a new pope.

St. Peter's Square

the microstates. Low taxes have attracted foreign citizens and businesses. Malta is Europe's only island microstate. It has limited freshwater and other natural resources. However, many tourists visit the country, which has some of the oldest stone temples in the world.

✓ **READING CHECK:** *Human Systems* How have Europe's microstates managed to survive until modern times?

People and Culture Most people in Italy are Roman Catholic and speak Italian. Some people in the northern part of the country also speak French, German, or Slovene.

Much of modern Italian culture was first developed during the Renaissance. Italian food may be the most famous part of this culture. Delicious sauces, pastas, sausages, and pastries can be found cooking in almost every Italian home. Many of those foods come from recipes first used by Italian chefs in the 1400s. More modern Italian foods, such as pizza, have also become popular around the world.

Italian daily life is similar to that in other Mediterranean countries. The main meal is in the middle of the day. Afterwards some people rest a while before returning to work. Italians often spend evenings with their friends and family, eating and discussing the latest news.

Central Italy is the country's political and cultural center. There you will find Rome, Italy's capital and largest city. The city has spread out along the banks of the Tiber River. Ruins of ancient Roman buildings still stand there. Among the most famous are the Colosseum and the Forum.

The endurance of Rome's historical buildings stands in contrast to the endurance of its many governments. In fact, Italy has had more than 50 governments since the end of World War II. Some have lasted just a few months. They have been so unstable partly because many political parties are represented in the country's parliament. Since none has a majority, parties must join to form what are called coalition governments. These temporary alliances usually do not last long. Still, Italy has a strong democracy, and its people have many freedoms. These advantages have helped the country make great economic progress in the last half century.

✓ **READING CHECK:** *Human Systems* Why has Italy had many different governments since World War II?

Italy Today

Italy is a modern developed country. Its GDP is similar to that of France and Great Britain. Italy produces agricultural and manufactured products that are sold around the world. The most famous of these products are probably Italian automobiles, designer clothes, and fine food.



North and South Italy has two main economic regions. The north is rich and industrial. The south is poorer and more agricultural. The south is known as the Mezzogiorno (MET-soh-gee-OR-noh), which means “midday” and refers to the area’s bright sunshine. The dividing line between the two regions lies just south of Rome.

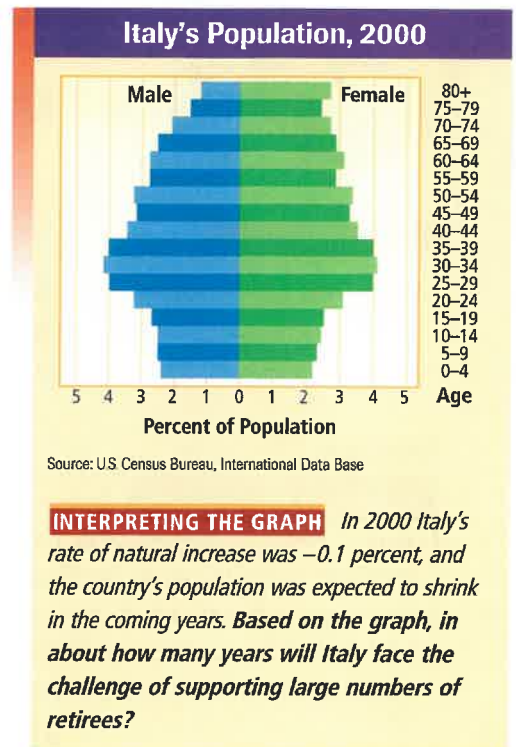
In the north are the large industrial cities of Milan, Genoa, and Turin and the rich farmlands of the Po River valley. Fertile soils make the Po Valley the “breadbasket” of Italy. To the east and south of the valley are other rapidly developing cities. These cities include Bologna (boh-LOH-nyah), Florence, Trieste (tree-ES-tay), and Venice.

Southern Italy, Sicily, and Sardinia are drier and poorer. They have high poverty and unemployment rates. The south produces farm products such as olives, citrus fruits, and grapes. However, it lags far behind the north in developing a modern economy. Soil erosion and deforestation have long troubled the area. The Italian government and the EU give aid to this region. Still, the economy there has not advanced significantly. Naples is southern Italy’s largest city.

Issues and Challenges Developing southern Italy’s economy remains a challenge. Another issue is the country’s aging population. Italy has one of the lowest birthrates in the world. As a result, Italy’s population is becoming older. This means that there are fewer young workers to replace older workers as they retire. Most of Italy’s population growth is from immigration.

Pollution threatens not only Italy’s future but also its past. Heavy traffic, smog, and wear and tear have damaged many historical monuments. Neglect has also taken its toll on some of Italy’s cultural sites. The government has recognized the problem and is taking steps to protect and preserve important monuments. For example, Rome now limits the number of trucks that are allowed to drive through its historic center.

READING CHECK: *Places and Regions* What are three important challenges facing Italy?



Section 2 Review

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Identify
Renaissance

Define
microstates

Working with Sketch Maps On the map that you created in Section 1, label Italy, Sicily, Sardinia, Alps, Rome, Florence, Genoa, Venice, Milan, Turin, Po River, Bologna, Trieste, and Naples. Where is the seat of the Roman Catholic Church?

Reading for the Main Idea

- Human Systems** What great empire once ruled the Mediterranean from Italy? How is its influence seen in European culture today?
- Environment and Society** What importance does the Po River valley have to Italy?

Critical Thinking

- Comparing** How are northern Italy and southern Italy different economically?
- Identifying Cause and Effect** How might trade among Italian cities during the Middle Ages have spurred the Renaissance?

Organizing What You Know

- Create a time line like the one shown below. On your time line, list important years, periods, and events in the history of Italy.



Section 3

Greece and the Balkan Peninsula

READ TO DISCOVER

1. How did Greece develop into a modern country?
2. Why are the western Balkans politically unstable?
3. What changes are occurring in the eastern Balkans?

Reading Strategy

READING ORGANIZER Before you read, create a Venn diagram of three overlapping ovals. As you read, write details about Greece in one of the ovals, details about the western Balkans in the second oval, and details about the eastern Balkans in the third oval. In the overlapping parts write characteristics the countries share. Include key terms and their definitions.

DEFINE

city-states
enclave

LOCATE

Crete	Belgrade
Mount Olympus	Sarajevo
Athens	Bucharest
Kosovo	

Greece

At the southern tip of the Balkan Peninsula lies Greece. The country is made up of many peninsulas, islands, and rugged mountains. The largest Greek island is Crete. The highest peak in Greece is Mount Olympus. It has an elevation of 9,570 feet (2,917 m).

History Greece was the site of one of Europe's earliest and most advanced civilizations. Civilization there can be traced back more than 2,500 years. Long ago many Greeks lived in a number of powerful **city-states**. A city-state is a self-governing city and its surrounding area. Each city was independent from the others. The people of those cities made great contributions to the arts, government, philosophy, science, and sports. Those contributions have influenced much of Europe and other places. For example, the ancient Greeks developed early systems of democratic government.

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

The Parthenon in Athens is one of the finest examples of Greek architecture. Built in the 400s B.C. as a temple to the Greek goddess Athena, the building was later used as a Christian church and as a mosque. What features of the Parthenon's architecture do you think might have influenced the design of important buildings in this century?



Over time, Greece fell under the control of outside invaders. The Persians invaded Greece but were defeated. Later, Romans and Ottoman Turks dominated Greece. It was not until 1829 that Greece became an independent country. After World War II the country slipped into a bloody civil war. A series of elected governments followed, but military leaders took over the government in 1967. In 1974 the country returned to democratic government.

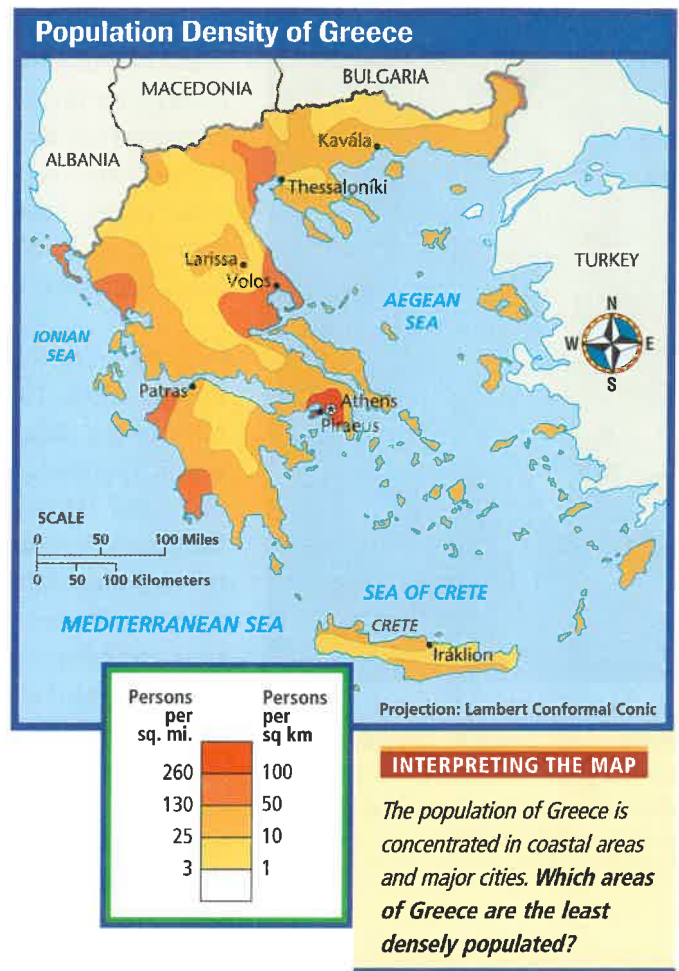
People and Culture Greece's long history of foreign rule influenced its culture. These influences are particularly evident in Greek cooking. Common foods include Turkish dishes such as baklava, a honey-based pastry. However, the Greeks kept their language. In addition, about 98 percent of the population is Greek Orthodox Christian.

Many social changes are taking place in Greece today. Once poor and agricultural, Greece is becoming an industrialized country. In fact, Greece's economy is becoming more like those of northern and central Europe. With an increase in wealth, education and opportunities for women have also increased. Unlike those of earlier generations, modern Greek women seek education and jobs outside the home. In fact, women hold important positions in the country's government, private industries, and universities.

Economy, Issues, and Challenges Greece has made much economic progress since joining the EC in 1981. However, the country remains relatively poor by European standards. Still, many illegal immigrants enter Greece to fill low-paying jobs. Most are from Albania.

Greece's lack of population growth is much like the situation in Italy and Spain. The country is also urbanizing rapidly. Today about 30 percent of Greeks live in the capital and largest city, Athens. That city's growth has created terrible smog, traffic, and pollution. This smog and other pollution threatens the health of Greeks as well as the ancient monuments that draw tourists. As a result, the government of Athens has passed regulations designed to ease pollution problems.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Human Systems** How has economic change in recent years affected women in Greece?



The Western Balkans

Albania and what was once Yugoslavia make up the mountainous western Balkans. Bosnia and Herzegovina (also called just Bosnia), Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia, and Serbia and Montenegro made up the former Yugoslavia. In 2006, Montenegro declared its independence from Serbia.



The Ottomans invaded the Balkan Peninsula beginning in the late 1300s and eventually controlled much of the region. This illustration shows the fall of Belgrade to Ottoman forces in 1521.

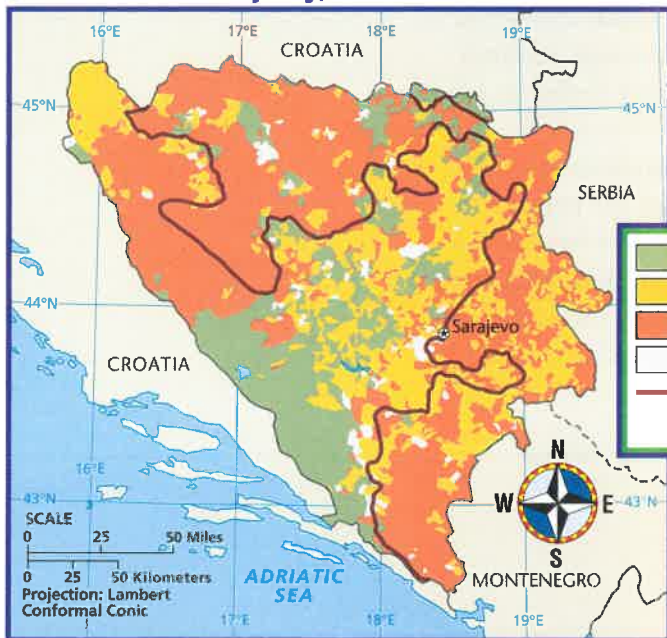
This area has one of the most diverse human populations in Europe. There one finds a complicated mix of languages and religions. Many ethnic enclaves have formed there. An enclave is a territorial or cultural unit, such as an ethnic group, that is surrounded by a different territory or culture. So, ethnic enclaves are areas where one group of people is surrounded by one or more other ethnic groups. For example, Bosnians and Albanians are Muslims surrounded by Eastern Orthodox Christian and Roman Catholic peoples. Those peoples include Serbs, Croats, and Macedonians.

History The Ottoman Turks, who were Muslim, invaded southern Europe in the late 1300s. They conquered most of the Balkan Peninsula. By World War I, most of the Balkans had won independence from the Ottomans. After World War I, Yugoslavia was formed to unite the various Slavic peoples who lived in the area. These peoples included the Bosnians, Croats, Macedonians, Montenegrins, Serbs, and Slovenes. A monarchy governed and held the country together. Albania, which had claimed independence in 1912, remained separate. However, many Albanian people had moved to neighboring countries, including the Kosovo region of Yugoslavia.

At the end of World War II, the Soviet Union occupied all of the Balkan countries but Greece. The occupied countries became communist. Yugoslavia's government was led by the dictator Tito. He kept the country united until his death in 1980. Ten years later communism crumbled in Yugoslavia and the rest of Eastern Europe. Yugoslavia then began to split apart. Slovenia and Croatia declared independence in 1991 and fighting soon broke out among Slovenes, Croats, and Serbs.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Areas of Ethnic Majority, 1991



Areas of Ethnic Control, 1995



INTERPRETING THE MAP Before the war in Bosnia the region's major ethnic groups were intermixed (left). After the war, however, the country's ethnic map had changed dramatically (right). In 1995 the Dayton Accord established a line between a Serbian-controlled area and

an area controlled by Croats and Muslims. How has conflict influenced the control of different regions in the country? How might these areas of control have influenced the creation of the Dayton Accord line?



The city of Mostar was heavily damaged during the war in Bosnia. Before the war, the city's population included many Croats, Muslims, and Serbs. However, today there are few Serbs in the city, and the Croat and Muslim populations are geographically and politically divided.

The fighting was brief in Slovenia, which borders Austria, Hungary, and Italy. However, fighting in Croatia slid into bloody civil war. Serbia sent weapons and supplies to the Serb rebels in Croatia. When Bosnia declared independence in 1992, civil war broke out there too. Bosnian Muslims, Serbs, and Croats all fought to control the country or parts of it.

Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia refused to accept separation from the rest of Yugoslavia. They did not want to live in countries controlled by people of other ethnic groups. The government in Serbia supported them. However, when the terrible fighting ended in late 1995, Croatia and Bosnia had won independence. Keeping the peace has not been easy.

In 1997 periodic fighting between ethnic Albanians and Serbs in Kosovo got much worse. Tensions between the mostly Muslim Albanians and Christian Orthodox Serbs stretch back centuries. The United States and its NATO allies intervened to stop the fighting in 1999. Kosovo's future is still uncertain.

During the war in Kosovo, many ethnic Albanians fled to Albania. These refugees were forced to leave for their own safety. The resulting population increase further strained the limited resources of Albania, Europe's poorest country. Today Albania continues to adjust from a long period of isolation under its old Communist government. That government lost power after elections in 1992.

People and Culture As you can see, culture in the western Balkans is a complex mix of religions, ethnic backgrounds, and political views. For example, the Serbs and Macedonians are Slavic. They practice an Orthodox Christian religion. The Croats are also Slavic, but most are Roman Catholic. Most Albanians are Muslim. All of these peoples wish to preserve their particular heritage.

Belgrade is the largest city in the region. It and Sarajevo (sar-uh-YAY-voh)—the once beautiful capital of Bosnia—have been heavily damaged by war. Many cities and towns across the region must be rebuilt. Also, many people who fled Croatia and Bosnia during the fighting want to return to their old homes. However, it is not clear whether this will be possible.

Economy, Issues, and Challenges Slovenia has rapidly built up trade with the EU. It has also attracted foreign businesses and tourists. Coal, oil, minerals, and an electronics industry support its growing economy. The country also promotes tourism, which it hopes to develop further. However, other countries in the area have had major problems. War, corruption, and a lack of modernized industries have left them with weak economies.

Continuing unrest makes this area's economic future uncertain. The United States and other NATO countries have peacekeeping troops there. Recent government changes in Serbia and Montenegro may also help. Many observers hope the new government will focus on solving economic problems and calming ethnic tensions.

✓ **READING CHECK:** **Human Systems** What characterizes the cultural geography of the western Balkans?

The Eastern Balkans

Bulgaria, Romania, and Moldova lie in the eastern Balkans. Those countries have not experienced the ethnic fighting seen in the western Balkans. Therefore, they are more politically stable than their neighbors. However, as in other formerly communist countries of Eastern Europe, economies are underdeveloped, and standards of living are lower than in other regions of Europe.

History and Culture The countries of the eastern Balkans have been controlled by the Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman Empires. The region gained independence from the weakened Ottoman Empire during the late 1800s and early 1900s. After World War II the area came under the control of the Soviet Union. Communist control ended in the early 1990s.

Bulgarians are a Slavic people and share some culture traits with other Slavs. Like Russians, for example, Bulgarians use the Cyrillic alphabet. Most people in Bulgaria follow the Bulgarian Orthodox religion. In Romania about 7 percent of the population is ethnic Hungarian, but the majority is ethnic Romanian. They speak a language derived from Latin. Most Romanians follow the Romanian Orthodox religion. Most of Moldova's people are closely related to Romanians and are Eastern Orthodox Christians.

Many people in Romania live in rural areas and suffer from a lack of access to modern technology. In fact, nearly half of the country's population is rural. In general, farmers work their fields without the help of modern farm machinery. Also, there is a lack of many consumer goods, which means that people rely on homemade goods for some of their needs.





Economy, Issues, and Challenges The collapse of communism brought great changes to the eastern Balkans. Moldova, Bulgaria, and Romania are now working to adjust to democracy and a free-market economy. Moldova is a small densely populated country with rich soils and a mild climate. The struggling economy is based on producing fruit, grains, and wine. About one fourth of Bulgaria's labor force works in agriculture. However, the government has made efforts to attract modern industries. Romania is trying to expand an economy based on agriculture, oil, coal, and low-technology industries. Bucharest is the country's capital and major industrial center.

Most people in the eastern Balkans have living standards well below those of other Europeans. Many people of these countries lack health care and safe water, particularly in the villages. A lack of housing in urban areas is also a problem. Many people are leaving to find work in other countries. As a result, Bulgaria's population is decreasing.

READING CHECK: *Human Systems* How have the economies and politics of the eastern Balkans changed in recent years?

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

The huge Danube River delta in Romania has many strips of land called grinduri that farmers use to grow crops. Reeds that grow in the region's shallow waters are also used to make paper and fibers for textiles. What challenges might farmers in this region face?

Section
3

Review

go.
hwy.
.com **Homework Practice Online**
Keyword: SW3 HP16

Define
city-states
enclave

Working with Sketch Maps On the map that you created in Section 2, label Greece, the Balkan countries, Crete, Mount Olympus, Athens, Kosovo, Belgrade, Sarajevo, and Bucharest. In the margin of your map, identify the capital of Greece.

Reading for the Main Idea

- Human Systems** How did ancient Greece contribute to modern government?
- Places and Regions** How has cultural conflict shaped the political boundaries of the western Balkans?
- Human Systems** How are the economies of the eastern Balkan countries changing?

Critical Thinking

- Identifying Points of View** Why do you think ethnic Serbs living in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina opposed independence from Yugoslavia? Why do you think Croats and Bosnians may have wanted independence even at the risk of war?

Organizing What You Know

- Copy the flowchart below and use it to trace events in Yugoslavia (now Serbia and Montenegro) since the death of Tito in 1980.



Review the video to answer the closing question:
How have the changing political borders in the Balkans affected people's lives?

Building Vocabulary

On a separate sheet of paper, explain the following terms by using them correctly in sentences.

autonomy	microstates
cork	city-states
Renaissance	enclave

Locating Key Places

On a separate sheet of paper, match the letters on the map with their correct labels.

Madrid	Sicily
Balearic Islands	Kosovo
Strait of Gibraltar	Bucharest
Rome	Athens



Understanding the Main Ideas

Section 1

- Human Systems** How have events in Spain's history influenced other areas of the world?
- Human Systems** How does Portugal's history mirror Spain's?

Section 2

- Places and Regions** Which of Italy's two major regions is the richest and most industrialized? Why?

Section 3

- Human Systems** How has urbanization contributed to environmental problems in Greece?
- Human Systems** What factors have shaped the boundaries of the former Yugoslavia?

Thinking Critically

- Making Generalizations** Why might some people in the Basque Country and Catalonia see themselves more as Basque and Catalan than Spanish? How might this affect their view of the rest of Spain?
- Drawing Inferences and Conclusions** How might northern Italy's location near central Europe have affected its economic growth?
- Analyzing Information** What factors have limited economic development and improvement in the standard of living in the Balkan countries?

Using the Geographer's Tools

- Analyzing a Population Pyramid** Study the population pyramid for Italy. What features tell you that Italy's population is decreasing?
- Creating Maps** Use the unit atlas to create a map of Europe. Identify which countries make up the Iberian, Italian, and Balkan Peninsulas.
- Creating Bar Graphs** Use statistics from the unit Fast Facts table to construct a bar graph comparing per capita GDP in the countries of southern Europe and the Balkans.

Writing about Geography

Compare patterns of culture in Spain and Canada. How has each country been affected by cultural differences among its people? How have those differences affected political issues, boundaries, public policies, points of view, and events in each? You might want to do further research by using secondary sources of information like magazines. Write a short report about your findings. When you are finished with your report, proofread it to make sure you have used standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation.

SKILL BUILDING



Geography for Life

Creating an Elevation Profile

Places and Regions Create an elevation profile of Italy. The profile should show the elevation of features along a line from west to east across the peninsula, just north of Rome. Identify important points along the line. You can use the chapter map as well as atlas maps from your classroom and library to prepare your diagram.

Interpreting Graphs

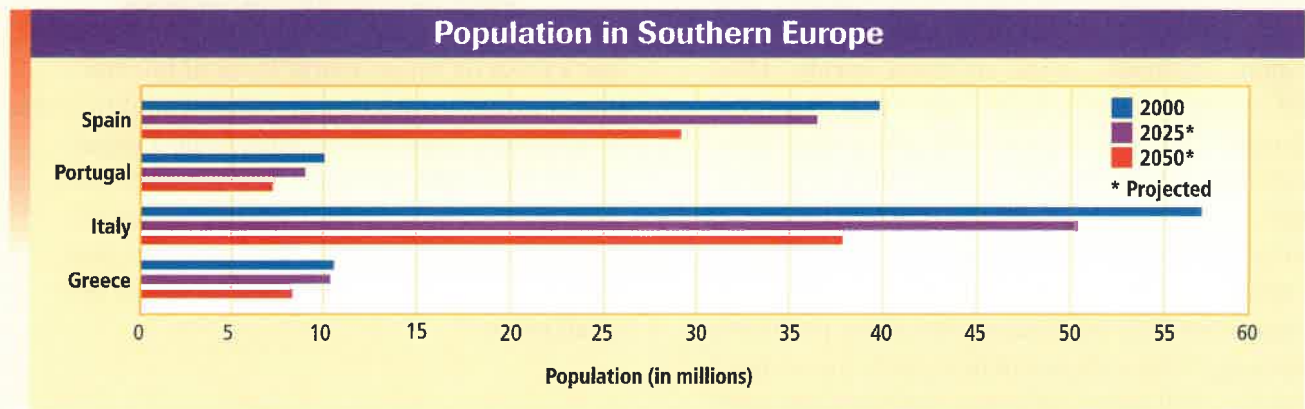
Study the graph below. Then answer the questions that follow.

- Which country is projected to lose the most people by 2050?
 - Italy
 - Spain
 - Greece
 - Portugal
- Describe the projected general population trend in the region between now and 2050.

Building Vocabulary

To build your vocabulary skills, answer the following questions.

- Autonomy* means
 - economic self-sufficiency.
 - a large cooperative group.
 - self-government.
 - a territory or area of influence.
- An *enclave* is
 - a very small country.
 - an extreme shortage of food.
 - a legal restriction against the movement of freight.
 - an area completely surrounded by another region.



Alternative Assessment

PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

Learning about Your Local Geography

Group Project: Field Work

With a group, plan, organize, and complete a research project about features in your community that might be developed into popular tourist attractions. Identify scenic locations, historical sites, cultural events, and geographic features—such as an appropriate climate—that might draw tourists. Prepare a questionnaire to survey area residents about the attractions in your community. Present your findings in a tourism-guide brochure for your community.

Internet connect

Internet Activity: go.hrw.com
KEYWORD: SW3 GT16

Choose a topic on southern Europe and the Balkans to:

- create a postcard of the islands and peninsulas of the Mediterranean.
- research conflict in the Balkans.
- understand how geographic factors and global trade influenced the development of pizza as a common food.

Geography

Skill-Building Workshop

WORKSHOP 1

Using Graphic Organizers

Some people say a picture is worth a thousand words. A graphic organizer creates a picture of information. It allows you to “see” patterns and relationships. We use graphic organizers every day. For example, calendars and daily planners are types of graphic organizers. The section reviews throughout this textbook include a question that asks you to use a graphic to organize what you have learned.

Graphic organizers come in many forms. Time lines, for example, identify important events in historical sequence. Charts and tables help you gather, compare, and analyze information. Another kind of graphic organizer is an idea web, which you will learn about in this workshop.

Graphic organizers can be used for many purposes. Some organizers help you brainstorm ideas, problems, and solutions. Others allow you to identify connections or tell stories. Still others help you communicate complex ideas and develop ideas for writing.



Developing the Skill Idea webs, also called word webs, are very useful graphic organizers. These organizers are maps that show how different categories of information relate to each other. They provide a structure for ideas and facts. They can also help you brainstorm and organize your writing tasks.

A major topic or concept is located at the web center. Supporting details radiate outward from the center. The example provides a main topic in the center: forest loss in northern Europe. The subtopics, or details, are provided in bubbles that grow from the main topic. Just as when you brainstorm and one thought leads to another, each detail can have its own bubbles. The details become more and more specific as the web grows. The web can grow until you run out of either ideas or space.

Practicing the Skill

Use a piece of paper, a large sheet of butcher paper, a chalkboard, or a dry-erase board to make an idea web. Suppose you must write a paper on the geography of Spain. What do you know about Spain’s geography? Consider topics like the physical environment, demographics, and trade. Build your idea web individually or in a small group.

WORKSHOP 2

Using Databases and Analyzing Statistics

Statistics you can use in your study of geography are often organized into databases. Databases condense and organize information. They can help you answer important geographic questions. In addition, databases can help you understand geographic relationships.

A telephone book is a database. The books you keep on a shelf at home make up a database of some of the things you have read. Other examples of databases include statistical tables (like the one shown on the next page), almanacs, and CD-ROMs. Even maps are databases. Maps organize and show information about a variety of features. For example, a precipitation map shows average annual precipitation amounts for the country or region under study.

Comparing Statistics: The Former Yugoslav Republics

Country	Population (in millions)	Per Capita GDP (in U.S. \$)	Electricity Consumption (kilowatt hours per person)	Telephone Lines (per 100 people)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4.5	\$6,800	8.85	24
Croatia	4.5	\$11,600	15.81	42.7
Macedonia	2.1	\$7,600	5.29	25.2
Serbia and Montenegro*	10.8	\$2,700	36.62	33
Slovenia	2	\$21,000	12.47	40.7

*On May 21, 2006, Montenegro voted to secede from its union with Serbia to become an independent nation.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, *CIA World Factbook*, Energy Information Admin., International Telecommunication Union

As you work with databases, you will probably note that statistics can vary from one source to another. For example, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's World Factbook and some other database might differ in their population totals or economic figures for a country. The sources may have used different formulas for calculating data, such as economic statistics. In addition, they may have collected the statistics at different times in a year. One source might offer more recent information than others. As a result, it is often a good idea to check two or three sources for information you need.

Developing the Skill A number of key terms are important for learning how to create and use databases for organizing statistics and other information. A *file* stores a database on a computer. A short file name for the example on this page might be Statistics. *Fields* are names for categories of information in a database. The example above has five fields: Country, Population, Per Capita GDP, Electricity Consumption, and Telephone Lines. *Records* group fields that are all related to the database's topic or idea. All of the fields in the example are a record of statistics about the former Yugoslav republics.

To create a database on a computer, you need a database management system. Such a system is part of special software developed for record keeping. It provides instructions on how to organize and name your fields. Following are some key points to remember when creating and using any database:

- Read the headings and labels to determine the kinds of information included in the database. Are the figures provided in metric or in standard

measurement? Do the numbers represent a fraction of a larger number? If you were looking at economic data for various European countries, one source may use GNP and another GDP. It would be important to understand the differences between such data and how those differences affect the research you are conducting.

- Be sure to identify the original source for the data. When was the information collected? How was the information collected?
- Always look up any unfamiliar terms so you are sure to understand exactly what the data represents.

Practicing the Skill

Use a variety of historical and statistical databases to create a profile of population change in Europe. Collect data on Austria, Germany, Italy, and other European countries with negative or slow population growth rates. You will need to create your own databases to organize your information. You can use a software database program or create a database by hand. For example, you might create a table that tracks changes in population from 1800 to what is projected in 2050 for the countries you choose to study. As an alternative, you could create maps that use color to show population growth rates over time. For example, you might shade countries with the slowest growth rates red and the highest growth rates blue. Include a file name and identify fields you use.