

## Countries challenge! – Glossary

**athlete** noun [countable]

someone who is good at sports, and takes part in sports competitions

*Green was one of Canada's top professional track and field athletes.*

**border** noun [countable]

the official line separating two countries or states  
*the border between Texas and Mexico*

**consist of** phrasal verb [transitive]

to be made of particular parts or things

*His breakfast consists of dry bread and a cup of tea.*

**contain** verb [transitive]

if a substance contains something, that thing is a part of it

*Brown rice contains a lot of vitamins and minerals.*

**continent** noun [countable]

one of the very large areas of land on Earth that are usually divided into several countries

*the continent of Africa*

**crocodile** noun [countable]

a large reptile that lives in water in hot countries. It has a long body and a long mouth with many sharp teeth.

**empire** noun [countable]

a number of countries ruled by one person or government

*the Ottoman Empire*

**equator, the** noun [singular]

an imaginary line that goes around the Earth and divides it into the northern and southern hemispheres

**flag** noun [countable]

a piece of cloth decorated with the pattern and colors that represent a country or organization

**gold medal** noun [countable]

a medal that is given to the winner of a race or competition

**independent** adjective

ruled by its own government, rather than controlled by another country

*The republic was declared a fully independent state.*

**landlocked** adjective

a landlocked country or area is surrounded by land

**official** adjective

used about things that are decided by a government  
*Spanish is the country's official language.*

**poison** noun [countable/uncountable]

a substance that can kill you or make you sick if you eat, drink, or breathe it

*Some mushrooms contain poison.*

**poisonous** adjective

containing poison

**populous** adjective

a populous nation, city, area, etc. has many people living in it

**qualify** verb [intransitive]

to have the right qualities or be in the right situation to be considered as something or to receive or do something

*To qualify for Olympic status, a sport must be played in fifty countries and on three continents.*

**shark** noun [countable]

a very large fish with sharp teeth that lives in the ocean

**hemisphere** noun [countable]

one half of the Earth, divided between north and south by the equator

**species** noun [countable]

a plant or animal group whose members all have similar general features and are able to produce young plants or animals together

*a rare tropical species*

**volcano** noun [countable]

a mountain that forces hot gas, rocks, ash, and lava (=melted rock) into the air through a hole at the top. Some volcanoes are not immediately dangerous because they are not active and have become dormant. Others will never be dangerous again because they are completely extinct.

