

## Countries quiz – Glossary

**aircraft** noun [countable]

a plane, helicopter or other vehicle that flies  
*They came under attack from enemy aircraft.*

**Arabic** noun [uncountable]

the language that most people speak in the Middle East and in most countries of North Africa. It exists in many different dialects.

**border** noun [countable]

the official line separating two countries or regions  
*Iraq's northern border with Turkey*

**civil war** noun [countable/uncountable]

a war fought between different groups of people within the same country

**coastline** noun [countable]

the land along a coast, especially when seen from the sea or the air  
*Brittany's rugged coastline*

**currency** noun [countable/uncountable]

the system of money used in a particular country  
*the single European currency*

**discover** verb [transitive]

to find a place, fact or substance that no one knew about before  
*William Herschel discovered Uranus in 1781.*

**earthquake** noun [countable]

a sudden shaking movement of the ground

**empire** noun [countable]

a number of countries ruled by one person or government  
*the Ottoman Empire*

**erupt** verb [intransitive]

if a volcano erupts, it explodes inside and flames, rocks and lava come out of the top

**hurricane** noun [countable]

a violent storm with extremely strong winds and heavy rain

**Islam** noun [uncountable]

the religion based on the ideas of Muhammad. Its followers are called Muslims and they worship in a mosque. The holy book of Islam is the Koran.

**join** verb [transitive]

to become a member of an organisation, club etc  
*He wants to join the army.*

**natural disaster** noun [countable]

something that happens in nature and causes a lot of damage or kills a lot of people, for example a flood or an earthquake

**natural resources** noun [plural]

valuable substances such as wood and oil that exist in a country's land and sea

**oil** noun [uncountable]

a thick dark smooth liquid from under the ground, used for making petrol and other fuels  
*The Middle Eastern countries produce most of the world's oil.*

**part** noun [countable]

a region of a country or district of a city  
*She came from a remote part of China.*

**populous** adjective

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

**tourist attraction** noun [countable]

a place to visit that is very popular with tourists

**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.  
*The volcano last erupted over fifty years ago.*

**wild** adjective

a wild animal or plant lives or grows on its own in natural conditions and is not raised by humans  
*This trait is common to both domestic and wild dogs.*