

# Country Summary Sheet

*7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders should use an outline similar to this for each country studied in Exploring Countries and Cultures. Use short answers for the Facts. Use complete sentences (one or more paragraphs) for each topic when completing the Information section. Parents should plan to assist students the first few times as they complete these sheets, teaching students how to find the specified information and how to summarize without plagiarizing the material.*

## **Facts**

Capital:

Official Language:

Form of Government:

Area:

Population:

Chief Products:

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## **Information**

Government

People

Religion

Education

Land

Economy

History

# Sample of Country Summary Sheet

## Turkey

### Facts

**Capital:** Ankara

**Official Language:** Turkish

**Form of Government:** Republic

**Area:** 302,535 square miles

**Population:** About 75 million

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### Information

**Government:** Turkey is a republic. In 1982, this country started using a new Constitution. Turkey has a president and a prime minister who share power. It also has a cabinet and a legislature. There are about 80 provinces, each of which has a governor.

**People:** The majority of the people live in cities and towns. Turkey's cities do not have enough jobs for all the people, so many of them have to work in Australia, Europe, and other Middle Eastern countries. Turkish is the official language; however, some speak Kurdish, Arabic, Armenian, Circassian, Greek, and others.

**Religion:** Over 98% of the people are Muslims; however, Islam is not the official religion. Turkey is a secular nation. Until 2008, women were not allowed to cover their heads in public (a common practice of Muslim women).

**Education:** Over 85% of the people are literate. By Turkish law, all children must attend school until the age of 15. After that age, children may choose to attend a three-year high school or a vocational school or they may start working.

**Land:** Turkey is located in the northwestern part of the Middle East. Turkey has several saltwater lakes and also many rivers. The rivers change a lot during they year. When the snow melts in the spring, the rivers often flood. Because summers are so hot and dry in Turkey, many rivers dry up. Turkey has plains, valleys, lowlands, plateaus, and mountains.

**Economy:** The Turkish government used to control a lot of the economic aspects of the country. However, lately the government has been less controlling. Most of Turkey's energy is imported, except for coal and hydroelectric power.

**History:** A Roman emperor named Constantine the Great renamed the city of Byzantium to Constantinople, which means "City of Constantine." In 1071, the Seljuk Turks began ruling in what is now called Turkey. In 1923, Turkey was proclaimed a republic.