

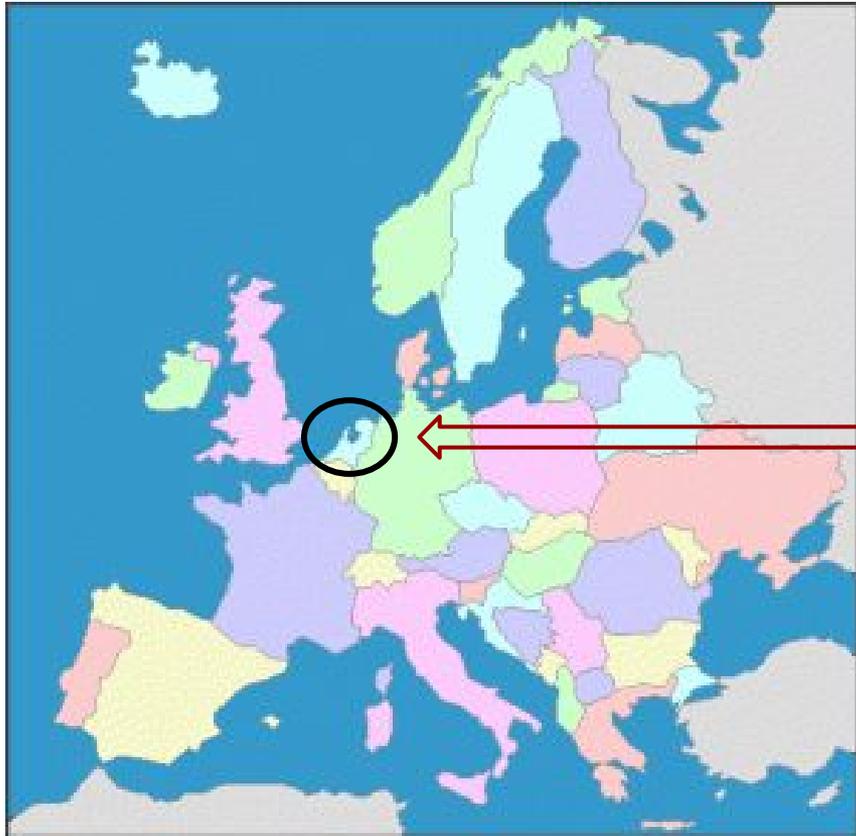


*The Netherlands*

# *Identity card.*

<b><i>Capital</i></b>	Amsterdam.	Rome.
<b><i>Other important cities</i></b>	Rotterdam, Utrecht, The Hague.	Milan, Turin, Naples and Florence.
<b><i>Total area</i></b>	41,543 km <sup>2</sup>	301,338 km <sup>2</sup>
<b><i>Population</i></b>	17 million.	60 million.
<b><i>Density</i></b>	412/ km <sup>2</sup>	202/ km <sup>2</sup>
<b><i>Currency</i></b>	Euro.	Euro.
<b><i>Government</i></b>	Unitary parliamentary constitutional monarchy.	Unitary parliamentary republic.
<b><i>Monarch</i></b>	Willem-Alexander.	-
<b><i>Prime Minister</i></b>	Mark Rutte.	Paolo Gentiloni.
<b><i>Official languages</i></b>	Dutch.	Italian.

# Location and boundaries



Complete the text with the appropriate words.

The Netherlands is bordered  
to the north and west by  
\_\_\_\_\_ ; to the east by  
\_\_\_\_\_ ; to the south by  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The capital is \_\_\_\_\_.

The population is about  
\_\_\_\_\_ ; the official  
language is: \_\_\_\_\_.

Dutch - Belgium - Amsterdam - 17 million -  
North Sea - Germany.



# GEOGRAPHY

## Key words:

- to be Under/Above the sea level
- Canals, Dams, Dikes
- Navigable Canals
- Maritime Climate
- Coastal resorts



"God made the Earth, but the Dutch made Holland."  
(Dutch's saying)

# POLITICS & GOVERNMENT



The Dutch parliament

The Dutch government



# ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION.

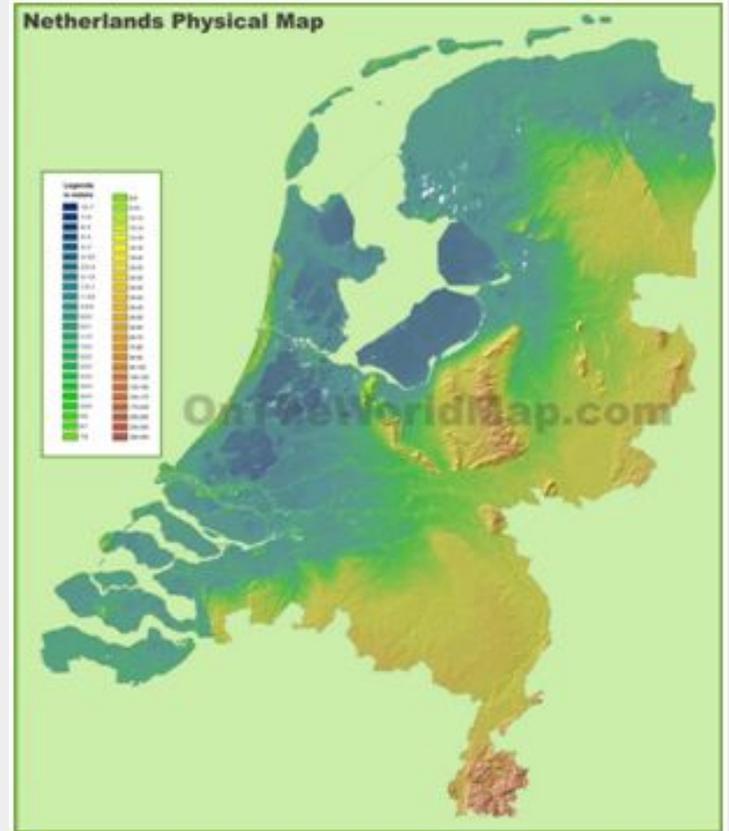
The Netherlands is divided into twelve provinces. All provinces are divided into municipalities, of which there are 390.



**A.** *Identify the borders of the Netherlands*



**B.** *Analyze the physical map, what does the blue area correspond to?*



# All about the Netherlands.



# *The Netherlands' flag.*

This is a red-white-blue horizontal tricolour, these colours were chosen as *colours of liberty*

Vrijheid means  
“liberty” in Dutch.



# Anthem.

Composed by an unknown artist  
and adapted by Adrianus  
Valerius, the Wilhelmus has  
been officially adopted in 1932.

**Wilhelmus van Nassouwe  
ben ik, van Duitsen bloed,  
den vaderland getrouwe  
blijf ik tot in den dood.  
Een Prinse van Oranje  
ben ik, vrij, onverveerd,  
den Koning van Hispanje  
heb ik altijd geëerd.**

William of Nassau  
am I, of Dutch blood.  
Loyal to the fatherland  
I will remain until I die.  
A prince of Orange  
am I, free and fearless.  
The king of Spain  
I have always honoured.

## DE WILHELMUS

The image shows a musical score for the Dutch national anthem, 'De Wilhelmus'. It is written for piano and consists of three staves. The first staff begins with the tempo marking 'Maestoso' and a dynamic marking 'f'. The second staff includes the marking 'poco rit.' and a dynamic marking 'f'. The third staff includes the marking 'rit.'. The music is in a minor key and features a steady, march-like rhythm.

- Have you ever heard about this anthem?
- Do you know the lyrics of the Italian one?
- What is the Italian anthem about?

***Match the words in the box with their meaning.***

1. Polder - 2. Dyke - 3. Windmill - 4. Tulip - 5. Clogs -

A structure that has parts which are turned around by the wind and that is used to produce power, pump water, etc.

Shoe, sandals, or overshoes having a thick typically wooden sole.

A piece of low land reclaimed from the sea or a river and protected by dykes,

A large, brightly coloured spring flower, shaped like a cup, on a tall stem

A wall built to prevent the sea or a river from covering an area, or a channel dug to take water away from an area

# Typical food.



Herrings

Typical Dutch beer

Poffertjes

Bitterballen



# Symbols



The first windmills were invented in antiquity, but it was the Dutch who really hit it off with this wooden giant.

The biggest ice-skating tour in the world. The first one took place in 1909 and has been held 15 times in total.



People from all over the world still think that the Dutch wear clogs or wooden shoes every day.





- The most famous bulb-growing areas are close to Amsterdam.
- Tulips transform large parts of Holland into a colorful patchwork.
- Mid-April is the best time to visit the tulip fields.



*The Handshake.*

# *Meeting and Greetings.*

Gifts you may bring with you if you are invited to a Dutch home.



## Exercise D: complete the text using the words in the box.

The Netherlands

Tulips

Cool

Below

Small

Windmills

Climate

The Netherlands have a temperate maritime \_\_\_\_\_ (1) influenced by the North Sea and Atlantic Ocean, with \_\_\_\_\_ (2) summers and moderate winters. Daytime temperatures varies from 2°C-6°C in the winter and 17°C-20°C in the summer. Since the country is \_\_\_\_\_ (3) there is little variation in climate from region to region, although the marine influences are less inland. Rainfall is distributed throughout the year with a drier period from April to September. Especially in fall and winter strong Atlantic low-pressure systems can bring gales and uncomfortable weather. Sometimes easterly winds can cause a more continental type of weather, warm and dry in the summer, but cold and clear in the winter with temperatures sometimes far \_\_\_\_\_ (4) zero. \_\_\_\_\_ (5) is a flat country and has often breezy conditions, although more in the winter than in the summer, and more among the coastal areas than inland.

For years many people thought of the Netherlands as a country of \_\_\_\_\_ (6), canals, \_\_\_\_\_ (7), and wooden shoes, with cheese and butter as its main products. This image of the Netherlands as a mainly agricultural country has not been true for a long time, as it is now as industrialized as most other Western European countries. Agriculture still provides a number of products, many of which are exported.

# *Top 10 sight-seeing.*

- 1) *Amsterdam*
- 2) *The Anne Frank House*
- 3) *The Van Gogh Museum*
- 4) *The Rijksmuseum*
- 5) *The Erasmus Bridge*
- 6) *The Keukenhof Gardens*
- 7) *Rotterdam*
- 8) *Leiden*
- 9) *The Hague*
- 10) *The Port of Amsterdam*



-Have you ever been to the Netherlands?

-If yes: what did you like the most?  
Would you go there again?

-If not: would you like to go there?  
Why?

# 10)The Port of Amsterdam.





# 9) The Hague



# 8) Leiden



# 7) Rotterdam



## 6) KEUKENHOF GARDENS



# 5)The Erasmus Bridge



## 4) The Rijksmuseum



### 3) The Van Gogh Museum



## 2)The Anne Frank House



# 1)AMSTERDAM



# *Matching.*

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| a. Sight-seeing | 1. Generator that extracts usable energy from winds.   |
| b. Poffertjes   | 2. Deep-fried and crispy breaded rounds with a tender filling, traditionally made with beef. |
| c. Bitterballen | 3. Dutch often eat this fish.  |
| d. Clogs        | 4. Synonym: tulips.  |
| e. Windmills    | 5. Dutch word which means “liberty”.   |
| f. Herring      | 6. Typical Dutch shoes made of wood used to work in fields.                                  |
| g. E4U          | 7. The lines or planes indicating the limit or extent of a country.                          |
| h. Vrijheid     | 8. Typical Dutch small, fluffy pancakes.   |
| i. Flower bulbs | 9. International project which consists in a European School-partnership.                    |
| j. Boundaries   | 10. The most visited places and these places can be either cities or towns or museums.       |

# *Fact files.*

*The Netherlands is known as the land of the bicycles: the Dutch person cycles 2,5 km per day and 900 km per year.*



The name Netherlands means “low countries.” The country is sometimes called Holland, but the name only applies to two provinces, North and South Holland, which border the North Sea in Amsterdam and The Hague.



# The End.



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