

U HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Greece



UNIT 1

Greece

Greece, officially the Hellenic Republic, is a country in Southeast part of Europe. Athens is the nation's capital and largest city. Greece has about 1,400 islands and is has the 11th longest coastline in the world.

GALLERY 1 Famous Places in Greece (images from keytours.gr)



The Athenian Acropolis is a model of architectural finesse.



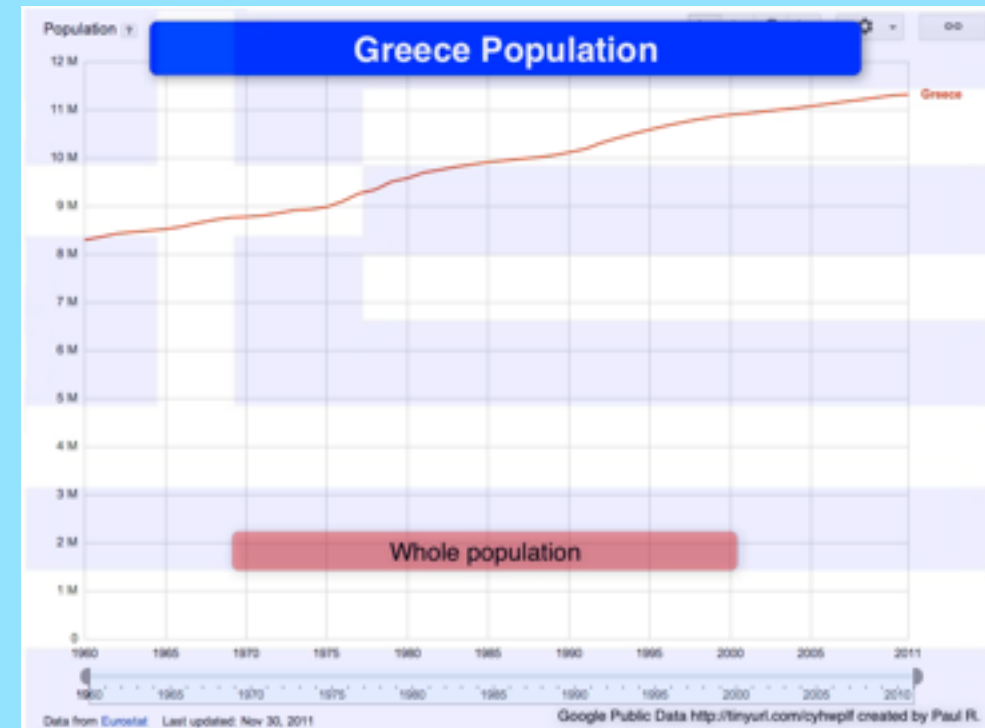
SECTION 1

Population

By Paul

Greece's population varies according to age group. There are many people 20 years of age and older but there are so few children and teenagers, compared to the adult population. When looking in age groups of five the population has been up and down in the 60s. After the 60s it's somewhat random where the population is. There are more females than males in Greece. When looking at all of the population it's a slow uphill.

MOVIE 1 Watch the population change



Created with Camtasia and Google Public Data. Made by Paul R.

Holidays and Customs

By Paul

There are two Greek Easter Traditions that are fun to celebrate: One tradition, is what I like to call the "Red and White Egg Battle". What happens is you paint eggs red and white and make the tops and bottoms of the eggs smash into each other. The first egg to crack loses. Obviously, the egg doesn't win. The egg's owner wins! Just don't smash too hard or it's a high chance of failure. Another Greek Easter tradition is eating sweet bread called "Tsoureki". You would eat it on its own and it's more unhealthy than healthy. Basically its like cake. The shape of it can be like a slice of bread and sometimes in the shape of a bun. It tastes great!

Another Greek tradition is the "Name Day". It's on a different day for most people. It's celebrated for

having the same name as a saint. Most people have two name days. If you have a middle name as well as a first name, then you are lucky. You get two name days. Namedays include presents, but you could get something better on your birthday. It's really not about the presents but more about celebrating your name while remembering the saint you are named after!

A big tradition is the "Wine Festival". It happens when the grapes are harvested which is in late September. Greece isn't the only country that celebrates it. Some other countries that celebrate this event are Israel, Etruria, Turkey, and Rome. During the wine festival there is a wine competition, to see which wine is better. The awards are bronze, silver, gold, and double gold medals. There are also ribbons in various colours.

A very fun Greek tradition is the "New Year's Cake". The New Year's Cake is made for the New Year. You normally don't put things like icing or candy on top, but instead sprinkle icing sugar on top. What makes this cake so fun is that the cook puts a coin inside! Icing sugar can be useful here to fill up the hole you put the coin in. Of course the whole luck of getting the coin can be ruined if the cook puts a bunch of coins where the first pieces are going to be cut.

GALLERY 2 Holidays and Customs



Traditional Greek New Years Day bread. Also the person who receives the quarter inside gets good luck for 1 year!



Music and Art

By Jake

Greek people love music and art. Music is very important for them because it is a big part of their daily lives. The Greeks believe that the goddess Muse and the god Apollo were the main gods of music and art. Apollo was the Muse's leader. Art and music are used to entertain people. The Greek music is celebrated as part of Greece's history. Greek music includes two major categories. They are Greek traditional music and Byzantine music. These music types have existed for a long time. The development has been continuous and found in the language, rhythm and structure of the music. This is one of the Greek arts.

Bouzouki

Greek music has some interesting instruments. One of them is an instrument called a bouzouki. Bouzouki is a Greek instrument acquired by immigrants from Asia in 1900s. The front of the Bouzouki is flat and is played with a plectrum. The plectrum is similar to a pick used to play guitar. It makes a sharp sound. There are two kinds of Bouzouki. The two kinds are tri-chordo and tetrachordo. This picture shows the tetrachordo bouzouki.

GALLERY 3 Music and Art



Food

By Yejoon

Pita bread is a round bread found in Greek cuisine. In Greece, pita is a major constituent of pita-souvlaki. These types of sandwiches include the wrapping of souvlaki or gyros with tzatziki, tomatoes, onions, sometimes French fries, and seasoning into pita bread. Pita has a soft, chewy texture and is pocket less. In Greece, pita also describes a pie that is made often with cheese, spinach or both.

Souvlaki is a popular Greek fast food. It is made with pieces of meat and vegetables that are grilled on a skewer. Greek make Souvlaki with many different meats, seafood and vegetables. Souvlaki Merida means portion. Souvlaki is eaten plain on hand as a fast food.

Olives are very popular in Greek diets. The olive is a species of small tree. The olive tree is short and

squat. There are lots of different olives and olive trees. It is also a plant that is most often cited in western literature. The olive tree is very hardy and resistant to drought, disease, and fire. It can live to a great age. An olive tree in Algarve, Portugal, is 2000 years old, according to radiocarbon dating.

Koulourakia is a traditional Greek dessert, commonly made at Easter to be eaten after Holy Saturday. There are made with butter and are sweet. Koulourakia are well known for their sprinkle of sesame seeds and distinctive ring shape. But, today the pastries can be shaped into braided circles, hairpin twists, figure eights, twisted wreaths, horseshoes or Greek letters; although they are still often shaped into a snake style.

An ancient form of cheesecake may have been a popular dish in ancient Greece, even formerly to Romans' adoption of it with the conquest of Greece. Cheese cake is consisting primary of the mixture based on soft, fresh cheese, sugar, and egg. In Greece cheese cake is made since ancient roman times and is traditionally made of mizithra. Most Greeks think that it is an American tasty food and call it cheezz cake.

Spinach pie is traditional food of Greece. It is in the burek family of pastries with a filling of chopped spinach, feta, onions or scallions, egg, and seasoning.

Spinach is thought to have originated in ancient Persia. Spinach is the comestible flowering plant in the family of Amaranthaceous. It is native to central and southwestern Asia.

MOVIE 2 Making Spinach Pie

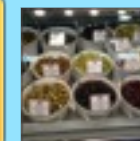


Created with iPhone 5 and Camtasia. Made by Paul R.

GALLERY 4 Foods of Greece



Spinach Pia

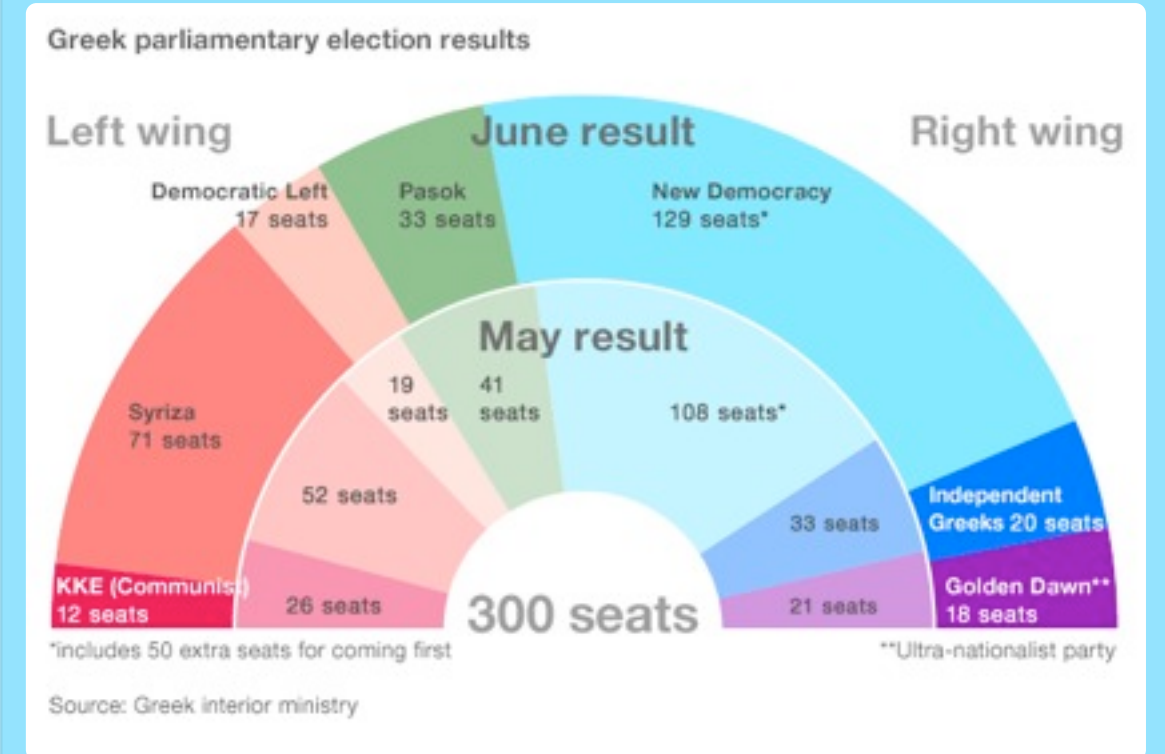


Government

By Wonjin

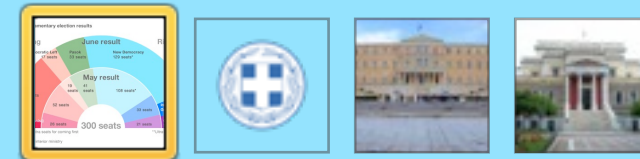
The government system of Greece is a democracy. Greece has a president and prime minister. The Cabinet Ministers are appointed by the president. The president appoints them on the prime minister's recommendation. The President is elected and stays in office for five years but can serve for two terms. The prime minister is also elected by the people and is the highest rank in the Greek political system. Greece is a very old country and there have been many different types of governments. There used to be a monarchy and dictatorship in Greece.

GALLERY 5 Greek Government



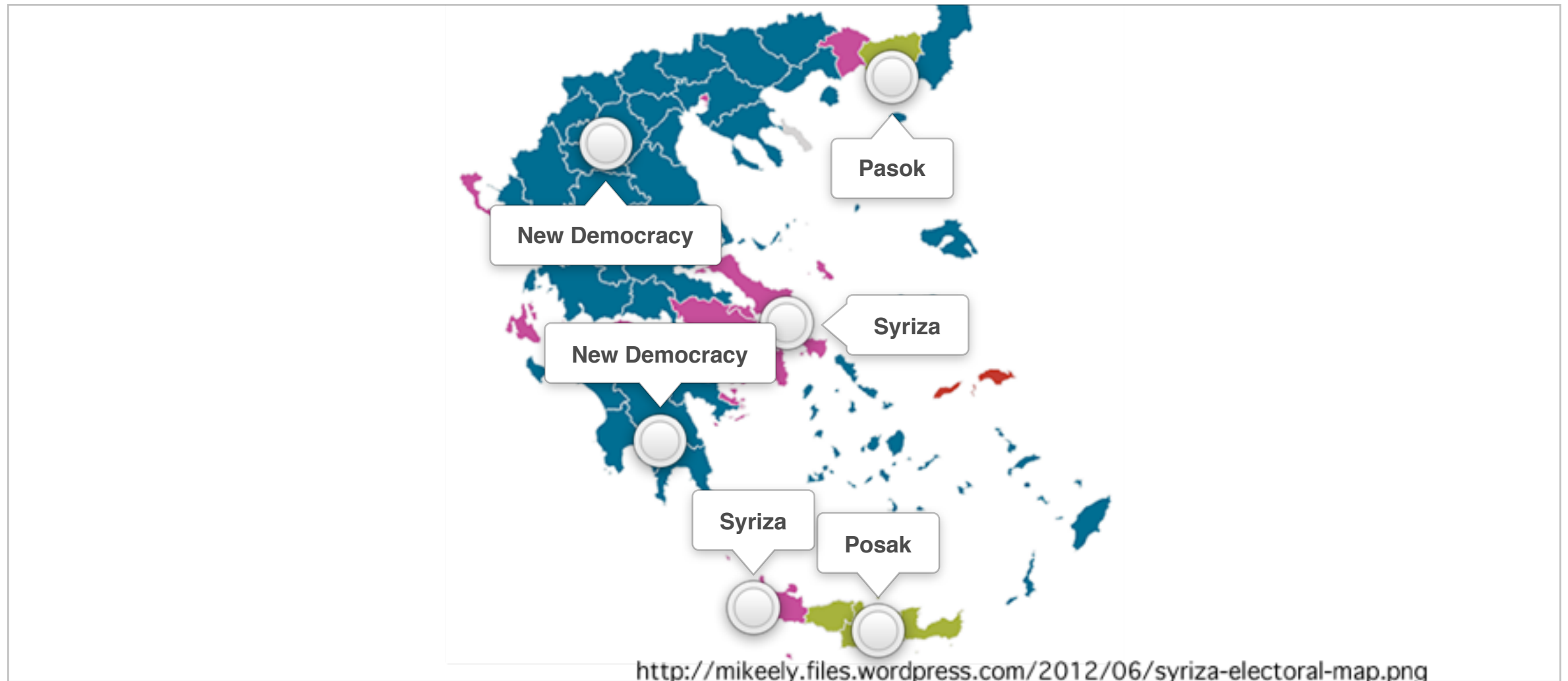
2012 Greek elections. You can see in the image there were two elections that year.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-18490930>



REVIEW 1

On May 2012, nearly 6 million Greeks voted for a new Greek Parliament. There are over 13 different political parties. Where did the top three parties get their votes?



Syriza

New Democracy

New Democracy

Pasok

Posak

Syriza

Check Answer

Daily Life

By Yejoon

Most Greece houses are not big. The houses are made out of dried mud brick. There are many modes of transportation in Greece. There are railroads, railways, metro, bus, tram, highway, airport, cars, and many more. The Greek educational system is mainly divided into three levels, mainly primary, secondary and tertiary, with an additional post-secondary level providing vocational training.

Wealth and Economy

By Wonjin

Greece's wealth and economy is not doing well right now. Greece is ranked 34th in GDP (Gross domestic product) and 42nd in PPP (Purchasing power parity). Greek government owes other countries money but they can't pay them. In other words, Greece is bankrupt. Currently, Greece's public debt is 301.193 billion Euros. Thirty one percent of Greek citizens are at the risk of poverty. That amounts to 3.4 million people that are poor. In Greece, 98% percent can write and read. That means education is well provided for children and adults.

Greece has many natural resources. One of them is cotton. Greece produces more cotton than any other country in the European Union. Greece also produces the largest amount of pistachios in the European Union. Greece's many other natural resources are petroleum, iron ore, marble, salt, etc. Greece's

main imports are machinery, fuel, etc. Greece's main import partners are Germany, Russia, Italy, China, Netherlands, France, Iran, and Czech Republic. Greece has many exports too. Greece exports natural resources, manufactured goods, food, etc. Greece's main export partners are Italy, Turkey, Germany, Cyprus, Bulgaria, USA, China, Switzerland, Belgium, and Poland.

GALLERY 6 Greece uses Euros for currency



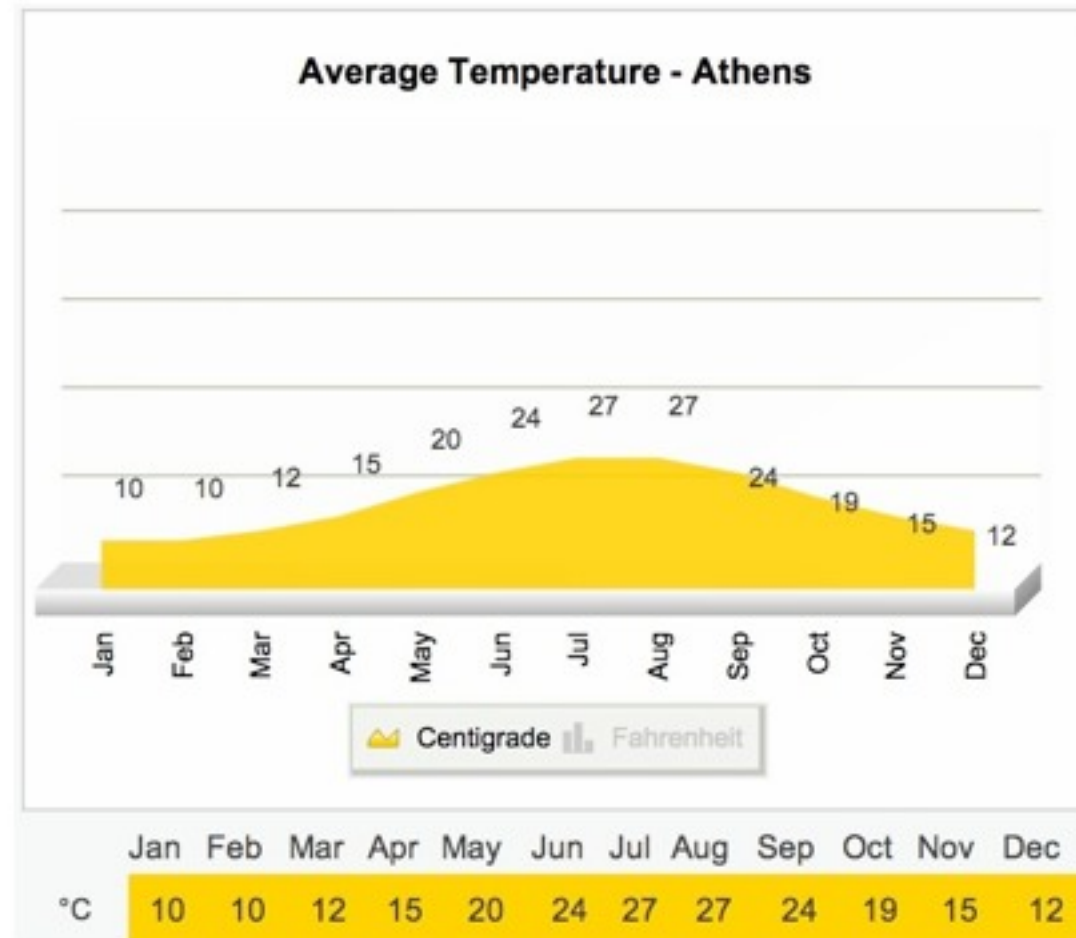
<http://topnews.com.sg/images/Greek-Economy-Shrinks.jpg>

Climate

By Jake

The weather in Greece changes a lot throughout the year. Snow can fall anywhere but it is very rare except for the mountains in the winter. Snow is even rarer on the islands. The summers in Greece are longer, hotter and dryer than other countries. It stays like that with no rain for about 4 months. If they are lucky they could get a little bit of rain. Opposite of summer, Greece winters are short and very wet. Since it is either rainy, snowy or sunny, the spring and the fall are short.

GALLERY 7 Weather in Athens



<http://www.holiday-weather.com/athens/averages/>



Fun Activities

INTERACTIVE 1 Take an interactive tour of Greece



Created in iAd Producer

INTERACTIVE 2 Time to Colour



INTERACTIVE 3 Slider Puzzle



REVIEW 2

Question 1 of 7

The weather in Greece:

- A.** Changes a lot
- B.** Hardly changes
- C.** Gets lots of storms
- D.** Is really cold



Check Answer



Bibliography

Tsakumis, Frosso. (2013, February 25). Interview by Paul Rozitis [Personal Interview].

Wikipedia:Wine festival, economy of greece, government of greece, polotics of greece, pita, feta, calamary, cheese pie, spinach pie, olives, souvlakia.

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http://www.indexmundi.com/greece/natural_resources.html