Sites on a Sketch

Use country, city, and direction clues to locate four killing sites.

SS24.HOS.12a "Locate on a map the Einsatzgruppen killing sites in Eastern Europe."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the four killing-site names, circle each nearby city, and draw a line connecting each site to its city so you can use the pairs in your locator sketch.

Locating Einsatzgruppen Killing Sites

1. In 1941, after Germany invaded the Soviet Union, mobile killing units called Einsatzgruppen followed German forces into Eastern Europe. They murdered Jewish people and others, often at pits near towns and cities. To locate a killing site, begin with its country, then find the nearest city and a direction from that city. Think of a map with north at the top, east at the right, and the Baltic Sea west of the Baltic countries. Latvia lies north of Lithuania. Belarus is east of Lithuania, and Ukraine lies south of Belarus. These clues help place the sites without pretending their locations were random.

2. Two sites were in Lithuania. At the Ninth Fort, northwest of Kaunas, German units and local collaborators killed thousands of Jewish people, including residents of Kaunas. Farther east, at Ponary, now called Paneriai, shootings took place southwest of Vilnius. Both cities are in Lithuania, but Kaunas lies west of Vilnius. North of Lithuania, in Latvia, another killing site was Rumbula, southeast of Riga. Riga is near the Baltic coast. German security forces and local collaborators murdered tens of thousands of Jewish people there. The city names help distinguish nearby sites: placing every Lithuanian site at Vilnius would hide the location of the Ninth Fort.

3. Farther south and east, Ukraine holds Babi Yar, a ravine on the northwestern side of Kyiv. In September 1941, members of Einsatzkommando 4a, part of Einsatzgruppe C, and other forces murdered more than 33,000 Jewish people there in two days. Kyiv lies southeast of Vilnius and well south of Riga. A useful locator sketch need not show exact borders or distances. Label the four countries, place each city in its general position, and then place the nearby site in the stated direction. A small shift on a rough sketch matters less than naming the correct country and city.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Where would you place the Ninth Fort in relation to Kaunas? Name its country.

2. Where would you place Ponary in relation to Vilnius? Name its country.

3. Where would you place Rumbula in relation to Riga? Name its country.

4. Where would you place Babi Yar in relation to Kyiv? How is Kyiv positioned relative to Vilnius?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Draw a north-up locator sketch showing Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, and Ukraine in their general positions. Mark Riga, Kaunas, Vilnius, and Kyiv, add the four killing sites in the directions given in the reading, and write one sentence comparing sites in two different countries.

Sites on a Sketch

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the four killing-site names, circle each nearby city, and draw a line connecting each site to its city so you can use the pairs in your locator sketch. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Where would you place the Ninth Fort in relation to Kaunas? Name its country.	**Northwest of Kaunas, in Lithuania.**
2	Where would you place Ponary in relation to Vilnius? Name its country.	**Southwest of Vilnius, in Lithuania.**
3	Where would you place Rumbula in relation to Riga? Name its country.	**Southeast of Riga, in Latvia.**
4	Where would you place Babi Yar in relation to Kyiv? How is Kyiv positioned relative to Vilnius?	**Babi Yar is northwest of Kyiv, in Ukraine. Kyiv is southeast of Vilnius.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Sketch: Latvia above Lithuania, Belarus east of Lithuania, and Ukraine south of Belarus. Riga is near Latvia's coast with Rumbula southeast of it. Kaunas is west of Vilnius, with the Ninth Fort northwest of Kaunas and Ponary southwest of Vilnius. Kyiv is in Ukraine with Babi Yar northwest of it. Sentence: Babi Yar is southeast of Ponary.

Accept approximate spacing and borders if each site is in the correct country and direction from its city. The comparison sentence must accurately relate sites in two different countries.