

Europe's Many Voices

Read closely to trace language families and languages within countries.

SS6G10.a "Describe the diversity of languages spoken within Europe."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every language name, then number each different language family or branch named in the passage so you can see how Europe contains related and unrelated languages.

Languages Across Europe

- ① Europe is home to many languages, even though its countries are close together. Languages belong to different families, groups that developed from older shared languages. Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian are Romance languages. They grew from Latin, the language of the Roman Empire. English, German, Dutch, Swedish, and Norwegian are Germanic languages. These languages have some related words, but speakers usually cannot understand every language in the same family without studying it carefully first.
- ② Not all European languages fit into the Romance or Germanic groups. Polish, Czech, Slovak, Ukrainian, Russian, and Bulgarian are Slavic languages. Greek forms its own branch of the Indo-European family. Albanian and Armenian also have their own branches. Basque, spoken near the border of Spain and France, is not known to be related to Indo-European languages. Finnish, Estonian, and Hungarian belong to the Uralic family, a separate language family with roots different from Indo-European languages.
- ③ Europe's language diversity also appears within countries. In Spain, Spanish is widely spoken, but Catalan, Basque, and Galician are spoken in different regions. Belgium has Dutch, French, and German as official languages in different areas. Switzerland uses German, French, Italian, and Romansh. People may speak a national language at school or work and a regional or home language with family. Road signs, public services, books, music, and conversations can reflect more than one language in daily life.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which language family includes Spanish and Romanian? Name one other language from that family in the passage.

2 What does the passage say about Basque's relationship to Indo-European languages?

3 Name the three Uralic languages in the passage. How is their language family different from Indo-European languages?

4 How do Spain and Switzerland each show language diversity within their borders?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose Spain, Belgium, or Switzerland. Write three sentences for a visitor that name at least two languages used there and explain what this shows about language diversity.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline every language name, then number each different language family or branch named in the passage so you can see how Europe contains related and unrelated languages. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which language family includes Spanish and Romanian? Name one other language from that family in the passage.	The Romance family. French, Italian, or Portuguese.
2	What does the passage say about Basque's relationship to Indo-European languages?	Basque is not known to be related to Indo-European languages.
3	Name the three Uralic languages in the passage. How is their language family different from Indo-European languages?	Finnish, Estonian, and Hungarian. Their Uralic family has roots different from Indo-European languages.
4	How do Spain and Switzerland each show language diversity within their borders?	Spain has widely spoken Spanish plus regional languages such as Catalan, Basque, and Galician. Switzerland uses German, French, Italian, and Romansh.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A visitor to Switzerland may hear German and French. Italian and Romansh are also used there. This shows that one country can include several languages.

Accept any language examples and relationships stated accurately in the passage. For the open response, accept three sentences that name at least two correct languages for the chosen country and explain that multiple languages are used within one country.