

Clues Across Continents

Compare countries by connecting location evidence with population data.

6.20.C “compare various world regions and countries using data from maps, graphs, and charts; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each country name and circle its world region in the passage. Then number the chart bars from 1, lowest density, to 4, highest density, so you can connect map and chart evidence.

Where People Live

- ① Geographers use several kinds of evidence to compare countries. A world map shows location and nearby land or water. In this example, Canada is in North America, Brazil is in South America, Nigeria is in Africa, and Japan is in Asia. The bar chart reports estimated population density for 2023, rounded to whole people per square kilometer.

POPULATION DENSITY, 2023 ESTIMATES



- ② Population density is an average, not a count of every person in a country. It is found by dividing the population by the land area. A high bar means more people, on average, share each square kilometer of land. A low bar can occur when a country has a large land area compared with its population.
- ③ To make a sound comparison, use at least two pieces of evidence. A map can identify each country's region, and a bar chart can show a numerical difference. Then state what the data suggests, such as whether people are spread out or live closer together on average. Do not use density alone to judge a country's total population or every city.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which country is in Africa, and what population density does the chart show for it?

2 Which country has a population density of 26 people per square kilometer, and in which world region is it?

3 Which two countries have the greatest difference in population density? Show the difference using the chart values.

4 Why does population density not tell you a country's total population? Use an idea from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two sentences comparing Nigeria and Brazil. Include each country's world region and population density, then explain what the comparison suggests about how closely people live on average.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each country name and circle its world region in the passage. Then number the chart bars from 1, lowest density, to 4, highest density, so you can connect map and chart evidence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which country is in Africa, and what population density does the chart show for it?	Nigeria, 227 people per square kilometer.
2	Which country has a population density of 26 people per square kilometer, and in which world region is it?	Brazil, South America.
3	Which two countries have the greatest difference in population density? Show the difference using the chart values.	Japan and Canada. 338 minus 4 equals 334 people per square kilometer.
4	Why does population density not tell you a country's total population? Use an idea from the passage.	Population density is an average based on both population and land area, so it does not show the total number of people in a country.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Nigeria in Africa has 227 people per square kilometer, while Brazil in South America has 26. Nigeria is more densely populated, so people live closer together on average there than in Brazil.

Accept equivalent comparisons that accurately name Nigeria as African and Brazil as South American, use both chart values, and explain that Nigeria has people living closer together on average. Accept the displayed rounded values.