

What do students know about other countries? A survey of Japanese and Irish students

You should be aware that the information you give in this survey will be used in the current project, exploring students' knowledge and understanding of foreign countries. It may also be used in follow-up studies. Your answers are completely anonymous and no report/other use will enable you to be identified in any way. The information sheet which is on the back page here provides more details about the work. You may choose not to take part in the survey and you may withdraw at any time during the survey if you wish. Thank you for your help.

Please tick the boxes below to indicate that you understand and agree to this.

I understand the information briefing that I have been given.

I agree that my answers may be used in the ways detailed above.

Please answer all of the questions

1a) Please tell us if you are male or female **[Tick correct box]**
 male female

1b) Please tell us if you are currently taking Leaving Cert. Geography.
 Yes No

2a) Have you ever heard of Japan?
 Yes No

2b) Which of the following statements is correct for Japan?

Japan is the name of a country.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Japan is the name of an island.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Japan is the name of a region in a country.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Please will you tell us anything else which you know about Japan

4. Where did you learn most about Japan **[Tick one box only]**

a In school	
b Internet/ on-line	
c TV programmes	
d Newspapers	
e Movies/ films	
f Family/friends	
g Other source – what is this please?	

Turn to the next page

5. Please tell us up to three things which you know about each of the countries named here.

Then tell us where you learned most about each country – you may just write the letter in the Learned Most box, e.g. if you learned most in school, write a.

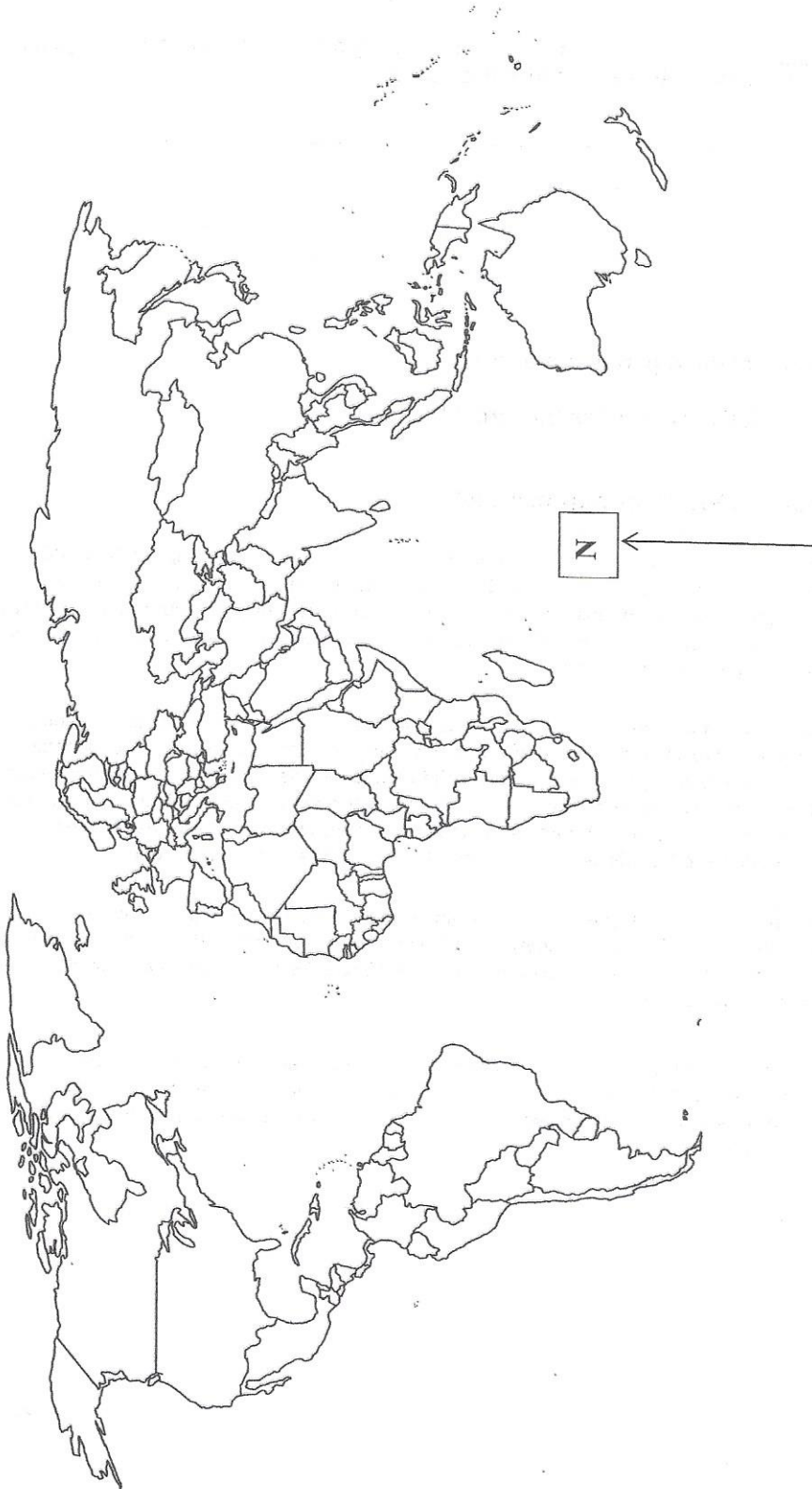
a	In school
b	Internet/ on-line
c	TV programmes
d	Newspapers
e	Movies/ films
f	Family/friends
g	Other source – what is this please?

Name of country	Things which I know about this country	Learned most
UK [England, Scotland, Wales & N. Ireland]	1. 2. 3.	
France	1. 2. 3.	
Germany	1. 2. 3.	
China	1. 2. 3.	
South Korea	1. 2. 3.	
Thailand	1. 2. 3.	
USA	1. 2. 3.	

Turn to the next page

6. Please mark all of the countries - Japan, Ireland, UK, France, Germany, China, South Korea, Thailand, and the USA - on this map. N.B. the map is turned around – see the north arrow!!!

Don't forget to name each one, not just mark it on the map!!



And finally

7. **Apart from your own country**, in which country **anywhere** in the world would you **most** like to live? [It need not be one of those named in this survey]

Country name _____

Please tell us why you would like to live there

8. **Apart from your own country**, in which country **anywhere** in the world would you **least** like to live? [It need not be one of those named in this survey]

Country name _____

Please tell us why you would **not** like to live there

Thank you very much for taking part in our survey.

Please put your completed survey in the box provided.

STUDENTS' WORLD VIEW: Information sheet

This project is investigating Irish and Japanese second level students' understanding and knowledge of the world. Our survey involves a series of questions which ask you to tell us about countries which you know and how you learned about them. We intend to use this information to develop ways to help students learn more about countries other than the one in which they live and to become better global citizens in today's interlinked world. We would be very grateful for your help in carrying out this research.

All answers will remain anonymous and confidential. If there are questions which you do not wish to answer you are quite free not to do so. If you wish to end the survey at any time, you may also do this. The survey is confidential and your response will be completely anonymous. Only summary information will be shared with the Japanese team leader – your school and individual answers will not be shared. The information will be used in this study and may be used again to compare with data collected in the future. All of the original questionnaires will be destroyed after coding by shredding and the electronic files will be appropriately deleted when they are no longer of use.

If during your participation in this study you feel the information and guidelines that you were given have been neglected or disregarded in any way, or if you are unhappy about the process, please contact the Secretary of the Maynooth University Ethics Committee at research.ethics@nuim.ie or +353 (0)1 708 6019. Please be assured that your concerns will be dealt with in a sensitive manner.

'It must be recognized that, in some circumstances, confidentiality of research data and records may be overridden by courts in the event of litigation or in the course of investigation by lawful authority. In such circumstances the University will take all reasonable steps within law to ensure that confidentiality is maintained to the greatest possible extent.'

If you have any questions about this project or wish to discuss any issues relating to it, please contact the Shelagh Waddington at shelagh.waddington@mu.ie.