

[Read the following text:](#)

## **A Trip to Peru**

### Home of the Inca Empire and much more

Once there was an ancient Incan ruler in the city of Cusco, Peru. This is what most people think about when they hear about Peru. But there is more than ancient ruins in this special place.

Peru is the third largest country in South America, after Brazil and Argentina. Many ancient civilizations rose and fell, including the largest and richest of these, the Incas. These Incas ruled the empire for over 100 years until the Spanish took over in the 16th century.

Peru has three different land areas: The coast, jungle, and mountains. Each one has a different climate, with its own kinds of food, music, dance, and language. Most people live along the coast of the Pacific Ocean, near the capital city, Lima.

Peru is home to more kinds of plants and animals than most other countries on Earth. Did you know that in just one square kilometer of Peruvian rainforest, there are over 6,000 kinds of plants? Snakes, reptiles, huge cats and colorful birds live in the rainforests. Fish, penguins and other birds live in and near the ocean. Llamas and Alpacas live in the mountains. The Puya raimondii plant, also known as queen of the Andes, grows for 100's of years before flowering. That's a long time to wait for a flower!

Most people speak Spanish, Quechua or Aymara, but the native Indian tribes have kept their traditional language, culture and religion. As part of the culture, the most famous food in Peru is the potato. There are almost 4,000 kinds of potatoes in Peru!

Can you imagine all the different fries that are on the menu in a restaurant in Peru?

### Reading Comprehension

Answer the following questions about the text:

Mark TRUE or FALSE next to each statement:

1. Argentina is the largest country in South America.
2. The Incas moved to Spain in the 16th century.
3. There is a jungle in Peru.
4. Lima is located on a mountain top.
5. Many different species of animals live in the rainforests.
6. Llamas live near the ocean.
7. The “queen of the Andes” is a nickname for a plant.
8. Spanish is spoken by everyone in Peru.
9. Potatoes are a popular food in Peru.
10. The people of Peru eat 4,000 kilos of potatoes every year.

### Vocabulary

1. Which word in paragraph one means a “king”?

- a. Ruins
- b. Ancient
- c. Ruler

2. According to paragraph two, what did the Spanish do?

- a. They took control.
- b. They took gifts.
- c. They took a turn.

3. Which word in paragraph three means a “beach”?

- a. Coast
- b. Capital
- c. climate

4. The word “type” is a synonym of \_\_\_\_\_

- a. reptile
- b. kind
- c. over

5. A snake is a kind of reptile.

- a. Yes
- b. No

6. What is special about the *Puya raimondii* plant?

- a. It is a royal plant.
- b. It has a rare name.
- c. It takes a long time to flower.

7. How many types of potatoes are there in Peru?

- a. Forty thousand

- b. Four thousand
- c. Fourteen thousand

## Grammar

1. Change the following sentences into NEGATIVE sentences:

- a. Most people live along the coast of the Pacific Ocean.
- b. Peru is the third largest country in South America.
- c. Once there was an ancient Incan ruler in the city of Cusco.
- d. Many ancient civilizations rose and fell.
- e. Each one has a different climate.
- f. Most people speak Spanish.
- g. Llamas and Alpacas live in the mountains.
- h. The most famous food in Peru is the potato.

2. Change the following sentences into sentences in the PAST SIMPLE tense:

- a. This is what most people think about when they hear about Peru.
- b. Peru has three different land areas.
- c. There are over 6,000 kinds of plants.

- d. Each one has a different climate.
- e. The plant is known as queen of the Andes.
- f. Peru is home to more kinds of plants and animals.
- g. Most people speak Spanish.