

Read the following text:

## It's a Small World

But these countries are REALLY small

When you look at the world map and try to see where Israel is, you have to look very hard. It is no secret that Israel is a very small country. It only takes a few hours to drive from Metula in the north to Eilat in the south. But did you know that there are countries that are even smaller than that? Here is everything you need to know about the smallest countries in the world.

### Vatican City

Vatican City is the smallest country in the world, and it is a different kind of country than most countries we know. First of all, it is in Italy — so it's a country inside a country. Yes, it is tiny (less than 1 square kilometer!), but there is more to it: Vatican City doesn't have a president or prime minister — its leader is the Pope. Another thing that makes Vatican City special is its army. The Vatican City's army has only 100 soldiers. And here's another cool fact about them: they are all from Switzerland!

### Monaco

Next in line is Monaco. This country is located in the French Riviera, near Italy. Most people speak French or Italian. It is a little over two square kilometers in size, but it is a very crowded place. Many tourists go there to see the fancy lifestyle and casinos in Monte Carlo, which is Monaco's biggest city. Monaco is the most densely populated country in the world.

### Nauru

Nauru must be the strangest place I read about while writing this. Nauru is an island, located in the Pacific Ocean not far from Hawaii. Its size is only 21 square kilometers (less than half the size of Tel Aviv)! It has 14 districts, and no capital. And it takes no more than half an hour to drive around the whole place! There aren't many tourists in Nauru, because there isn't much to see on the island. The real attraction is the beaches, where people can fish and swim.

## Reading Comprehension

Answer the following questions about the text:

1. Why do you have to look very hard for Israel on the map?
  - a. Because it only takes a few hours to drive from Metula to Eilat.
  - b. Because you might not know the map by heart.
  - c. **Because it's a very small country.**
2. Who is the Vatican City's prime minister?
  - a. **It doesn't have a prime minister.**
  - b. The president is also a prime minister.
  - c. The leader of the army.

3. How many soldiers are there in the Vatican City's army?
- One thousand
  - One hundred
  - Eleven
  - One hundred thousand
4. Monaco is Italy's \_\_\_\_\_.
- neighbor
  - enemy
  - location
5. Monte Carlo is the \_\_\_\_\_ city in Monaco.
- only
  - largest
  - most beautiful
6. Which sentence is false?
- Nauru is very close to Hawaii.
  - Nauru is an island.
  - There is no capital city in Nauru.
  - There are many attractions in Nauru.
7. How many districts are there in Nauru?
- Forty-one
  - Fourteen
  - One hundred forty

### Vocabulary

1. What does "tiny" mean?
- Very clean
  - Very beautiful
  - Very small
2. What is another word for "kind"?
- type
  - most
  - land
3. What is the opposite of "fancy"?
- rich
  - simple
  - large

4. A “crowded place” is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. unknown to most people
- b. in the middle of the city
- c. full of people

5. Tourists are people who \_\_\_\_\_ places.

- a. manage
- b. visit
- c. create

### Grammar

Write the superlative forms of the following adjectives:

small -

hard -

different -

tiny -

big -

fancy -

cool -

special -

strange -

Answers:

smallest, hardest, the most different, tiniest, biggest, fanciest, coolest, the most special, strangest