

Ethiopia is a country in Africa. It has a longer name. That name is officially the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. It is a country inside the continent. Other countries are all around it. It is a wonderful place. It has a great history. Its people are very proud of their history.

Ethiopia has many people. There are about 78 million people here. There is only one other country in Africa that has more people.

The country has different parts. There are three different climates. One part is cold. That is the high part. One part is hot. That is the low part. Another part is warm. That is a part that is in between low and high land. There are wonderful mountains. They are beautiful.

Every part of Ethiopia is special. Every place is beautiful. The people who live there make it a special place. They work hard to make it a good place to live.

Some people think Ethiopia is the first place people lived long ago. It has a long history. It is one of Africa's oldest countries. At first, there were different parts of this place. Different people led each part. Then it became one country. More than 150 years ago, one person united the country. He was the emperor.

Other African countries became colonies. That means they were taken over by other countries. Ethiopia did not have that problem. More than 100 years ago, the army of Ethiopia fought for freedom. They won that fight.

Ethiopia has important resources. It has gold. It has good land for farming. Many people farm. Many raise animals. They sell the food they raise.

Many people raise very beautiful flowers. They grow them. They sell them. The flowers are important. People in other countries buy them. Some of the roses people buy in the United States may have come all the way from Ethiopia!

Long ago when people first settled in Ethiopia it looked very different. There were not many people. People lived by hunting and getting food that grew there. Today, some people live in small places. Others live in big cities. They all know they live in a very special country.

If you visit Ethiopia, you will be glad you came. You will meet wonderful people. You will see many different places. Each place is very special. You will be in a country that has a very important history. You will be in a country with a great future.

## Contrast and Evaluate Fact and Opinion- Nonfiction

Questions developed by Center for Urban Education for use by Chicago Public Schools 2008-2009.

*Choose the best answer for each question.*

1. Which of these sentences is an opinion?

- a. Ethiopia is a country in Africa.
- b. It is a country inside the continent.
- c. It has a great history.
- d. It has a longer name.

3. Which of these words makes this sentence an opinion? "They know they live in a very special African country."

- a. know
- b. country
- c. African
- d. special

2. Which of these sentences is a fact?

- a. The country has different parts.
- b. Many people raise very beautiful flowers
- c. They live in a special country.
- d. The country has a really great future.

4. Why does the writer say "If you visit Ethiopia, you will be glad you came."?

- a. to show her feeling
- b. to tell you information
- c. because it is true
- d. because it is about you

5. Write your own answer to this question. Write a sentence from the passage that is an opinion.

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*How do you know it is an opinion?*

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### TEACHER NOTES: Develop Students' Skills: Exercise Thinking

These questions have not been validated, so decisions about student's achievement should not be made based on their responses. They are intended to exercise skills. Recommended activities include: students work in pairs to choose the best response; give students the questions without the responses so they generate their own answers; students make up additional questions; students make up questions like these for another passage.

**Answers:** You can remove this answer key and then give it to students and ask them to figure out the basis for the correct response.

Item	1	2	3	4
Answer	c	a	d	a

Question 5 is open-ended. Here is a suggested response.  
Students should identify an opinion and explain that it is not a fact, not real.