

I ndependence Sweeps the World

► Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 118–119 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Write **T** next to each of the following statements if it is true or **F** if the statement is false.
 - a. There was a wave of independence in the Americas and Europe after World War II. _____
 - b. After World War II, European powers could no longer afford to govern their colonial empires. _____
 - c. Independence brought unexpected problems to former colonies. _____

★ People and Cultures

2. Look at picture A and read its caption. Then answer the questions below.
 - a. How long did the Eritreans fight for their independence? _____
 - b. From what country did the Eritreans gain their independence? _____
 - c. Why do you think the woman in the center is holding a flag? _____

► Places, Regions, and Landscapes

3. Use map B, "Independence Since 1945," to complete the following sentences.
 - a. The territory of _____ and the island of _____ are the only places in Africa that are not independent today.
 - b. The first countries in Africa to gain their independence were _____, _____, and _____.
 - c. Many countries changed their names when gaining independence. In Africa Rhodesia became the nation of _____.
 - d. Most countries in South and Southeast Asia became independent between _____ and _____.
 - e. Most countries in the Americas gained their independence before _____.

► Location

4. Use map B, "Independence Since 1945," to classify the following independent island countries. Next to each country, write the ocean in which it is located.

- | | | | |
|----------|------------|----------|------------------|
| a. _____ | Maldives | f. _____ | Marshall Islands |
| b. _____ | Palau | g. _____ | Dominica |
| c. _____ | Bahamas | h. _____ | Comoros |
| d. _____ | Fiji | i. _____ | Sri Lanka |
| e. _____ | Eq. Guinea | j. _____ | Solomon Islands |

★ Time and Change

5. Use map B, "Independence Since 1945," timeline C, "Independence Timeline," and map E "Europe Divided," on page 117 to answer the following questions.

- How long has the United Nations existed? _____
- When did Israel become a new nation? _____
- What former colony became the country of Indonesia? _____
- How long did it take for all of the French colonies in Africa to gain independence?

- Which country was the last British colony in Africa to gain independence?
_____ When did Zimbabwe become independent? _____
- When the Soviet Union broke up, how many different countries were formed?

- Other than Russia, which country was the largest to be formed from the break up of the Soviet Union in 1991? _____
- What countries were created from the former Yugoslavia (look at the inside back cover of the Atlas for the meaning of abbreviations)?
_____, _____,
_____, _____, and,

- What Asian country became independent in 2002? _____
- What is the only remaining European territory in South America?
