**NATIONAL ECONOMIES COMPARISON ASSIGNMENT**

**Your Task:**

In this ever evolving global economy you will need to be able to understand how it all works together. This introductory assignment will ask you to compare two very different economies in order to fully understand these terms and realities.

Using the **CIA World Factbook Website** (https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/ ) as a research tool, you are expected to compare the national economies of two distinct countries from around the world. You will then summarize your findings in a table and you will present your findings to the class the following day.

Your summary should include the following information with respect to your two comparison countries for the year 2015 or the most recent year (2014):

* Population (found in "People and Society"):
* **GDP (purchasing power parity - PPP\*):**
* **GDP - real growth rate\*:**
* **GDP - per capita\* (PPP):**
* [**GDP - composition, by sector of origin (agriculture, industry, services\*):**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2012)
* Agriculture - products:
* Industries:
* **Labour Force\*:**
* [Labour force - by occupation:](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2048)
* [Unemployment rate:](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2129)
* [**Population below poverty line\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2046)
* [**Budget\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2056)
* [**Budget surplus (+) or deficit (-)\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2222)
* [**Public debt\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2186)
* **Fiscal year\*:**
* [**Inflation rate\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2092)
* [**Commercial bank prime lending rate\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2208)
* [**Current account balance (net balance of trade/net investment distributions/net cash transfer payments)\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2187)
* [**Exports\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2078)
* [Exports - commodities:](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2049)
* [Exports - partners:](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2050)
* [**Imports\*:**](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2087)
* [Imports - commodities:](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2058)
* [Imports - partners:](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesanddefs.html#2061)

The following 15 pairs of countries will be the subject of comparison for this assignment:

1. Canada - Portugal
2. United States - Chile
3. United Kingdom - Jamaica
4. Japan - Cambodia
5. France - Egypt
6. Germany - Lebanon
7. Italy - Iraq
8. Russia - Vietnam
9. Brazil - Namibia
10. China - Pakistan
11. India - Singapore
12. South Africa - Sri Lanka
13. South Korea - Venezuela
14. Mexico - UAE
15. Australia - Philippines

You will be working with a partner on this assignment. Each group member is responsible to research one of the above countries. As a group you must coherently compare the two countries and present one of the above concepts to the class. You will also be responsible for defining one of the terms noted with an asterisk (\*) in the above list of economic factors.

**For this assignment you must:**

Individually:

1. Research your country thoroughly

As a group:

1. Place the information in a chart
2. Summarize and compare your information
3. Present your information clearly to the class
4. Explain one of the terms with the asterisk (that is assigned to you)

**Assessment:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Thinking** | **Level 1**  (5-6) | **Level 2**  (6-7) | **Level 3**  (7-8) | **Level 4**  (8-10) |
| **Students’ presentation clearly:**   * **Researched the two economies** * **Explains the new term(s)** * **Compares the two economies**     **/10** | Students show little evidence of gathering information. | Students show some knowledge of the economic information. | Students show good knowledge of the economic information. | Students show excellent knowledge of the economic information. |

**\*\*Note that you will be quizzed on these economic terms so make sure you pay attention to the presentations.**