

Lesson 1**Focus Question #1****Why is Germany important to Europe and to the United States?**

- Why is a study of Germany important?
- How does Germany compare to the United States and the rest of Europe in land size, GDP, and relative population?

Background Information

A working knowledge of the relative location and size of the nations of Europe is an important component in understanding the political and economic relationships among these countries. Germany is geographically located in the center of Europe with political, economic, and social windows that open East and West.

Even though the nations of Europe share a common geographic location, many differences exist, such as availability of natural resources, population concerns, and economic pressures. These factors play a role in influencing the political relationships of these nations.

Essential Content ✂

Note: The following words/concepts are essential to an understanding of this lesson. Put the words on your Word Wall and use them in context as you teach the lesson.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| ✂ Relative location | ✂ Population Density |
| ✂ Land Size | ✂ Industrialization |
| ✂ Gross Domestic Product | ✂ Export/Import |
| ✂ Emerging Nations | ✂ European Integration |
| ✂ Cultural Legacy | ✂ Multicultural Society |
| ✂ Stereotypes | ✂ Case Study |
| ✂ Post World War II | ✂ Cold War |