

**ASSIGNMENT #1**  
**HOST COUNTRY REPORT**  
TO BE COMPLETED AS A FAMILY

Use a variety of resources (books, Internet, Rotex, Inbound & Outbound students, Nationals, travel guides...) to help you complete the Host Country Report for your assigned country.

Email your completed Host Country Report to your Country Counselor by Thursday, Feb. 23.

**Provide the following information for your host country:**

- Name of Country:
- Population:
- Language(s):
- Currency:
- Current Exchange Rate to the Dollar:
- Type of Government:
- President or Political Leader:
- Bordering Countries:
- Climate per season:
- Famous Landmarks:

**Identify at least three interesting facts about your host country for each topic. Write a paragraph describing each fact and what it is that makes it unique or significant to your host country.** (Total of three paragraphs per topic.)

*Example Paragraph: China is the most populous state in the world with over 1.3 billion people, about half of which are under the age of 30. There are ninety-five cities in China that have more than 1 million residents. The government's goal is to stabilize population growth early in the 21st century, though some projections estimate a population of anywhere ranging from 1.4 billion to 1.6 billion by 2025. As a result, the country's family planning minister will maintain its one-child per family policy until at least the year 2020*

- National History
- Geography and Natural Resources
- National Sports / Favorite Pastimes
- Religion & National Holidays
- Education
- Healthcare
- Government
- Economy

**ASSIGNMENT #2**  
**CULTURAL EXPLORATION**  
TO BE COMPLETED AS A FAMILY

Complete activities #1 and #2. Choose a 3rd activity from the list of options. Be prepared to share what you have learned at the orientation on February 25. Commit to completing as many of these activities as possible before you depart for your year abroad.

**Complete activities 1 & 2**

1. Make a list of at least 10 questions and interview a national or someone with extensive experience living in your host country. Share highlights of your conversation. (Current Outbounds or Rotex are great resources.)
  
2. Make a list of at least 10 things you want to see/do/explore when you're in your host country. Explain how each will further your cultural understanding. I.e.: I want to see the tulip fields in full bloom. The tulip is an emblem of the country. I want to understand the role it plays for the Dutch people, culturally and economically.

**Choose at least one activity from the following list:**

- Find an online newspaper for your host country and bookmark it on your computer. Identify the current events and begin to follow them. Make a list of the most recent events and indicate why they are significant.
- Bake a traditional food. Bring a copy of the recipe. (Samples are welcome as well!)
- Read a book written by a native author. Commit to reading it before you depart. Tell about the author's life and what is special about the book.
- Create a play list of hit songs from your host country.
- Identify a famous artist. List the names of his/her famous pieces. Use the computer to print several examples of the artist's work and talk about the cultural influences in the work.
- Watch a movie or documentary about your country, or one that was filmed in your region. Share a brief movie critique.
- Be creative! Find your own way to explore, engage and enjoy aspects of your new host culture. Bring examples to share.