Solutions elementary 3
Unit 5: Places
5F

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What can you find in an ideal city?

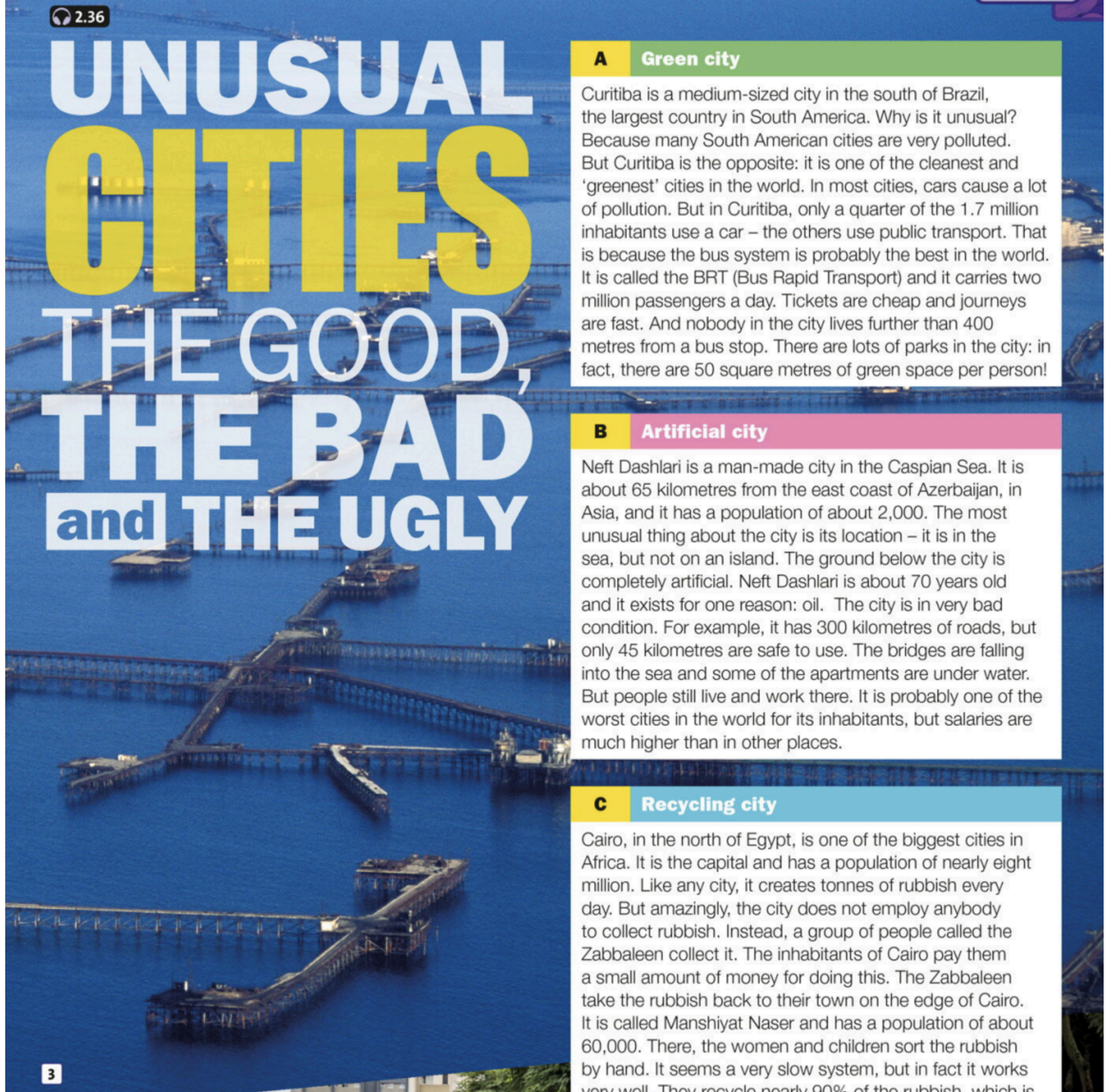
Which city in Iran is the best city in your opinion?

Imagine you can make your own city. What is it like?

1 **SPEAKING** Look at the photos. Do these cities look like good or bad places to live? Give reasons.

2.36

UNUSUAL CITIES
THE GOOD, THE BAD and THE UGLY



3

4

A Green city

Curitiba is a medium-sized city in the south of Brazil, the largest country in South America. Why is it unusual? Because many South American cities are very polluted. But Curitiba is the opposite: it is one of the cleanest and 'greenest' cities in the world. In most cities, cars cause a lot of pollution. But in Curitiba, only a quarter of the 1.7 million inhabitants use a car – the others use public transport. That is because the bus system is probably the best in the world. It is called the BRT (Bus Rapid Transport) and it carries two million passengers a day. Tickets are cheap and journeys are fast. And nobody in the city lives further than 400 metres from a bus stop. There are lots of parks in the city: in fact, there are 50 square metres of green space per person!

B Artificial city

Neft Dashlari is a man-made city in the Caspian Sea. It is about 65 kilometres from the east coast of Azerbaijan, in Asia, and it has a population of about 2,000. The most unusual thing about the city is its location – it is in the sea, but not on an island. The ground below the city is completely artificial. Neft Dashlari is about 70 years old and it exists for one reason: oil. The city is in very bad condition. For example, it has 300 kilometres of roads, but only 45 kilometres are safe to use. The bridges are falling into the sea and some of the apartments are under water. But people still live and work there. It is probably one of the worst cities in the world for its inhabitants, but salaries are much higher than in other places.

C Recycling city

Cairo, in the north of Egypt, is one of the biggest cities in Africa. It is the capital and has a population of nearly eight million. Like any city, it creates tonnes of rubbish every day. But amazingly, the city does not employ anybody to collect rubbish. Instead, a group of people called the Zabbaleen collect it. The inhabitants of Cairo pay them a small amount of money for doing this. The Zabbaleen take the rubbish back to their town on the edge of Cairo. It is called Manshiyat Naser and has a population of about 60,000. There, the women and children sort the rubbish by hand. It seems a very slow system, but in fact it works very well. They recycle nearly 90% of the rubbish, which is far better than recycling centres in most western countries. Manshiyat Naser certainly is not one of the most attractive places in Egypt. But thanks to a 2009 film about it, *Garbage Dreams*, it is quite famous – and quite popular with tourists!

Reading Strategy

When you do a matching task, read all the texts first to get a sense of the overall meaning. Then, go through the questions one by one. Decide which text you think contains the answer and look for it carefully. If you can't find it, look at the other texts.

2 **Read the Reading Strategy. Then read the texts (A–C) and match them with the photos (1–4). One of the texts matches two photos.**

3 Match each question (1–7) with one of the texts (A–C).

Which text is about a city which ...

1 has more than a million inhabitants? _____
2 is easy to travel around? _____
3 is next to a much larger city? _____
4 is less than a hundred years old? _____
5 has a good system of recycling? _____
6 offers high salaries for workers? _____
7 has a lot of green spaces? _____

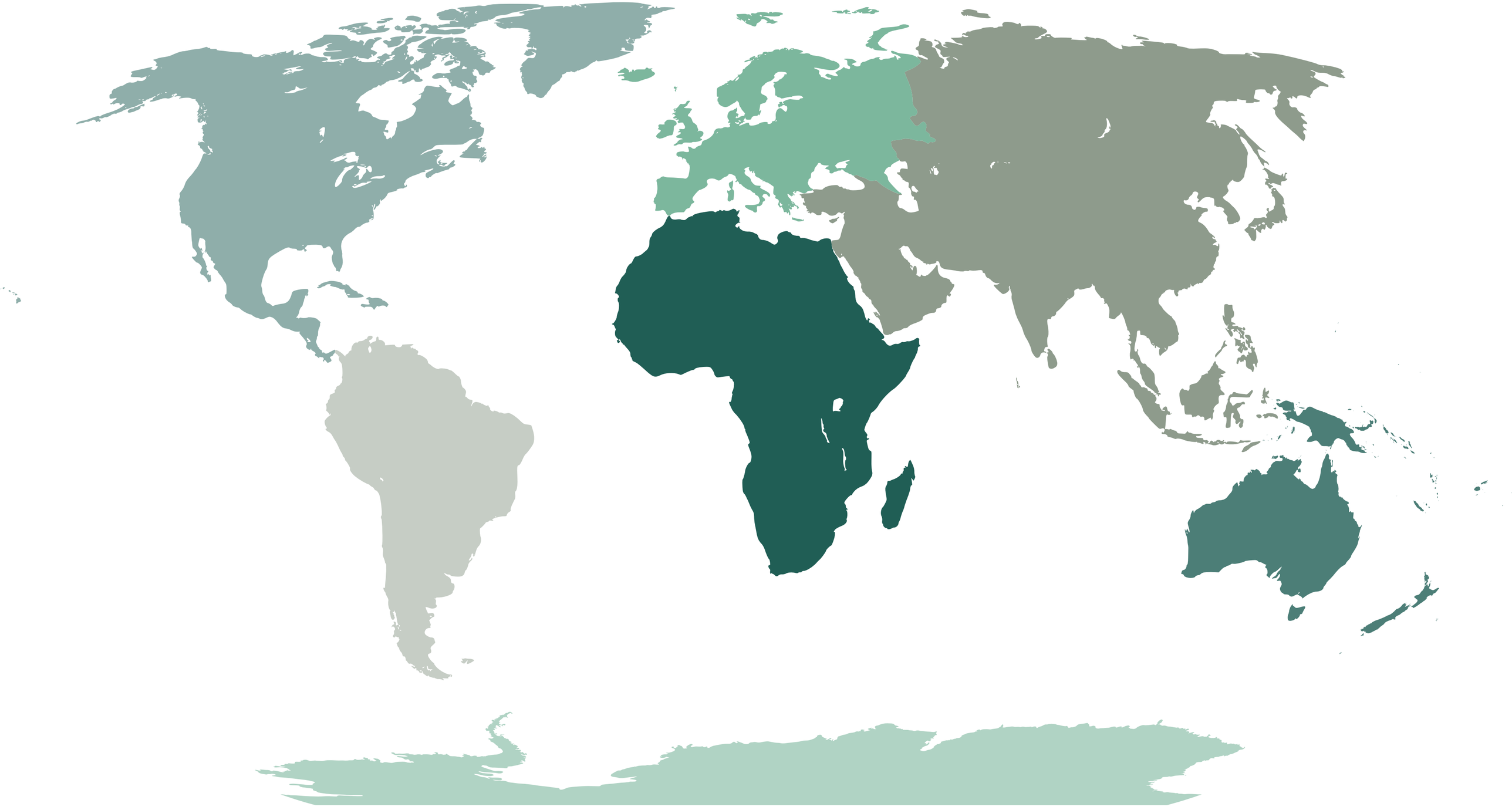
How do you read these numbers?

10
100
1000
10000
100000
1000000
10000000000
1.5
98%

4 **Explain the significance of these numbers and measurements from the texts.**

Text A:	1.7 million	400 metres	50 square metres
Text B:	2,000	70	300 km
Text C:	eight million	60,000	90%

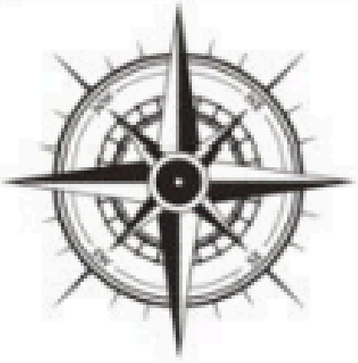
Curitiba has a population of about 1.7 million.



5 **VOCABULARY** In the texts, find the missing words for the compass points and continents.

Compass points

1 _____

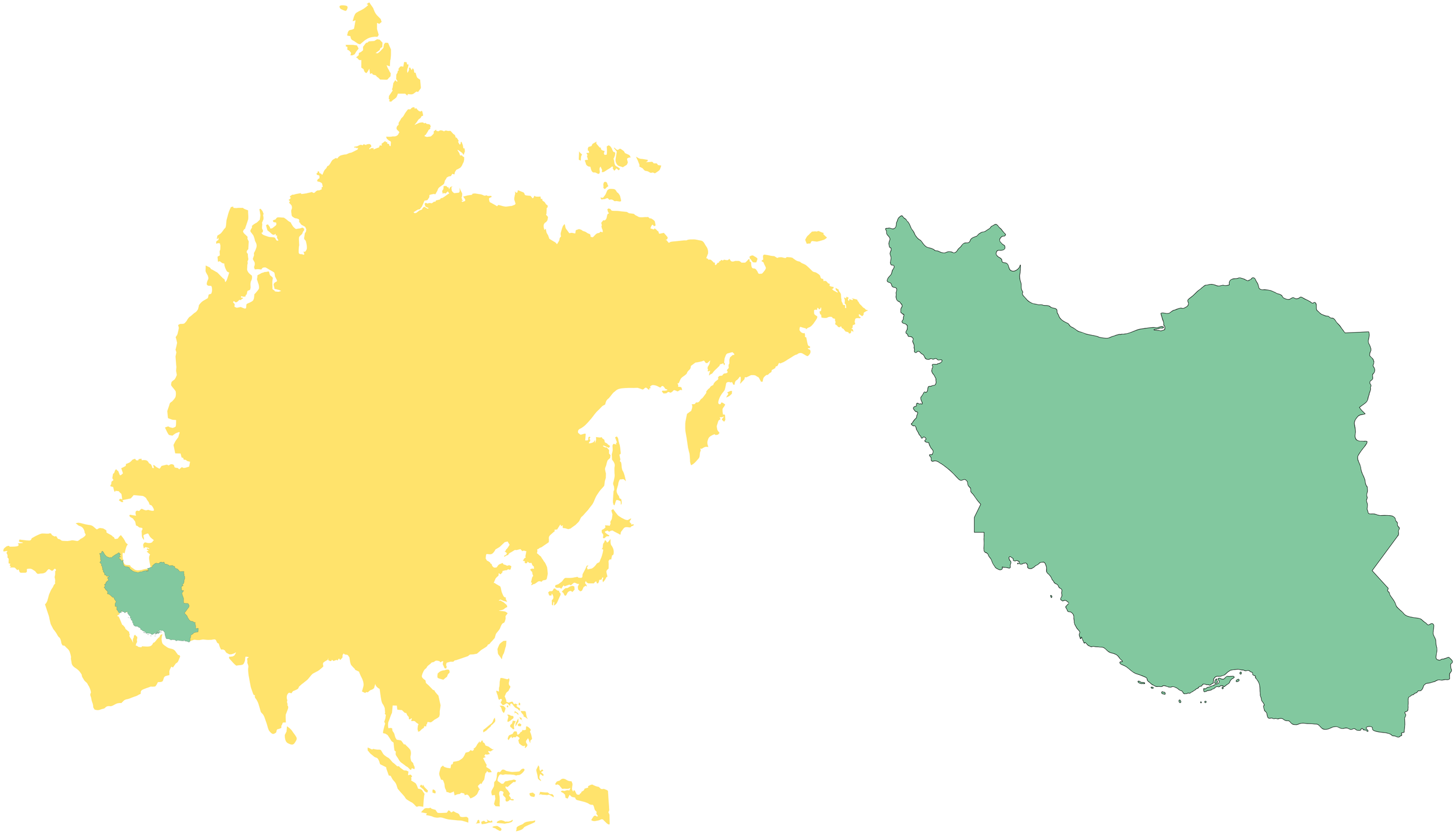
west  2 _____

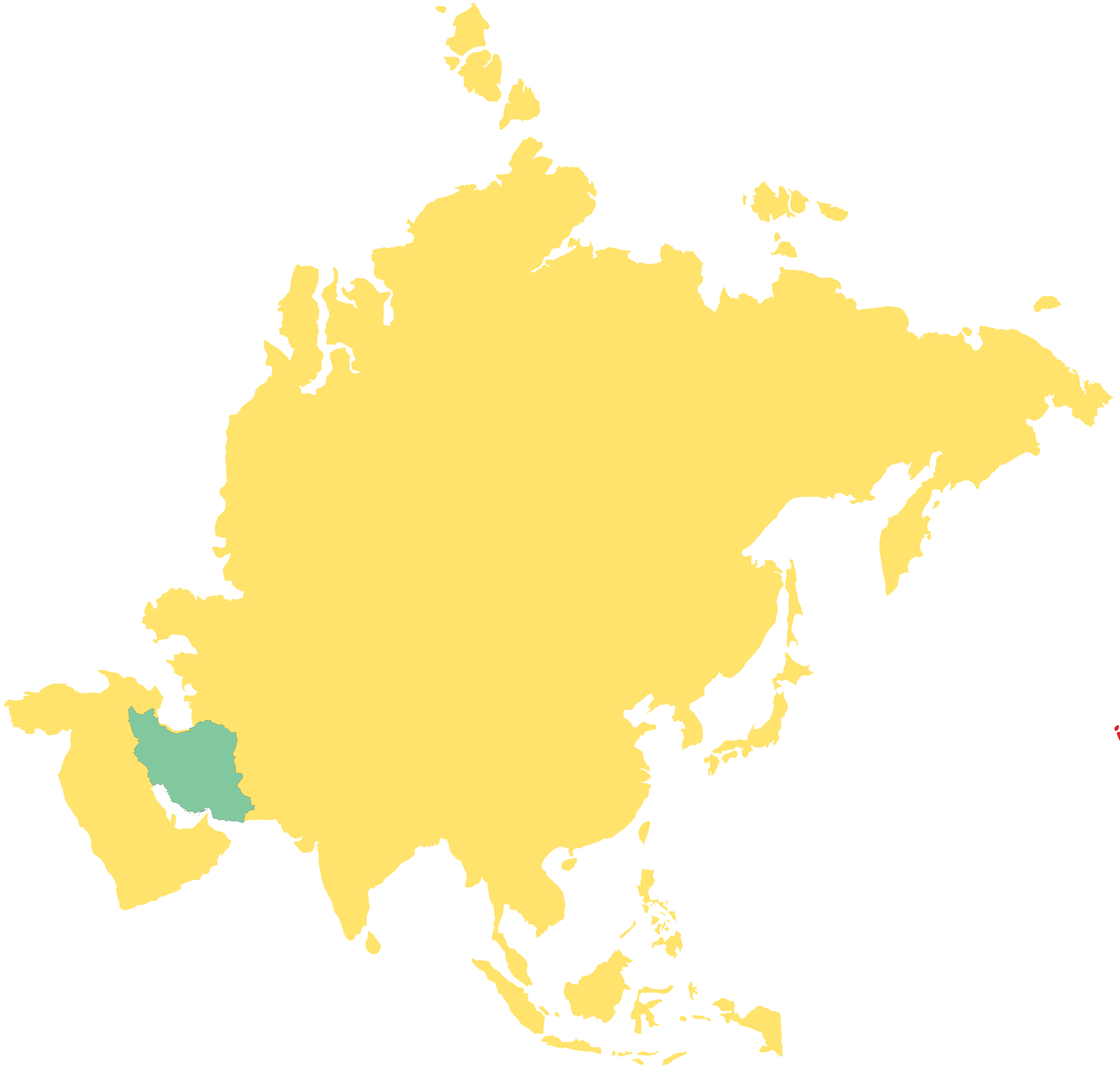
3 _____

Continents

Antarctica Australia Europe North America

4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____





?

6 Work in pairs. Complete the sentences with the correct words from exercise 5.

1 Canada is to the north of the USA.
2 Egypt is in the _____ of _____.
3 England is to the _____ of Scotland.
4 Spain is in the _____ of _____.
5 Los Angeles is on the _____ coast of _____.
6 Germany is to the _____ of Poland.

7 In pairs, write more sentences like the ones in exercise 6. Include facts about your own country and its neighbours.

8 **SPEAKING** In pairs, ask and answer questions about the cities in the texts. Use the superlative form of these adjectives.

attractive / ugly big / small clean / dirty near / far

Which city is the most attractive?

I think Curitiba is the most attractive.

Assignment: WB 5F