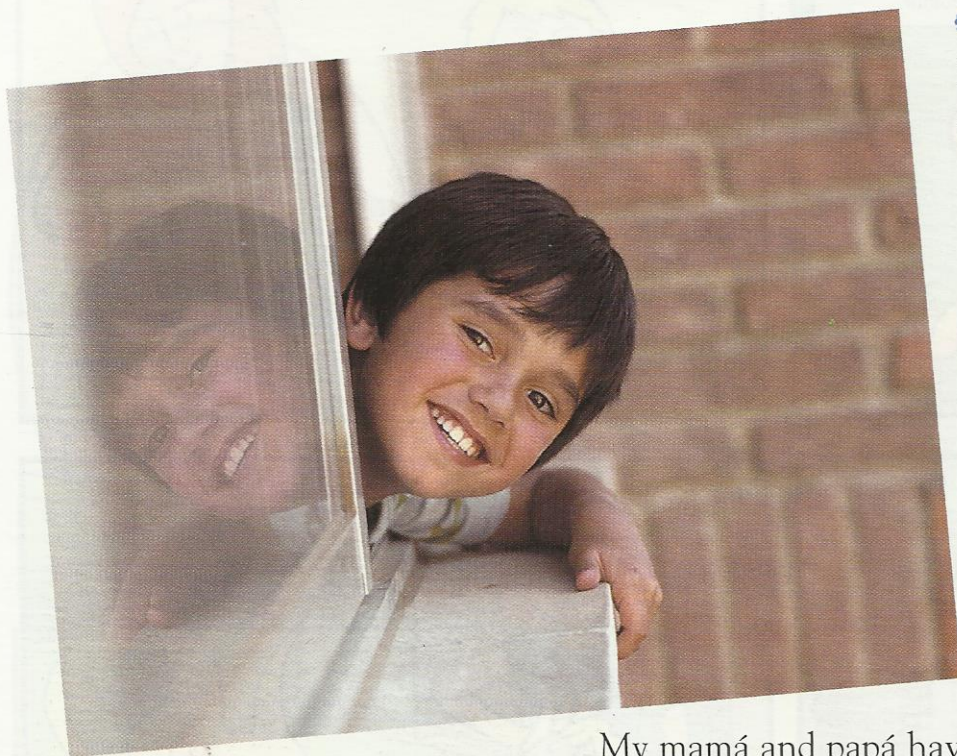


27 – Spain (1)



Meet Juan

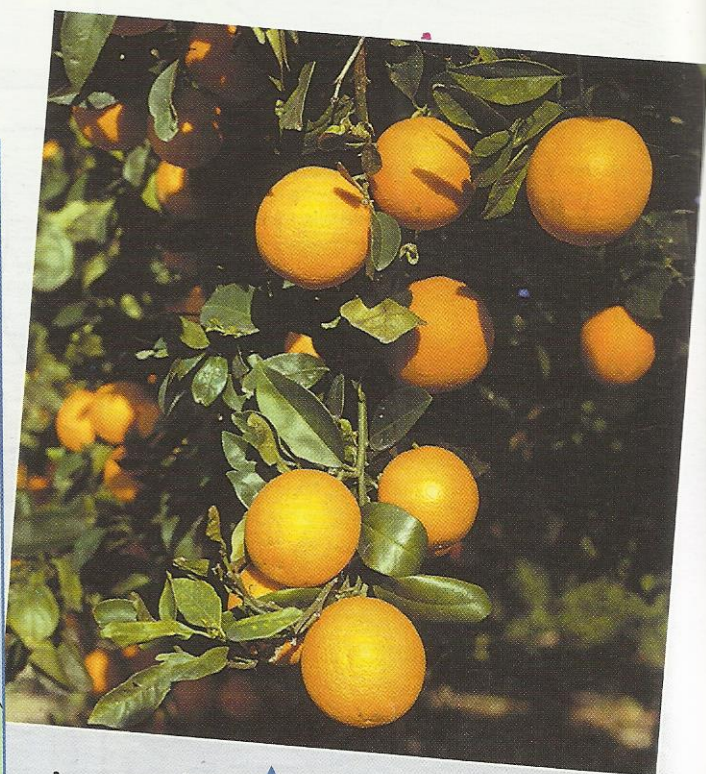
Hi, I'm Juan from Spain. In Spanish, when we say the letter 'j' it sounds like the letter 'h'. My name sounds like 'Huan'.

My country is warmer than Ireland. In summer it is so hot in the afternoon that many people stop working. Most of the shops close down until later in the day when it is cooler. We call this time siesta.

My mamá and papá have a farm. They grow oranges, lemons and limes, grapes, olives and tomatoes. It is hard to grow these fruits in Ireland because your summers are not as hot as ours.

It does not rain as much in my country as it does in Ireland. Many of the farmers have to water the fruit and vegetables every morning and evening. In Spain we have to buy all our drinking water.

This is a map of my country. ▼



An orange tree ▲

Exercises

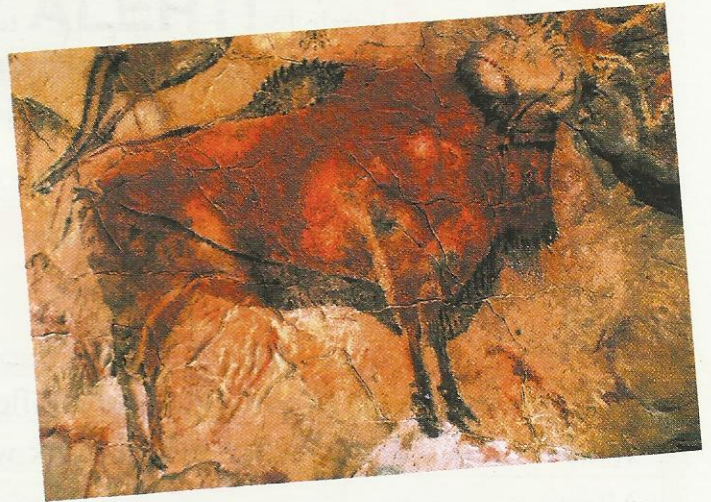
1. Which two colours are on the Spanish flag?
2. Lisbon is a city in which country that touches Spain?
3. Name three rivers that flow through Spain.
4. Which African country is nearest to Spain?
5. Which mountains are between Spain and France?
6. Name the sea and the ocean on either side of Spain.
7. To which three Spanish islands in the Mediterranean Sea do many Irish people go on holidays?
8. Name three cities in Spain.



⚙ The Caves of Altamira

Here is a true story that you may think goes back over a hundred years – in fact this story goes back 15,000 years, to a time when much of Europe was covered in ice.

Don Marcelino was a rich Spanish nobleman who lived in the North of Spain at the end of the nineteenth century. He loved to read about history and used to spend time walking in the hills looking for things that were very old. One day, in the year 1879, Don Marcelino took his daughter Maria with him and together they went to the nearby Caves of Altamira. The Don brought a lantern and they went deep into the cave. There the Don was delighted to find what looked like very old tools. But then Maria happened to look at the ceiling and saw paintings of **bison** and deer.



▲ A cave painting of a bison from the Caves of Altamira.

Fill in the blanks

1. The name of the Don's daughter was _____.
2. The Don loved to read about _____ and to go looking for _____ things.
3. The Don and his daughter went to the Caves of _____.
4. There are _____ on the ceiling of the caves.
5. These paintings are _____ years old.
6. The paintings did not fade because the caves are _____, _____ and _____.

These famous paintings were painted by hunters 15,000 years ago and did not fade because the caves were dry, dark and cold.

Dictionary

bison: an ox with shaggy hair that lived during the Ice Age.