

Worksheet G6.2.1

Let us make a list of the countries which have been mentioned in the news over a period of 15-days.

**A: Read, then reply.**

This is a world map. When we hear the news we normally hear:

- (a) **Local news** – incidents which happened in the Maltese Islands.
- (b) **Foreign news** – incidents which happened abroad, in some other country in the world.

Although a lot of the news is local, it could be that in some local news a reference is made to some foreign countries. On one day in July 2014 these countries were mentioned in the news:

	The countries	The news
1	Gaza and Israel	Invasion by Israel on the Gaza Strip in retaliation for missiles shot at Israel; many civilians died, mostly women and children.
2	Ukraine	Civil war – an aeroplane of Malaysia which happened to be passing over Ukraine was dropped; 295 people were killed.
3	Spain	A Colombian drug baron was arrested when caught in Madrid, Spain.
4	France	A demonstration in favour of Palestine – the demonstrators tried to enter the Jewish Synagogue; tear gas was used.
5	Five European Countries	Maltese cyclists took part in a charity ride; they rode through the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia and up to Serbia.
6	The United States of America	Dogs were taken on surf-boards in California, USA.
7	Seventy countries around the world	A Maltese Priest, Father Gwann Caruana, publishes the book <i>The Maltese Missionary Experience</i> , which treats the experiences of Maltese missionaries in around 70 countries around the world. Amongst others Australia, Peru, Brazil, America, around 20 African countries, around 17 European countries and India are mentioned.

1. In the table there are two news mentions about the trouble between the Palestinians and Israelis.

Which are they?

News number _____ and news number _____.

2. The countries mentioned in news number 7 are located in five different continents. These continents are:

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____

(d) _____

(e) _____

3. In the table above a lot of local news was left out, meaning the news about the Maltese Islands. In fact more than half the news time was taken up by local news. Why do you think that the major amount of news is local?

4. Two of the news items listed are local news which make a reference to many foreign countries. Write the number of the news and in short say what the connection between the foreign countries and Malta is:

(a) News number: _____ The connection to Malta:

(b) News number: _____ The connection to Malta:

5. Give one reason why certain countries were mentioned in the news on this particular day.

B: A Quiz about general knowledge from the news.

Students write and ask questions of general knowledge about countries mentioned in the news. The following are just some examples.

1. In which continent do we find Brazil?
2. Name two European countries mentioned in the news which are not part of the Mediterranean.
3. To which continent do the Maltese missionaries travel most?
4. Which is the biggest country in size: India or Serbia?
5. Which is the capital city of Hungary?

(N.B. Questions such as these and others like them should never be asked in an exam paper; the scope of these is to increase the interest of the students and hence help them discover the joy of learning.)