Name _____ Date _____

Cultural Overview of Europe

Read the passage below. Then use your notes from Lesson 2 of this unit, and the passage, to answer questions 1–3 below.

Europeans speak a variety of languages. They worship in many different churches, mosques, and temples. They have diverse language backgrounds. For centuries, Europeans' cultural differences contributed to a war-torn landscape. Armies battled over which church would minister to the people or which group would control a territory. In the 20th Century, millions died in World War I (1914–1918) and World War II (1939–1945). Both wars began in Europe. They were fueled in part by these cultural divisions. Today, language and religion still divide Europeans. However, they are also united in organizations such as the European Union, Council of Europe, and United Nations. These organizations resolve problems through negotiation and cooperation.

Questions

1. Review your ideas from Lesson 2 about what you already know about Europe. Which of those were about language or religion? _____

2. What languages are spoken in Europe? Do languages correspond with countries? Explain.

3. What religions are practiced in Europe? Which of these have the largest numbers of members? Do most people in a single country practice the same religion? Explain. _____

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