

# I ndependence Sweeps the World

## ► Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 118–119 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Write **T** next to each of the following statements if it is true or **F** if the statement is false.
  - a. There was a wave of independence in the Americas and Europe after World War II. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. After World War II, European powers could no longer afford to govern their colonial empires. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Independence brought unexpected problems to former colonies. \_\_\_\_\_

## ★ People and Cultures

2. Look at picture A and read its caption. Then answer the questions below.
  - a. How long did the Eritreans fight for their independence? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. From what country did the Eritreans gain their independence? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Why do you think the woman in the center is holding a flag? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ► Places, Regions, and Landscapes

3. Use map B, "Independence Since 1945," to complete the following sentences.
  - a. The territory of \_\_\_\_\_ and the island of \_\_\_\_\_ are the only places in Africa that are not independent today.
  - b. The first countries in Africa to gain their independence were \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Many countries changed their names when gaining independence. In Africa Rhodesia became the nation of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. Most countries in South and Southeast Asia became independent between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. Most countries in the Americas gained their independence before \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ **Location**

4. Use map B, "Independence Since 1945," to classify the following independent island countries. Next to each country, write the ocean in which it is located.

- |          |            |          |                  |
|----------|------------|----------|------------------|
| a. _____ | Maldives   | f. _____ | Marshall Islands |
| b. _____ | Palau      | g. _____ | Dominica         |
| c. _____ | Bahamas    | h. _____ | Comoros          |
| d. _____ | Fiji       | i. _____ | Sri Lanka        |
| e. _____ | Eq. Guinea | j. _____ | Solomon Islands  |

★ **Time and Change**

5. Use map B, "Independence Since 1945," timeline C, "Independence Timeline," and map E "Europe Divided," on page 117 to answer the following questions.

- How long has the United Nations existed? \_\_\_\_\_
- When did Israel become a new nation? \_\_\_\_\_
- What former colony became the country of Indonesia? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long did it take for all of the French colonies in Africa to gain independence?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Which country was the last British colony in Africa to gain independence?  
\_\_\_\_\_ When did Zimbabwe become independent? \_\_\_\_\_
- When the Soviet Union broke up, how many different countries were formed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Other than Russia, which country was the largest to be formed from the break up of the Soviet Union in 1991? \_\_\_\_\_
- What countries were created from the former Yugoslavia (look at the inside back cover of the Atlas for the meaning of abbreviations)?  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and,  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What Asian country became independent in 2002? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the only remaining European territory in South America?  
\_\_\_\_\_