Germany and the Alpine Countries

• Germany’s Land
  – Surrounded by __________________________
  – North- Northern European Plain
  – Central- rock highlands with coal
  – South- Alps- threatened by acid rain
  – Rivers- important to economy
  
    • ______________________ - begins in the Black Forest
    • ____________ - central highlands to North Sea- Hamburg
    • ______________________ - Swiss Alps, through Germany and Netherlands to North Sea
Germany and the Alpine Countries

• History and Government
  – Used to be a bunch of states- 1871 united into Germany
  – 20th century- started 2 world wars
  – After WW2- divided into 4 zones- West Germany (________________), East Germany (________________)
  • Reunited in 1990 with the fall of the SU
  – Like the US today- federal republic- shared powers
    • Elected President is only a symbol; chancellor (appointed by Parliament) makes the decisions
Germany and the Alpine Countries

• Germany’s People
  – 82.5 people- largest population in Europe- 90% urban
  – Berlin- government and cultural capital
  – ________________________________
  – 90% of Germans are native- the rest are mostly from Eastern Europe and Turkey
  – Mostly Protestant or Catholic
Germany and the Alpine Countries

• The Economy
  – Global leader
  – Agriculture- surplus
  – Industry- steel, chemicals, cars, electrical equipment
    • Invested into research- has paid off
  – The challenge of reunification
    • East was less trained and less equipped than the west
    • East still ______________________________
Germany and the Alpine Countries

• The Alpine Countries
  – (only 62 square miles - smaller than DC - population 40,000)
  – Swiss- “gatekeepers”- travel routes through Alps go the Switzerland
    • Neutrality-
    • Stable democratic gov’t despite surrounding wars
    • Geneva-
    • Each city is unique bc of mtns
    • Many ethnic groups- languages: German, French, Italian, Romansch
    • Hydroelectric power, electrical equipment, clocks, cheese, chocolate, knife, banks
Germany and the Alpine Countries

– Austria
  • Tourism- skiing
  • Timber, iron ore, hydroelectric power
  • Produce machinery, chemicals, metals, and vehicles
  • Banking and insurance
  • Speak German, are Roman Catholic
  • 1/5 of Austrians live in ______________ - capital on Danube
    – Mozart and other composers