

## AMERICAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN CITIES

### San Francisco and Cape Town

#### Task 1: INTRODUCTION

Talk to your partner and discuss the following questions:

1. What do you know about South Africa and the USA?
2. What cities can you think of in South Africa and the USA?
3. What do South Africa and the USA have in common?
4. What are the differences?

#### Task 2: READING

Read the sentences below and decide whether they refer to San Francisco or Cape Town

1. In 2014, Cape Town was named the best place in the world to visit by both *The New York Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*.
2. It was developed by the Dutch East India Company as a supply station for Dutch ships sailing to East Africa, India, and the Far East.
3. As of 2016, it was the 7th highest-income county in the United States, with a per capita personal income of \$110,418.
4. It was founded on June 29, 1776 by colonists from Spain.
5. Three-quarters of the city was destroyed by the 1906 earthquake and fire but was quickly rebuilt.
6. It has 884,363 residents as of 2017.
7. Upon independence from Spain in 1821, the area became part of Mexico.
8. The California Gold Rush brought to the city a flood of treasure seekers, known as "forty-niners", as in "1849".
9. In January 2018 a United Nations special rapporteur on homelessness, Leilani Farha, stated that she was "completely shocked" by the homelessness crisis during a visit to the city.

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10. The city also encloses the 36 hectare Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden that contains protected natural forest and fynbos along with a variety of animals and birds.
11. In 2010 the city hosted nine World Cup matches: six first-round matches, one second-round match, one quarter final and one semi-final.
12. It is a coastal city in South Africa.
13. The discovery of diamonds in Griqualand West in 1867, and the Witwatersrand Gold Rush in 1886, prompted a flood of immigrants to the country.
14. Robben Island, west of the city, has been used as prison where people were isolated, banished and exiled as well as a leper colony, a post office, a grazing ground, and a mental hospital.
15. As of 2018, the city is experiencing a water crisis, following a drought that began in 2015.
16. 42.4% of the population describe themselves as "Coloured", 32.3% as "White", 15.8% as "Black African", 1.4% as "Indian or Asian" and 1.9 as "Other".
17. The city was recently named as the most entrepreneurial city in the country.
18. The Golden Gate Bridge is the second-most used suicide site/suicide bridge in the world, after the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge.
19. As of the 2010 census, the ethnic makeup and population of the city included:  
90,387 whites (48%), 267,915 Asians (33%), 48,870 African Americans (6%), and others; there were 121,744 Hispanics or Latinos of any race (15%).
20. The city has the highest percentage of gay and lesbian individuals of any of the 50 largest U.S. cities, at 15%.

Sources: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San\\_Francisco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco), [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape\\_Town](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Town)

**Task 3: SPEAKING**

Complete the table below in pairs, then compare with other students.

	San Francisco	Cape Town
history		
economy		
people		
geography		
famous places		
life style		
other interesting facts		

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### Teachers' Notes

This activity has been designed for intermediate, upper-intermediate and advanced students to be used before the event as an introduction and a way of getting students interested in the subject.

#### **Task 1: READING answer key**

Read the sentences below and decide whether they refer to San Francisco or Cape Town

1. In 2014, Cape Town was named the best place in the world to visit by both *The New York Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*. (CT)
2. It was developed by the Dutch East India Company as a supply station for Dutch ships sailing to East Africa, India, and the Far East. (CT)
3. As of 2016, it was the 7th highest-income county in the United States, with a per capita personal income of \$110,418. (SF)
4. It was founded on June 29, 1776 by colonists from Spain. (SF)
5. Three-quarters of the city was destroyed by the 1906 earthquake and fire but was quickly rebuilt. (SF)
6. It has 884,363 residents as of 2017. (SF)
7. Upon independence from Spain in 1821, the area became part of Mexico. (SF)
8. The California Gold Rush brought to the city a flood of treasure seekers, known as "forty-niners", as in "1849". (SF)
9. In January 2018 a United Nations special rapporteur on homelessness, Leilani Farha, stated that she was "completely shocked" by the homelessness crisis during a visit to the city. (SF)
10. The city also encloses the 36 hectare Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden that contains protected natural forest and fynbos along with a variety of animals and birds. (CT)
11. In 2010 the city hosted nine World Cup matches: six first-round matches, one second-round match, one quarter final and one semi-final. (CT)
12. It is a coastal city in South Africa. (CT)
13. The discovery of diamonds in Griqualand West in 1867, and the Witwatersrand Gold Rush in 1886, prompted a flood of immigrants to the country. (CT)
14. Robben Island, west of the city, has been used as prison where people were isolated, banished and exiled as well as a leper colony, a post office, a grazing ground, and a mental hospital. (CT)
15. As of 2018, the city is experiencing a water crisis, following a drought that began in 2015. (CT)

16. 42.4% of the population describe themselves as "Coloured", 32.3% as "White", 15.8% as "Black African", 1.4% as "Indian or Asian" and 1.9 as "Other". (CT)
17. The city was recently named as the most entrepreneurial city in the country. (CT)
18. The Golden Gate Bridge is the second-most used suicide site/suicide bridge in the world, after the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge. (SF)
19. As of the 2010 census, the ethnic makeup and population of the city included: 90,387 whites (48%), 267,915 Asians (33%), 48,870 African Americans (6%), and others; there were 121,744 Hispanics or Latinos of any race (15%). (SF)
20. The city has the highest percentage of gay and lesbian individuals of any of the 50 largest U.S. cities, at 15%. (SF)