

Today's Quiz

1. Upon crossing the border of this country, you immediately notice the friendly and welcoming nature of the people, the roads lined with quick, broad smiles and happy waves of greeting.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

2. In this country, people stop their cars, get out and shake your hand in welcome after they learn you are from America.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

3. In this country, people gather around your motorcycles in respectful admiration, asking questions, but never touching or grabbing.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

4. In this country, the people are overwhelmingly happy, jovial, smiling, helpful, genuine and warm.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

5. In this country, you see large numbers of vintage American made autos.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

6. In this country, at least 33% of all vehicles are festooned with pictures or graphic representations of the members of the ruling elite.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

7. In this country, menus feature local delicacies such as lamb's brain (simple or salad), lamb's tongue (fried or boiled, plain or stuffed), or lamb's stomach (stuffed).
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

8. In this country, you can tour what is arguably the finest example of a military castle ever built.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

9. This country is filled with beautiful roads, including nearly unlimited twisties sprinkled with warm and welcoming villages.
 - a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

Today's Quiz

10. In this country, you will find the largest concentration of Christians in the Middle East, with a wide variety of sects and denominations.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
11. In this country, men of all ages are generally very respectful of all women.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
12. In this country, you can buy excellent Lebanese wine with dinner.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
13. In this country you can watch satellite TV channels from all over the world in your hotel room, including Hollywood movies in English with Arabic subtitles, the BBC and the Arabic 24 hour news channels such as Al Jazeera.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
14. In this country, the people do not consider Iraq a big priority. Instead they consider the Palestinian issue the defining issue of our time and America's blind endorsement of any and all Israeli actions to be the mark of a superpower being run by the right wing extremists of Israel.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
15. In this country, the gasoline (benzene) is of low octane, and the use of octane booster is recommended.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
16. In all of our travels by motorcycle around the world, in this country we experienced 3 of the 4 instances of people throwing things at us.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
17. In this country, the people are overwhelmingly dour and sullen, bordering on surly.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
18. In this country, the military equipment is of high quality, and looks ready for use, reflecting a national focus on, and investment in, military capability and readiness.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both

Today's Quiz

19. In this country, motorcycles are illegal for its citizens, except for the ruling elite who ride with police and military escort.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
20. In this country, the ruling class is convinced the people love them, with little to no evidence of that claim among the population at large.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
21. In this country, the males between the ages of 13 and 30 demonstrate the sexual maturity of a 12 year old locked in the bathroom with their first copy of Playboy.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
22. In this country, the military presence is widespread, with many military roadblocks manned by machine gun toting soldiers flanked by armored vehicles.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
23. In this country, Western women can expect constant and pervasive leering and/or sexual advances by men between the ages of 15 and 30.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
24. In this country young men and boys will grab at you, attempt to pull items from your motorcycle, tamper with your motorcycle and kick and hit your motorcycle if you stop and let them surround you.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both
25. In this country, we were all so happy to be across the border and into its neighboring country's territory that Steph kissed the ground.
- a) Syria
 - b) Jordan
 - c) Both



Today's Quiz

The answers are on the following page. No peeking ahead!

Today's Quiz

Answers:

Questions 1 – 11: A Syria
Questions 12 – 15: C Both
Questions 16 – 25: B Jordan

Grading:

1-15 correct answers: Time to do some more studying. You are probably paying too much attention to the news media and the Public Relations campaigns of the Jordanian government. Just because a regime is friendly to the West doesn't mean they are good for their people. It may have more to do with the fact the ruling family of Jordan was put on the throne by the Western powers.

15-20 correct answers: Good results. You show aptitude in independent research and the ability to think for yourself instead of being another sheep led to intellectual slaughter by the mind numbing output of the mass media. You have probably sought out additional information sources beyond American and European media.

20-25 correct answers: Come to the head of the class. You are probably either a native of the region or an experienced traveler of the area. You recognize that Jordan is the tinderbox of the Middle East, and is only a spark away from becoming the next Iran.

Our next assignments:

1. Why American needs \$4 a gallon gasoline (imagine an America with no dependence on Middle Eastern oil and how different our domestic and foreign policy would be).
2. Understanding the European agenda in the Middle East (and why it's good for Europe to have America pinned down by terrorists at home and drained by military commitments overseas).
3. Why nothing will change with the Israel/Palestinian conflict until the economic and status issues of the people who have made their careers from the conflict is addressed (would you trade your AK47 and hero worship of the masses to returning to your life as a goat herder?).
4. What the Middle East will look like if (or more likely, when) Europe rejects Turkey's entry into the EU and an angry and resentful Turkey turns towards the Islamists, who welcome Turkey's advanced military and industrial might with open arms (how about Islamist terrorists equipped with nukes from Iran and advanced conventional forces from Turkey?).