

SOS Children's Village Rustenburg

True or false statements

1. The country north of South Africa is called North Africa.

(False! There is no country called North Africa! Sometimes the phrase is used to refer to the countries on the north coast of Africa, such as Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco etc. North or South Africa is Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland.)

2. South Africa has 44 million inhabitants.

(True – compare to Canada?)

3. South Africa has 11 official languages.

(True: the most common ones are English, Afrikaans, seSotho, isiXhosa and isiZulu. The national anthem contains verses in all the 11 languages, so you can imagine it's pretty long!).

4. The capital of South Africa is called Cape Town.

(True: but that's just one of them! Pretoria is the executive capital, Bloemfontein is the judicial and Cape Town is the legislative)

5. South Africa is home to the largest animal in the world, the smallest animal in the world, the fastest animal in the world and the tallest animal in the world.

(True: they are the elephant, the pygmy shrew, the cheetah and the giraffe. These are in fact mammals, so other animal groups are not included.

6. The president of South Africa is called Nelson Mandela.

(False: Nelson Mandela is the name of the famous activist who fought for equal rights for blacks and whites in South Africa until 1994, when he and his African National Congress finally won power. Mandela then became president, but stepped down in 1999, and was succeeded by Thabo Mbeki. Jacob Zuma succeeded Mbeki in 2009.