The Samis . . . have been in Sweden since the pre-Christian age. It is believed that they came in nomadic groups from the east at various periods of time and traveled through southern Finland to eventually settle in the interior of the Finnish-Scandinavian land mass.

Today, some 40,000–50,000 Samis are found all over the entire Finnish-Scandinavian arctic region and along the mountains on both sides of the Swedish-Norwegian border. About 15,000–17,000 live in Sweden and vary in their commitment to their culture. Some identify strongly with being a separate ethnic group while others have been assimilated [mixed] into Swedish culture.

Sami children can go to a regular state-supported school or a state-run nomad school. Both types have the same aims, except the nomad schools include teaching the Sami language and culture. Those who choose to go to a regular school can still learn their language and culture at home through a special home language project. Efforts are being made to preserve and renew the language of this minority group, especially since it does not have a strong written tradition. The culture has been passed down orally, and it takes the form of yoiking, a kind of singing.

Reindeer breeding, once dominant, no longer holds the same significance. Only some 2,500 people are engaged in the breeding of the animals for their meat. Previously, they were bred for milk and used as beasts of burden. The importance of reindeer breeding can be seen in the way breeders are still organized. They belong to a village which is an administrative and economic unit as well as a geographic grazing area. Common facilities are planned, constructed and maintained by the village and the costs shared among its inhabitants.

Over the years, nomadism has ceased as the breeders and their families have established permanent settlements in the low fell region, where the mountain reindeer mate and have their calves. Today, only the herders follow the animals, and in keeping with modern times, they use aircraft, motor vehicles and snow scooters [snowmobiles] to do their job.

Reindeer breeding, however, is not very profitable as it requires at least a herd of 500 to earn enough to support a family. Also, the 1986 nuclear accident at Chernobyl in the USSR has had a lasting impact on
the reindeer, and it will be many years before the meat will be free of caesium [a chemical element] and fit for consumption.

Thus, many families supplement their income through other means such as hunting, fishing, handicrafts and tourism. The last two are most evident at the winter market fairs at Jokkmokk [a Swedish city just north of the Arctic Circle]. Genuine Sami handicraft made from traditional materials are found here, as well as delicacies like lappkok, a broth of reindeer marrow bones and shredded liver. . . .

The music of the Samis, believed to the oldest form of music in Europe, reflects their nomadic history and way of life. It is very different from Swedish and other European music. For example, the jojak is a spontaneous, improvised song which recalls people or places and evokes [arouses] emotions linked to that memory. It is intensely personal and sung without accompanying instruments. Musical instruments are rarely used in Sami music.

Understanding What You Read After you have finished reading the selection, answer the following questions.

1. In what parts of Scandinavia are the Sami people mainly found?

2. How have the Sami organized reindeer breeding in the regions where they live? Why has this activity become less important in recent years?

3. In what ways have the Sami adapted their lifestyle and culture to modern Scandinavian society?

Activity

Imagine that you work for a Swedish government agency whose goal it is to promote tourism. Create an brochure about the Sami that will help attract tourists to Sweden.
Reading 31
1. Many Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese came to France to help it rebuild after each of the wars. Many of these workers stayed.
2. Algeria and Vietnam both are former French colonies. When the French empire collapsed, many people from these places sought refuge in France. Some may not feel patriotic because of France’s colonial history in their countries. Others may be put off by the nativist sentiments of some of the French people.

Reading 32
1. that East Berliners would be able to travel to West Berlin without permission or restrictions; answers will vary, but students should recognize the euphoria and that large numbers of people crossed the border that night and the next day.
2. She points out that the wall kept East Berliners from realizing how good life was in West Berlin and from learning about all the things available there that they were having to do without.

Reading 33
1. new roads, jobs at the resorts, profits from businesses that sell goods and services to the skiers
2. Roads, ski runs, and resorts have thinned forests, which has promoted erosion and destabilized mountainsides, bringing more mudslides, floods, and avalanches.
3. Because there are fewer cows to eat the grass, it grows longer, which lessens its ability to hold the snow in the winter. This increases the risk of avalanches.

Reading 34
1. In the daytime life went on pretty much as normal. At night German planes would drop bombs, causing many deaths, heavy damage, and fires in the city.
2. Answers will vary but might include not going out onto the streets, sleeping in subways or other underground shelters, movies and most entertainment closing early, and very little dining out.

Reading 35
1. commercial fishing, maritime commerce, manufacturing
2. the references to factories and docks, to ragged children, and to shabby streets where the fishermen’s families lived
3. Answers will vary, but students should realize that Ireland was owned by England at the time, that cricket is an English sport, and that England was a predominantly Protestant country. Students should realize that Ireland is predominantly Roman Catholic.

Reading 36
1. across the Finnish-Scandinavian arctic region and along the mountains on both sides of the Swedish-Norwegian border
2. They have established permanent villages in the breeding areas. Villages are administrative and economic units as well as a geographic grazing areas. Reindeer have become less important because making profits is difficult, especially since the Chernobyl accident contaminated the reindeer meat.
3. Answers will vary but might include sending their children to school, settling in villages, using aircraft, motor vehicles, and snowmobiles in herding, and turning to tourism and sale of traditional crafts as a livelihood.

Reading 37
1. Estonians are a Finno-Ugric, Scandinavian people, closely related to the Finns. Latvians and Lithuanians are Indo-European peoples.
2. Answers will vary, but students should recognize that Estonia has been conquered and dominated by the Germans, Swedes, and Russians, all of whom have left