

For Advanced Kid Learners

Book 3

Time to Talk

Lesson 26 The Netherlands: A Small Giant



Warm-up questions.

It is famous for the following things.

Can you guess which country it is?



tulips



windmill



bikes



canals

Read and learn.

The Netherlands: A Small Giant

The Netherlands is a small country in Western Europe. The name Netherlands means “low lands”. A large part of the country is below **sea level**. The country is flat with lots of lakes, rivers, **canals** and **dams**.

sea level

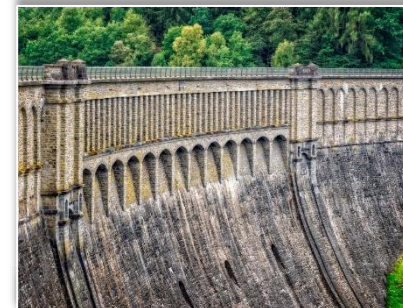
the normal level of the sea
compared with the land



canal

canal

a path of water
used for boat
transportation



dam

dam

a wall built to
keep the water
from flowing

Read and learn.

The Netherlands is only **half as big as** the city of Chongqing. But this small country is the second biggest food exporter in the world! It is the biggest exporter of tulips. It is the second biggest beer **exporter**. It is one of the biggest **producers** of bacon and cheese. Many of the world's tomatoes and cucumbers also come from the Netherlands.

exporter

a country, company, or person that sells and sends products to another country

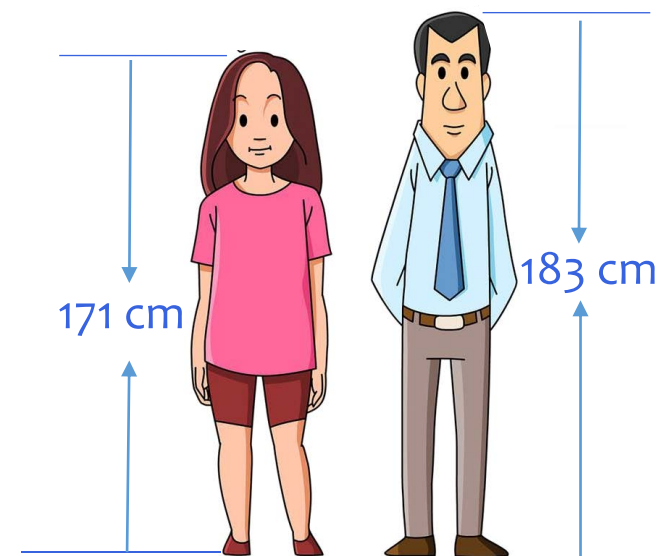


producer

a country, company, or person that produces something

Read and learn.

As the lowest country in Europe, the Netherlands has the tallest people in the world. The **average** height of the Dutch males is around 183 cm. That is the tallest in the world. The Dutch women are the second tallest in the world, with an average height of about 171 cm. Why? That's because the Netherlands has the healthiest **diet** in the world!



average – usual kind or amount



diet – the amount and types of food you usually eat

Read and learn.

The small country has a big population of 17 million people. But there are more bikes than people! There are 22 million bikes in the Netherlands. The cycle path for bikes is as long as 35,000 km. The bike is a part of daily life of the Dutch people. They ride bikes to school and work.



Match the words with their meanings.

1. sea level

A. a wall built to keep the water from flowing

2. canal

B. the amount and types of food you usually eat

3. dam

C. usual kind or amount

4. producer

D. a path of water use for boat transportation or for bringing water the crops

5. average

E. the normal level of the sea compared with the land

6. diet

F. a person or a company that produces something

Grammar



half as + adj. + as

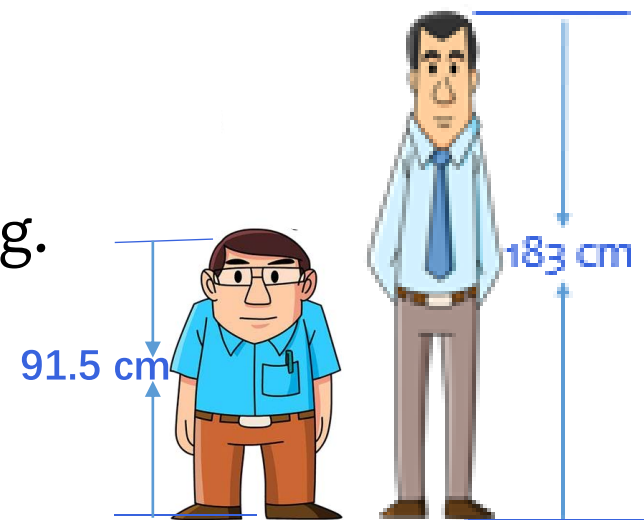
used to compare two ideas that is half of something

Examples

The Netherlands is only **half as big as** the city of Chongqing.

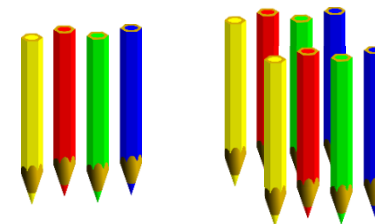
My dad's friend is **half as tall as** him.

They ran **half as far as** he did.



+ Make a sentence using “half as + adj. + as”

I have (many; pens) _____ you.



Answer the questions.

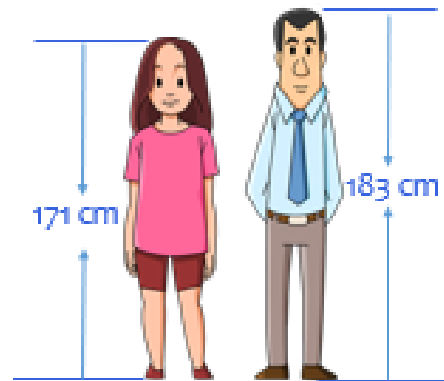
1. Where is the Netherlands located?



2. What things does the Netherlands export?



3. Why are Dutch people the tallest around the world?



4. Why are there more bikes than people in the Netherlands?

