

# 9. LITHUANIA – FACTS AND FIGURES

## TASK 1. Match the pictures with the sentences.



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.

- A. The national currency of Lithuania is the Litas.
- B. Lithuania shares a border with four countries.
- C. The Head of State of the Republic of Lithuania is the President.
- D. The Parliament of Lithuania is called *Seimas*.
- E. Lithuania has two flags: the tricolour and the historical flag.
- F. The White Stork is the national bird of Lithuania.
- G. Amber is called "Lithuanian gold".
- H. The oak tree is considered to be the national tree of Lithuania.
- I. The Lithuanian language is the most archaic Indo-European language.
- J. Kaunas is situated at the confluence of the Nemunas and the Neris.

**TASK 2. Do the quiz on Lithuania.**

1. When was Lithuania first mentioned in written sources?
2. Who was the first and only Lithuanian King in history?
3. When was the Grand Duchy of Lithuania the biggest state in Europe?
4. When did Lithuania adopt Christianity?
5. When did the Battle of Žalgiris take place?
6. When was the first Lithuanian book ('The Catechism' by Mažvydas) published?
7. When was the Act of Independence of Lithuania signed?
8. When did Darius and Girėnas cross the Atlantic by plane?
9. When did Lithuania declare Independence from the Soviet Union?
10. When did Lithuania join NATO and the European Union?
11. What is the population of Lithuania?
12. What is the area of the territory of Lithuania?
13. How long is the Lithuanian coast line?
14. What countries does Lithuania border?
15. What percentage of Lithuania's inhabitants are ethnic Lithuanians?
16. What are the main ethnic minority groups in Lithuania?
17. What is the predominant religion in Lithuania?
18. What is the average life expectancy in Lithuania?
19. Lithuania is divided into counties and municipalities. How many are there?

**TASK 3. Match the phrases to make sentences about famous Lithuanians.**

1. Birutė Galdikas	...has been elected as the foreign player with the greatest impact on the NBA.
2. Ilja Laurs	...has performed in some of the best concert halls in Europe.
3. Rūta Meilutytė	...is among the top 40 specialists in mobile communications.
4. Jonas Mekas	...has been declared the strongest man on the planet six times.
5. Eimuntas Nekrošius	...is called the godfather of American avant-garde cinema.
6. Arvydas Sabonis	...is an anthropologist, famous for her studies of orangutans.
7. Žydrūnas Savickas	...is the youngest Lithuanian winner of an Olympic gold medal.
8. Violeta Urmana	...is an acclaimed theatre director, both nationally and internationally.

**TASK 4. Complete the sentences with the adjectives given below.**

1. The climate in Lithuania is rather \_\_\_\_\_, with moderate winters and summers.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ point in Lithuania is Juozapinės Hill (294 m) near Vilnius.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ centre of Europe is 26 kilometers south of Vilnius.
4. Lithuanian and Latvian are the two \_\_\_\_\_ Baltic languages.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ flag of Lithuania and the coat of arms are very similar.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ religion in Lithuania is Roman Catholicism.
7. Lithuania exports chemicals, \_\_\_\_\_ products, textiles, plastics, and foodstuffs.
8. Lithuania's principal \_\_\_\_\_ partners are Poland, Russia, Germany, and Latvia.

***geographical   highest   historical   living   mild   mineral   predominant   trading***

**TASK 5. Complete the gaps using one word. The words are not given.**

1. In the south-east, Lithuania \_\_\_\_\_ on Belarus.
2. Lithuania was first \_\_\_\_\_ in 1009.
3. On 6 July 1253, the first and the only Lithuanian king – Mindaugas was \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The joint Lithuanian and Polish army \_\_\_\_\_ the battle of Žalgiris / Grunwald.
5. Lithuania was the last country in Europe to \_\_\_\_\_ Christianity.
6. The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact was \_\_\_\_\_ in Moscow, on 23 August 1939.
7. Lithuania was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Soviet Union for half a century.
8. On 11 March, 1990, Lithuania \_\_\_\_\_ independence from the Soviet Union.
9. In 2004, Lithuania \_\_\_\_\_ NATO and the EU.

## ANSWERS

### 9. LITHUANIA – FACTS AND FIGURES

#### TASK 1.

1. Lithuania shares a border with four countries.
2. The Parliament of Lithuania is called *Seimas*.
3. Kaunas is situated at the confluence of the Nemunas and the Neris.
4. The oak tree is considered to be the national tree of Lithuania.
5. The Head of State of the Republic of Lithuania is the President.
6. The Lithuanian language is the most archaic Indo-European language.
7. The national currency of Lithuania is the Litas.
8. Amber is called “Lithuanian gold”.
9. The White Stork is the national bird of Lithuania.
10. Lithuania has two flags: the tricolour and the historical flag.

#### TASK 2. Adapted from: [http://new.lietuva.lt/en/about\\_lithuania/quick\\_facts](http://new.lietuva.lt/en/about_lithuania/quick_facts)

1. In 1009
2. Mindaugas
3. In the 14th century
4. At the end of the 14th century
5. In 1410
6. In 1547
7. On 16 February, 1918
8. In 1933
9. On 11 March, 1990
10. In 2004
11. Slightly less than 3 million
12. Over 65 thousand square kilometers
13. Over 90 kilometers
14. Latvia, Belarus, Poland, and Russia
15. Over 84 per cent
16. Poles, Russians, and Belorussians
17. Roman Catholicism
18. 73.7 years
19. 10 counties / 60 municipalities

**TASK 3.**

1. Birutė Galdikas is an anthropologist, famous for her studies of orangutans.
2. Ilja Laurs is among the top 40 specialists in mobile communications.
3. Rūta Meilutytė is the youngest Lithuanian winner of an Olympic gold medal.
4. Jonas Mekas is called the godfather of American avant-garde cinema.
5. Eimuntas Nekrošius is an acclaimed theatre director, both nationally and internationally.
6. Arvydas Sabonis has been elected as the foreign player with the greatest impact on the NBA.
7. Žydrūnas Savickas has been declared the strongest man on the planet six times.
8. Violeta Urmana has performed in some of the best concert halls in Europe.

**TASK 4.**

1. The climate in Lithuania is rather mild, with moderate winters and summers.
2. The highest point in Lithuania is Juozapines Hill (294 m) near Vilnius.
3. The geographical centre of Europe is 26 kilometers south of Vilnius.
4. Lithuanian and Latvian are the two living Baltic languages.
5. The historical flag of Lithuania and the coat of arms are very similar.
6. The predominant religion in Lithuania is Roman Catholicism.
7. Lithuania exports chemicals, mineral products, textiles, plastics and foodstuffs.
8. Lithuania's principal trading partners are Poland, Russia, Germany and Latvia.

**TASK 5.**

1. In the south-east, Lithuania borders Belarus.
2. Lithuania's name was first mentioned in 1009.
3. On 6 July 1253, the first and the only Lithuanian king – Mindaugas was crowned.
4. The joint Lithuanian and Polish army won the battle of Žalgiris / Grunwald.
5. Lithuania was the last country in Europe to adopted Christianity.
6. The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact was signed in Moscow, on 23 August 1939.
7. Lithuania was occupied by the Soviet Union for half a century.
8. On 11 March 1990, Lithuania declared / gained independence from the Soviet Union.
9. In 2004, Lithuania joined NATO and the EU.