

## Sunny Italy Answer Key

1. Italy is in southern Europe and is often compared to a long boot.
2. The north has tall mountains and colder weather, while the south is warmer and has towns near sunny beaches and blue water.
3. Rome is special because it is the capital and has ancient ruins like the Colosseum from the Roman Empire.
4. People travel by boats, including gondolas, along the canals.
5. Florence is important because its museums protect famous art and statues made by artists long ago.
6. Possible answers include pizza and pasta.
7. Farmers grow olives and grapes and turn them into olive oil and juice.
8. Answers will vary, but should mention at least one idea such as its history, ancient buildings, art, special cities, or foods like pizza and pasta.

### Teacher's Guide

#### Purpose

- Build basic geographic understanding of Italy's location, regions, and major cities.
- Strengthen reading comprehension for grades 3 to 5 using a short informational text.

#### Instructional Tips

- Preteach bolded words like **regions**, **capital**, **Colosseum**, and **gondolas**.
- Model how to underline or highlight sentences that answer each question.
- Remind students to restate part of the question in their answers for items 2, 7, and 8.

#### Differentiation

- For emerging readers, chunk the passage into short paragraphs and pause to discuss after each one.
- Challenge advanced students to turn two of the questions into "why" questions and answer those too.