Advice Column

problems about **countries**

Read the problems below and discuss possible solutions.

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**Dear Anita,**

Two days ago, our geography teacher, Mr. Anderson, gave us an interesting homework assignment: write down three of the best things about the country where we live and give reasons for our choices. I think this homework isn't too difficult, but I've asked a lot of my friends and family about this, and I'd also like to know your opinion, Anita. What are the three best things about our country?

**Sandy**

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**Dear Anita,**

Last night, my son, who is five years old, asked me a question that I never really thought about before. He asked me why there are so many countries in the world (there are about 200 countries, I think). Do you know the answer to this question, Anita? And here's a question from me: do you think the world would be a better place if there was only one country?

**Ellie**

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**Dear Anita,**

My geography teacher, Mr. Anderson, gave us a difficult homework assignment yesterday: write down three things about our country that are not so great – three things that could be made better. I really like my country, and I can't think of many bad things about it – but I guess there is no country that is perfect. What do you think, Anita? How could our country be improved?

**Jim**

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Compare your solutions with different classmates. Do you agree or disagree with their ideas?