Symbols Which Unite - Flags 40

- What qualities / characteristics of the people, culture, religion, etc. are represented in the flag?
- > Is the symbolism easy to interpret? Motivate your answer.
- Is the flag easily recognizable at a distance? (Evaluate the visual effect of the design: use of bold colours and simple / geometric shapes.)

1. UNITED KINGDOM \ GREAT BRITTAIN



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The **Union Jack** \checkmark shows the flags of the four nations who make up the people in the country. \checkmark

Cross of St George = White & Red = + = England (white) \checkmark Cross of St Andrew = White and Blue = X = Scotland (blue) \checkmark

Cross of St Patrick = Red = X = Ireland (red) \checkmark

Wales = Red Dragon \checkmark

No. 🗸

Unless you know the history it is impossible to recognise the individual flags inside the design. \checkmark Yes. \checkmark

The flag is so well-known and the lines so unique that it is difficult to see how it can be confused with any other flag. \checkmark

2. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



The **Stars & Stripes** ✓ or **Star-Spangled Banner** show the history of the USA.

The 13 red and white stripes represent the original Founder Colonies \checkmark while the 50 white stars symbolise the current 50 States \checkmark .

The red, white and blue stands for democracy, ✓ but the history

must be learnt. 🗸

Yes. 🗸

The combination and position of the stars and stripes on the flag is easily visible, even if other flags resemble it. \checkmark

3. ISRAEL



The flag represents the Jewish faith. \checkmark

White & Blue are the colours of the Talmud (Holy Book), the blue stripes are from the Tallit (prayer shawls) Jewish men wear to the Synagogue and the Star of David is an ancient and uniquely Jewish religious symbol. Yes, ✓

The Star of David is used by Jews to declare their religion. \checkmark Yes. \checkmark

Not many flags have this colour combination and the star is unmistakable. \checkmark

4. BOTSWANA



The flag shows the peaceful nature of the country and the racial harmony between its' people. \checkmark

Yes. 🗸

The pale blue which is different from the deep blues used in other African flags, represents their dependence on rain water as the country is dry. \checkmark It is the colour associated with

peace. \checkmark The black & white stripes show the people living in harmony next to each other. This is also a slightly different use of the colours which usually represent the people and peace respectively. \checkmark Yes. \checkmark

There is only one other African flag using pale blue, ✓ but Somalia's flag has a central white star. ✓

5. TANZANIA



The flag is a combination of the flags of Zanzibar and Tanganyika. As with most African flags the symbolism is:

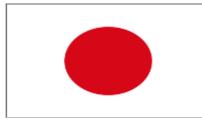
Black = People ✓ Blue = Indian Ocean ✓ Yellow = Gold Mines ✓ Green = Agriculture ✓

Yes. 🗸

It is a typical African flag, so the meanings can be easily deduced. \checkmark No. \checkmark

Because it uses a colour combination that is typical of so many other flags (including our own flag), it can be mistaken for another country's flag. \checkmark

6. JAPAN



The flag is called **Nisshōki** ✓ (sun-mark flag) or more commonly **Hi no maru** ✓ (circle of the sun). In the Shinto religion red means life, ✓ so the red disk represents the sun ✓ as our source of life. Japan is the **Land of the Rising Sun** ✓ because of the position of the international date line. No. ✓

Unless you know what the WWII Naval Ensign looks like, the symbolism is very non-specific. \checkmark Yes. \checkmark

This is the only flag with the combination and ratio \checkmark of colours and it has no lines to confuse you. \checkmark

Symbols Which Identify - Logos

First Name Surname Admin number 8 A B C J L M Day Month Year

- > Name of the organisations/companies represented above.
- > Identify the specific field of concern (work they do) of each.
- > How is this image suitable/unsuitable for the product/service it represents?

1.



Shell 🗸

They sell petrochemicals or petroleum products. \checkmark It is suitable, \checkmark because although fossil fuels are organic, the logo is a scallop shell \checkmark called Pecten \checkmark and shows the company history and the name. \checkmark

2. Telkom

Telkom South Africa ✓ They supply access to telecommunication like telephones, internet and faxes. ✓ It is suitable ✓ because the logo looks like a telephone keypad or cell phone. ✓



Macdonald's Fast Food Restaurants 🗸

They sell take-away burgers and milkshakes. \checkmark

It is not suitable \checkmark because it shows the history and architecture \checkmark of the chain and does not show the product, but is so widely known that we associate the logo with the product. \checkmark





Very well-known suppliers of sports equipment and clothing.

It is suitable \checkmark because the Swoosh is a tick which means approval \checkmark and the slogan - Just Do It - inspires you to do your best. ✓ It is even more appropriate when you add that the name comes from the Greek goddess of victory \checkmark .





ESKOM 🗸

The company provides electricity throughout southern Africa. 🗸 It is suitable \checkmark because the stylised lightning bolt \checkmark reminds us of the way we draw electricity on warning signs.

6.



Coca-Cola 🗸

Manufactures and distributes soft drinks. ✓

It is suitable√ because the Spencerian font and unique bottle shape can only be used by one company. It is known throughout the world \checkmark to be a refreshing drink which is shown with the ice and condensation. \checkmark

Personal & Cultural Symbols

First Name Surname Admin number 8 A B C J L M Day Month Year

- > Name of the religion/belief system represented by the symbol.
- > Identify the key aspects of what the group stands for.
- Is the symbolism easy to interpret? Motivate your answer.



1. Yin Yang

Taoism 🗸

The balance \checkmark in the duality of everything in nature. Good & Bad, Masculine (YIN) & Feminine (YANG), Night & Day, Hot & Cold.

Yes. 🗸

The two halves are equal. 🗸

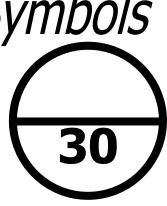


Judaism 🗸 Kosher Mark \checkmark on food to show that it contains no pork. \checkmark Yes. 🗸 The symbol is uniquely Jewish and associated with religious traditions. \checkmark



Islam 🗸 Halaal Mark ✓ on food to show it was prepared according to the rituals and laws of the Muslim faith. 🗸 Yes. 🗸

The symbol is widely used (flags) and known to represent Islam.



4. Christian Cross

Christianity 🗸

Symbol of eternal salvation through belief in the sacrifice of God's Son on the cross. \checkmark Yes. \checkmark

The symbol is widely used and known to represent Christian religious beliefs. \checkmark



Hinduism 🗸

This symbol represents the most sacred Hindu sound \checkmark (used in meditation) and includes the whole universe and all levels of being. \checkmark

No. 🗸

The symbol is well-known, \checkmark but the full meaning may not be clear to people unfamiliar with the practices of Hinduism. \checkmark



6. Dharmachakra

Buddhism 🗸

The symbol is an 8 spoke wheel \checkmark which shows the paths of Buddhist enlightenment and reincarnation. \checkmark

No. 🗸

The symbol is less well-known \checkmark and therefore could be mistaken \checkmark for a ships' helm (steering wheel.)