



The Political World



DATELINE: 1 January 2000 — The world contains 192 independent nations and 57 territories or dependencies . A **nation** is an independent, self-governing area of land for example, Australia. A **dependency** is an area of land which is under the control of a nation, for example New Caledonia is under the control of France.

1. Give another example of each of the following border types — different from the examples given on page 22–23 of the *Jacaranda Atlas*.

Geometric borders _____

Enclaves _____

River borders _____

Lake borders _____

Mountain borders _____

2. Read the information on page 22–25 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to answer the following questions.

(a) Which 2 continents underwent the most change of nation status between 1945 and 1965?

(b) Describe the areas of the world where new nations have been created since 1966.

(c) Since 1950 the number of independent nations has increased from _____ to _____.

(d) Describe the pattern of civil unrest in the world — which areas are experiencing the most civil unrest?

3. Use a blank world map with political borders marked and the "Types of Government" map on page 24 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to mark the following features:

(a) Use an appropriate colour scheme to record which of the world's countries fit into each of the following categories:

- Multi-party democracy for more than 10 years
- Multi-party transitional democracy within the last 10 years
- Single party government
- Military regime
- Monarchy or theocracy
- State of unrest/civil war

(b) Complete the key for your map and beside each category record the number of countries in that category.

4. Using the information in World Records on page 22 of the *Jacaranda Atlas*, expand the key of your world map providing a number for each world record. (You'll need to write each world record in your key) Mark the numbers on the world map to match the world record information. For example if *Russia: Largest country by area* is number 1 in your key, mark the number 1 in Russia on the map.