Tapescript from the video

New Zealand

New Zealand consists of two main islands, North Island and South Island, and several small islands surrounded by the South Pacific Ocean.

Both of the main islands are mountainous. South Island has the Southern Alps running from top to bottom. It also has many glaciers and rivers. North Island is more heavily populated. As well as mountains, it has volcanoes, hissing geysers, boiling mud, and hot springs.

Both islands have forests, deep, clear lakes, and long, deserted beaches. The main cities are Wellington and Auckland, both on the North Island, and Christchurch, on South Island.

The vast areas of dramatic countryside have made New Zealand a perfect location for films such as *The Lord of the Rings* and *Prince Caspian*. Its natural features also make New Zealand an ideal place for outdoor activities such as fishing, hiking, skiing, canoeing, kayaking, mountain biking, rock climbing, caving, windsurfing, whitewater rafting, kiteboarding, paragliding, skydiving, and bungee jumping.

New Zealand is famous for its national rugby team, called the All Blacks, because they wear black shirts and black shorts. The players perform a haka before each game. It's an ancient Māori war dance, and its purpose is to make the players feel strong and to psych out the opposing team.

The kiwi and the tuatara are two animal species that are only found in New Zealand. The kiwi is a small, flightless bird. There were two airlines that started with the name Kiwi Airlines in the 1990s. They both went bankrupt after a few years.

The tuatara is the most ancient of all living reptiles. It is around 200 million years old, even older than the dinosaurs.

New Zealand people are called New Zealanders. They're nicknamed Kiwis, like the bird, which is the country's unofficial symbol. New Zealanders are known for being easygoing, friendly, and egalitarian. New Zealand is also one of the few countries where the police don't routinely carry guns.

The Māori were the first people to live in New Zealand, and today their population is around 700,000. They speak te reo Māori, which is an official language of the country, together with English.

Vocabulary

an island	une île
a mountainous island	une île montagneuse
a mountain range	une chaîne de montagnes
the Southern Alps	les Alpes du Sud
a glacier	un glacier
a river	une rivière / un fleuve
a volcano	un volcan
a geyser	un geyser
boiling mud	de la boue bouillante
a hot spring	une source thermale
a forest	une forêt
a lake	un lac
a clear lake	un lac aux eaux claires
a beach	une plage
a deserted beach	une plage déserte
the countryside	la campagne

landscape	le paysage
natural features	les caractéristiques naturelles / les paysages naturels
a capital city	une capitale
a coastal city	une ville côtière
a national park	un parc national