

## Ukraine and Language Exercise

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**Grade level:** High School or Freshman Level College

**Time:** 50-minute period for discussion (students complete exercise as homework the class before)

**Standards:** National Geography Standards

- Standard 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, geospatial technologies, and spatial thinking to understand and communicate information
- Standard 10: The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics

### Procedures:

1) Before this exercise, the teacher can describe the difference between a nation and a state.

A) Nation – Cultural Concept

- i) Common language, religion or other cultural trait that unites a people
- ii) Not the same as a state

B) State – Political Concept

- i) Land Territory
- ii) Permanent Settlement
- iii) Economy
- iv) Political System
- v) Movement
- vi) Sovereignty
- vii) Recognition

2) The teacher should also discuss briefly the geography and history of Ukraine. There are a number of resources:

- A) BBC Ukraine Country File: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-18018002>
- B) CIA Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/up.html>
- C) Ukrainian Research Institute – Harvard University:  
<http://www.huri.harvard.edu/>
- D) Witness to a Revolution Documentary:  
<https://www.iamaukrainianmovie.com/>

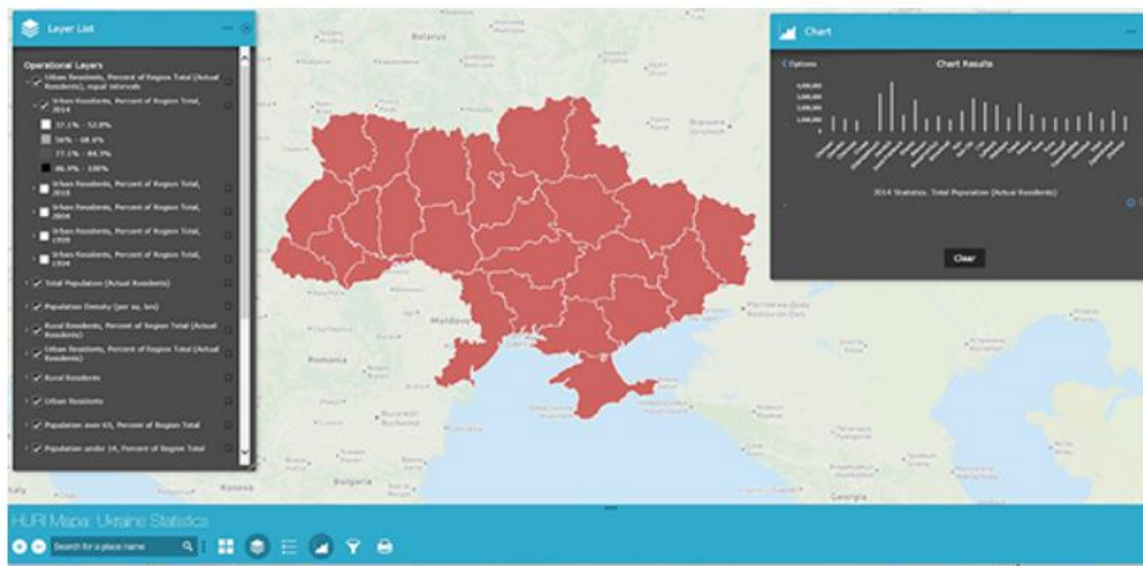
## Objectives:

- 1) Understand the impact of language in a culture
- 2) Understand language in the context of Ukraine
- 3) Analyze the role of language in Ukraine

## Steps:

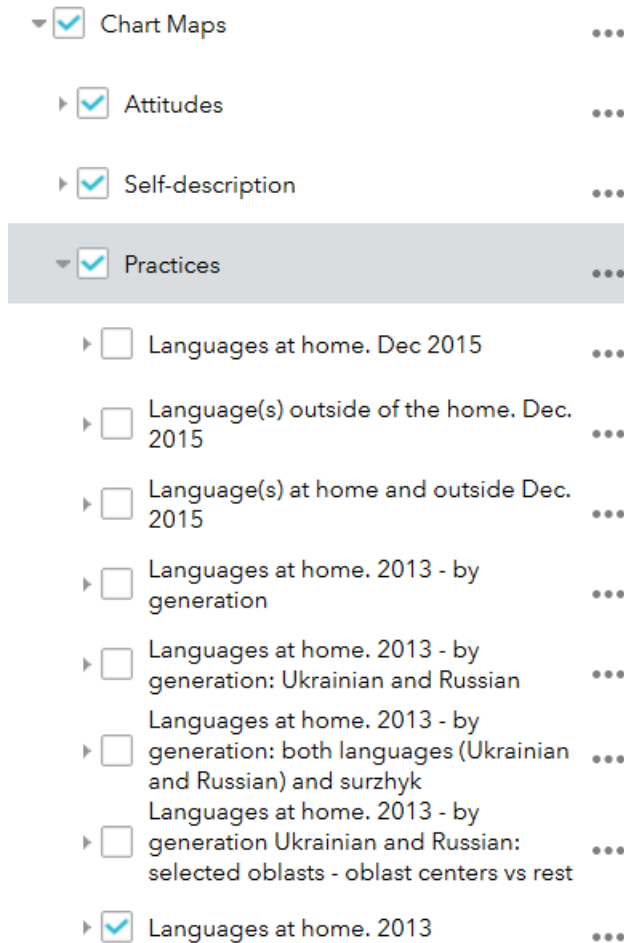
- 1) Please first watch a short tutorial on using MAPA:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=438&v=G\\_YifRrkYB8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=438&v=G_YifRrkYB8)
- 2) Copy and paste the following link:  
<http://gis.huri.harvard.edu/contemporary-atlas/revolution-of-dignity/language-module.html>
- 3) Read the article and then on the bottom of the page – click Language Web Map

## Language Web Map



- 4) Read the paragraphs, then click Ok and close the Legend.

5) In the Table of Contents (Left hand Side), Under Language, Chart Maps, Practices put a check in Languages at Home 2013.



6) The question asked was: "What language do you use to communicate with ...(parents, grandparents, kids)?" Range of answers: (1) "Ukrainian"; (2) "Russian"; (3) "Ukrainian and Russian"; (4) "other"; (5) "surzhyk"; (6) "difficult to answer".

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/90>

7) Click the More Icon



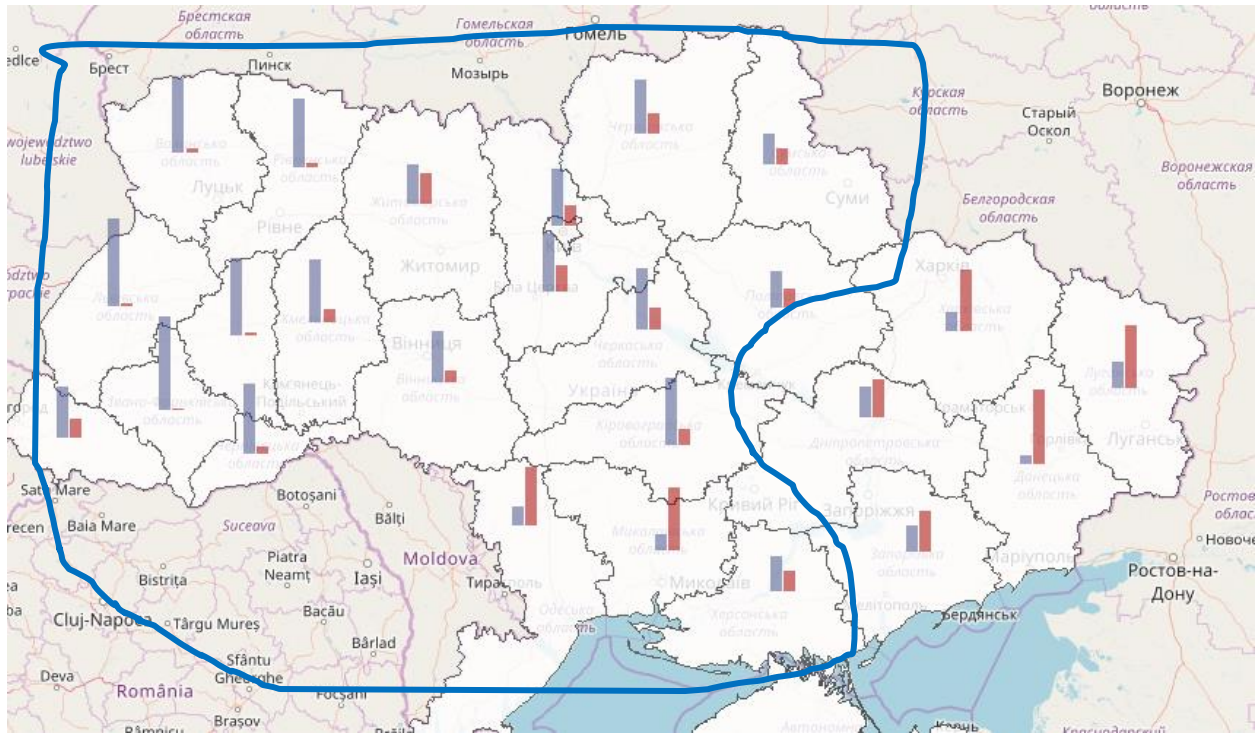
8) Choose Legend

- 9) The legend will show a bar graph that illustrates how the people of that Oblast answered the question. Longer bars – More people choose that answer. The example below shows most people speak Ukrainian at home in that Oblast.



- 10) Click the More Icon again choose Print. The title of this map should be Language at Home 2013. Print out the map
- 11) Examine the map and draw a polygon around the Oblasts that you consider showing the Ukrainian cultural region based on language. The Ukrainian cultural region is the area with a high number of people speaking Ukrainian. There are several possible regions to be considered, you just need to defend it. Some of you may only choose a region with high number of people speaking Ukrainian while others may choose an area with high number of people speaking Ukrainian and a high number of people speaking Ukrainian and Russian

The following is an example from another map attribute (Not Language)



12) Click the Layer List Button



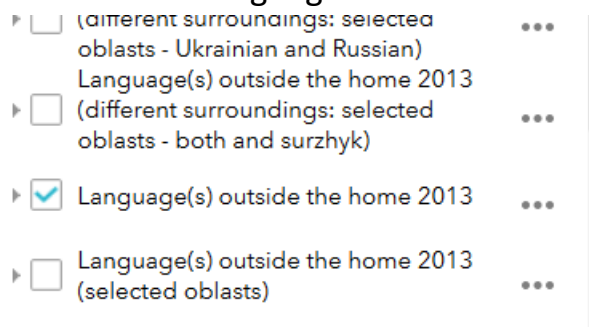
13) Uncheck Languages at Home 2013 and put a check in Language at home. 2015



14) The question asked was: Question: "What language do you use to communicate with ...(parents, grandparents, kids)?" Range of answers: (1) "Ukrainian"; (2) "Russian"; (3) "Ukrainian and Russian"; (4) "other"; (5) "surzhyk"; (6) "difficult to answer".

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/95>

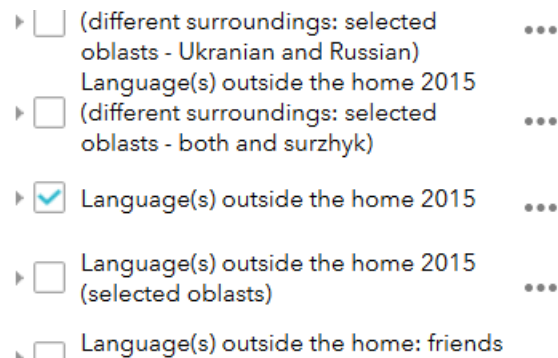
- 15) Repeat steps 7 – 11 this time changing the titles to reflect 2015
- 16) Click the Layer List button and uncheck Languages at Home 2015 and put a check in Languages outside the home 2013



- 17) The question asked was: "What language do you use to communicate with ... (closest friends, colleagues, officials, sellers)?" Range of answers: (1) "Ukrainian"; (2) "Russian"; (3) "Ukrainian and Russian"; (4) "other"; (5) "surzhyk"; (6) "difficult to answer".

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/112>

- 18) Repeat steps 7 – 11 this time changing the titles to reflect Language outside the home 2013
- 19) Uncheck Languages outside the home 2013 and check Languages Outside the Home 2015



- 20) The question asked was: "What language do you use to communicate with ... (closest friends, colleagues, officials, sellers)?" Range of answers: (1) "Ukrainian"; (2) "Russian"; (3) "Ukrainian and Russian"; (4) "other"; (5) "surzhyk"; (6) "difficult to answer".

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/119>

- 21) Repeat steps 7-11 this time changing the titles to reflect Language Outside the Home 2015

- 22) Finally choose one additional attribute and create a map. Please be prepared to discuss why you choose this attribute and explain it. There are no wrong answers and it may assist you in your discussion with the other maps. Some examples:
- A) Languages at home by generations
  - B) Native Language vs Speaking at home
  - C) Language for reading books
  - D) Language of Secondary education

Recap – you are bringing to the class the following maps

- A) Language at Home 2013 MAPA map
- B) Language at Home 2015 MAPA map
- C) Language Outside Home 2013 MAPA map
- D) Language Outside Home 2015 MAPA map
- E) Additional Attribute Map from MAPA

- 23) In the class, you will put your students into groups and they will discuss the similarities and differences between their Ukrainian Language area polygons with your group members.
- 24) Then the professor will call on certain group to discuss those explanations with the rest of the class

### **Discussion Notes from Author:**

During my next class, students discussed their maps and decisions. Some very interesting points came out:

- A) Obviously some students choose oblasts that only had the Ukrainian language as the dominant
- B) Others choose oblasts that only had Russia as the least dominant.
  - 1) These students felt that that if citizens spoke the Russian language and the Ukrainian language at home equally they were still part of

this dominant “Ukrainian Language area” since there may be older members of their family at their house that only spoke Russian.

- 2) These students felt that that if citizens spoke Russian and Ukrainian outside the home equally they were still part of this dominant “Ukrainian Language area” since it may have to do with their job or (again) that the Soviets occupied Ukraine for so long.
- C) Students also questioned the East vs West divide based on some of their maps. Some saw a more Northwest, North Central, Southwest Ukrainian language area.
- D) Some students asked how comfortable people would be answering this survey due to the situations in Ukraine with Russia. One student said if he lived in an area further east, he might not be as truthful in answering the question due to fear of the Russians watching him.

Citations:

**Layer: Languages at home. 2013 (ID: 90):**

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/90>

**Layer: Languages at home. 2015 (ID: 95)**

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/95>

**Layer: Language(s) outside the home 2013 (ID: 112)**

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/112>

**Layer: Language(s) outside the home 2015 (ID: 119)**

<http://140.247.132.201:6080/arcgis/rest/services/language/language/MapServer/119>