

Lesson 4
READ THIS STORY #2, Basic

Harry

Every month, new brochures arrive from the travel agency. Harry spends hours pouring over the information. There is a certain mystique about Africa that appeals to him. He would like to see it all—from the steamy jungles of Mozambique to the highest peaks in Kenya.

If he could, he would rent a jeep and go on a personal safari through the rough country roads. But Harry knows that isn't practical. So he's trying to find a tour that will give him the most exposure to Africa.

Harry pulled out his atlas to study the continent, but his map was too old to be accurate. There are more than fifty countries in Africa. African nations have changed their names and their borders so often in recent years that it's difficult to keep track of them. Those countries seem to be in constant strife, with numerous civil wars and military takeovers. Some of those takeovers were necessary when political leaders turned out to be charlatans who impoverished their countries while amassing personal fortunes.

That is still happening today. Since the chatter of machine gun fire is still part of African life, Harry's children are fearful for his safety. Harry thinks their fears are exaggerated, but he intends to be cautious during his trip to Africa.