Learning objective: This activity is designed to allow students to use the information gained in class about ______________(Central Asian Country) to better understand the characteristics of each country and what sets it apart from other Central Asian countries.

Whole Class: (Background: Teacher may want to provide current article for context)

1. Have students discuss the upcoming Olympics (World Cup may be substituted, but be sure to change “International Olympic Committee” to “FIFA” and “Olympic Games” for “World Cup” on the worksheets). Who is hosting? What is being said about the event and the host country in the media?
2. What is the International Olympic Committee? Who serves on it? How are they chosen? How do they choose the location of future Olympic Games?
3. As a class, brainstorm reasons why a country would want to host the Olympics. Write answers on board.
4. Split students into groups:
   - **Group A: International Olympic Committee** (there should be a Russian Official and a US official; the nationalities of other members are up to the teacher’s discretion)
   - **Group B: Officials of a Central Asian Country(s) bidding to host the Olympics** (teacher may choose to have countries competing against one another for the bid; alternatively the Central Asian country may compete against a non-Central Asian country.)
5. Students representing a bidding country should complete the appropriate worksheet below. Students representing the IOC should complete their own worksheet, also below.
6. Have students (or a representative) from the country(s) in Group B state their case for why they should host the Olympic Games. Students from Group A should ask follow-up questions to determine which country really is the best host for the next Games. At the end, the Olympic Committee should announce their decision.
With your group, create a list of desirable qualities in an Olympic host country (keep in mind the country role you are playing). Be sure to keep in mind a variety of social, economic, and environmental factors.

As a group, write 3 or 4 questions that you would like to ask to the bidding country (countries). Then, discuss the ideal answers to these questions.
Bidding Country Worksheet

Country_____________________

Instructions: Work with your group to fill in the following statements.

We should host the next Olympic Games because.................................................................

Give some general details about your country: What is attractive about your country?

One social reason why we should host the Olympics is..............................................................

One economic reason is................................................................................................................

One environmental reason is........................................................................................................

Hosting the Olympics is so important to us as a nation because............................................

Why should your country be picked out of all the countries in the world? Use persuasive language

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