

**Guided Reading Activity 15-3**

For use with textbook pages 376–381.

**Cultures and Lifestyles****Fill In the Blanks**

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the information in your textbook to fill in the blanks for the following sentences.

1. The Soviet government disapproved of religion and instead promoted atheism.
2. Most Russians who claim a religious affiliation belong to the Eastern Orthodox church.
3. The second-largest religion in Russia is Islam, practiced mostly by people in southern Russia.
4. Jews in Russia were often persecuted, and many were massacred in programs.
5. Around the Caspian Sea and Lake Baikal, many people practice Buddhism.
6. Russia's high literacy rate is due to the Soviet policy of free, mandatory education.
7. Today students have a choice of educational programs, but Russia's unstable economy has limited school budgets.
8. Russia's population is declining/shrinking because of poor health care and a low birthrate.
9. Privatization has helped the health care system, but the system is still inefficient.
10. Russian artists had the courage to oppose censorship.
11. Russian architecture is known for the onion-shaped domes that crown many old churches.
12. Some of the world's greatest literature comes from Russian authors such as Leo Tolstoy, who wrote *War and Peace*.
13. Soviet "socialist realism" strangled artistic expression in Russia.
14. Today urban life offers many artistic and cultural activities for Russians.
15. May 1, or May Day, was a workers' holiday in Soviet Russia, but today it is just a spring celebration.