**Magical Mauritius**

1. Where is Mauritius situated?

Situated in the Indian Ocean about 900 kilometers from Madagascar

2. How long is the coastline?

More than 177 km long

3. Describe something that you are seeing in the video.

Very blue oceans on a seemingly remote island in the world. Seems almost like what you would imagine if you were to think of Hawaii. Lots of wildlife and trees and forest surrounding the beaches of the island.

4. Were there indigenous people living on the island when it was discovered?

There was no one on the island when it was discovered. People who came were from different backgrounds as a melting pot.

5. What is Pamplemousses? Who built it?

It is a botanical garden built by a French Botanist who wanted to grow spices in the region.

6. What is Rhumerie de Chamarel?

A rum distillery that plays a historic role in Mauritius. During the Slave Trade many slaves drank rum to relax.

7. What is the “main product that you need”?

Sugarcane in which juice is extracted to make rum.

8. What does our guide say about the southern cape?

Gris Gris beach and southern cape is where you see the real nature in all its glory

9. What is different about the volcanic crater on the southern plateau?

Differs because it is all natural, uninterrupted from human interaction

The Mauritian Constitution makes no mention of an official language and its one million citizens speak **English**, French, Mauritian Creole, French-based Creole, and ethnic languages such as Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Marathi, Urdu, Tamil, or Mandarin.

Mauritius gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1968.

Mauritius has undergone a remarkable economic transformation from a low-income, agriculturally based economy to a diversified, upper-middle-income country that has attracted considerable foreign investment and has one of the Africa region’s highest per capita GDPs. The government is trying to modernize the sugar and textile industries while promoting diversification into such areas as information technology and financial and business services. Services and tourism remain important economic drivers, and maritime security is a priority.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KLZz2joDP0c>