Minorities in Finland
Sami people (Lapp or Laplanders)

• Arctic indigenous people
• They live in northern Finland, Sweden and Norway and the Kola Peninsula of Russia, but also in the border area between south and central Sweden and Norway.
• In Finland the population of the sami people is about 6000.
• They have their own languages, culture, lifestyle, identity and even their own court of law. They also get news broadcasts in their own language.
• The Sami languages are endangered, and are classified as a branch of the Uralic language family.
Gypsies

• Gypsies originally come from current northern India
• The word gypsy (gipsy) comes from the word Egyptian, because people thought that they come from Egypt
• Total amount of gipsies is about 20 million, about 9-10 million live in Europe and about ten thousand live in Finland
• In Finland they live mostly in cities
• Their main languages are Finnish and Finnish Romani
• Mostly they are Christian
• In Finland they are often pejoratively referred to as Mustalaiset (pl.) or Mustalainen (sing.) which etymologically means “Blacks”
• Their history is pretty sad, because they were hunted. In some countries people were allowed to shoot a gipsy without any consequences.
• Gipsies also have their own flag and anthem. The wheel in their flag symbolizes their traveling in the olden days. The anthem is called Gelem Gelem.
Russians in Finland

- About 27,000 people have a citizenship of Russian Federation and Russian is the mother language of about 48,000 people in Finland.
- Russians citizens who moved before the Second World War are called "Old Russians“
- The next immigration wave happened after the dissolution of the Soviet Union as Ingrian Finns remigrated to Finland.
- At present, marriage and family ties are two other common reasons for Russians to immigrate Finland.
- The Ingrian Finns (inkeriläiset or inkerinsuomalaiset) are the Finnish population of Ingria descending from Lutheran Finnish immigrants introduced to the area in the 17th century, when Finland and Ingria were both part of the Swedish Empire.
Jews

- Jews are citizens of Finland
- The country is home to around 1500 Jews, who mostly live in Helsinki
Tatars

• Tatars are Turkish people who espouse the Muslim faith
• They number approximately 1000 and form a well-established and homogeneous religious, cultural and linguistic minority
Somali

- Somalis in Finland are one of the largest ethnic minorities in Finland
- In 2009 there were 11,681 Somali speakers in Finland, of whom 9,444 lived in Uusimaa
- The number of Somali-speaking people in Finland in 2010 rose by nearly 10% in a year
Swedish-speaking Finns

• Finnish citizens that speak Swedish as their mother language
• 289 951 people (5,44 %) in Finland
• Most Swedish-speaking Finns live in coastal areas of Finland
• Swedish and Finnish are equal in Finland Swedish-speaking Finns have the same rights as Finnish speakers
• Many places have names in both languages
• November 6th is a general flag day, Finnish Swedish Heritage Day
• Unofficial flag of Swedish-speaking Finns

• Notable Swedish-speaking Finns:
  - Tove Jansson, writer, creator of Moomin characters
  - Jean Sibelius, classical composer
  - Johan Ludvig Runeberg, Finland’s national poet
  - Niklas Bäckström, professional ice hockey goaltender
  - Marcus Grönholm, rally driver
  - Mikael Forssell, football player