First Things First:

1. Give an example of how a landform can affect the population of a country or region:
2. Name two reasons a country would want to expand their territory: ____________

________________________________________________________________________

3. Are countries of the world dependent on the success of each other’s economies? Why?

________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 13- Physical Geography of Russia

Essential Question- How do Russia’s location and landforms affect its population and use of resources? __________

________________________________________________________________________

Section 1- Physical Features

Landforms in Russia

- Russia is the world’s ______________________ country, measuring 6,200 miles (9,980 km) and straddling both Europe and Asia.
- Because of its ____________________ location, Russia does not benefit from its closeness to the sea.
- Most of the country’s long coast lies along waters that are ______________ for much of the year.
- The ______________ Sea, in the southwestern part of the country, is one of Russia’s water routes that is not frequently frozen.
- It provides a route to the ______________________ Sea.
- Russia’s ___________ landforms include rugged mountains, plateaus, and vast lowland plains.
- About ________ percent of Russians live in the mild climate of the Northern European Plain.
- _____________, the capital, and St. Petersburg, a large port city near the Baltic Sea, are in this region.
- The _____________ Mountains divide Europe from Asian Russia.
- _____________ Russia is east of the Ural Mountains and includes Northern Siberia, a vast, treeless plain with one of the coldest climates in the world.
- The few people who live here make their living fishing, hunting seals and __________, or herding reindeer.
- Further south in Siberia is a region of dense forests where people make their living by ______________________ or hunting.
• Plains, _______________, and mountain ranges cover this area.
• Mountains rise in the far eastern _________________ Peninsula.
• These mountains are part of the _______________ of Fire, a region along the rim of the Pacific Ocean where tectonic plates meet and cause the Earth’s crust to be unstable.
• As a result, Kamchatka has many ________________.
• The ________________ is European Russia’s major river. The Lena, Yenisey, and Ob’ are among the longest rivers in the world.
• Russia’s ________________ Sea is the largest inland body of water in the world.
• It is a _________________ lake and an important resource for fishing.
• Major _________ and gas deposits are found near or under the Caspian Sea.
• Lake ________________ lies in southern Siberia and is the world’s deepest freshwater lake.
• It holds one-___________ of the world’s supply of unfrozen freshwater.
• Baikal is home to many kinds of aquatic life, including Baikal seals, or ________________, the only seals that live in freshwater.

Natural Resources
• Russia is a leader in _________________ of the fossil fuels—oil, natural gas, and coal.
• The country also has large deposits of iron ore, _________________, and gold.
• Another major resource for Russia is _________________.
• Trees cover much of _________________, and Russia produces about a fifth of the world’s softwood.
• This wood from evergreen trees is used in buildings and for making _________________.
• Russia’s large size and cold climate inhibit _________________ ability to use its many resources.
• Siberia is vast and remote, and its resources are difficult to use because of the area’s lack of _________________.
• Infrastructure is the system of _________________ and railroads for transporting materials.

Section 2- Climate and Environment

A Cold Climate
• Russia, located in the high latitudes, receives _________________ of the sun’s heat even during summer.
• Much of Russia also lies _________________, far from the moist, warm currents of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans that help moderate temperature in other parts of the world.
• In Russia’s far north, elevations are generally too _________________ to prevent the southerly flow of icy Arctic air, and in the country’s south and east, tall mountains stop the warm air coming from the lower latitudes.
• Russia has a generally cool to cold climate, and large areas of the country experience only _________________- and summer-like conditions.
• Spring and autumn are simply _________________ periods of changing weather.
The northern and eastern areas of Russia have short, cool summers and long, __________ winters.

The northern ___________ climate zone is so cold that moisture in the soil cannot evaporate.

Cold temperatures and lack of precipitation result in ____________, a permanently frozen layer of soil beneath the surface.

South of the tundra lies the ____________ zone, Russia’s largest climate area.

The ____________, the world’s largest coniferous forest, stretches about 4,000 miles (6,436 km) across this zone.

Russia’s Environment

For most of the 1900s, Russia’s leaders stressed economic growth and ignored the ______________ this growth caused to the environment.

Today, smog—a thick haze of fog and chemicals—_____________ many of Russia’s cities.

Factories pour pollutants, chemicals and smoke _______________ that cause pollution, into the air.

Russia’s water pollution is caused by poor __________ systems and by agricultural and industrial chemicals ending up in the rivers and lakes.

Pollution entering Lake Baikal may be causing a decline in the populations of some ____________ species in the area.

Chapter 14 Notes- History and Cultures of Russia

Essential Question- Why do countries often wish to expand their territory? ________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

Section 1- History and Governments

The Russian Empire

During the A.D. 800s, early _______________ peoples built a civilization around the city of Kiev, today the capital of Ukraine.

This civilization, called _____________ Rus, prospered from river trade between Scandinavia and the Byzantine Empire.

In 988, the people of Kievian Rus converted to Eastern Orthodox ______________._

Missionaries, or people who move to another area to spread their ______________, had brought this form of Christianity as well as a written language.

In the 1200s, _______________ warriors from Central Asia conquered Kievian Rus.

Many Slavs moved northward to the trading post of Moscow, which became the center of a new Slavic territory called _______________

Muscovy developed into the country known today as ______________.

In 1547 Ivan IV declared himself ______________, or emperor.
• Ivan and later czars, such as ________ the Great and Catherine the Great, expanded the Russian Empire toward the Pacific Ocean and Central Asia.

• Through the centuries, the czars, large landowners, and wealthy merchants enjoyed comfortable lives, but the majority of Russians were poor ________, or farm laborers who could be bought and sold with the land.

• In 1861, Czar ____________ II freed the country’s 40 million serfs, although freedom did not release them from poverty.

• Alexander began to modernize the economy, but most Russians remained ________, and unrest spread among workers and peasants.

• In 1914, Russia joined France and Britain to fight ____________ and Austria in World War I, but, poorly prepared, Russia suffered huge military defeats.

• Many Russians blamed Czar Nicholas II for the country's poor performance and for ________ shortages.

• In 1917, the people staged a revolution that forced the czar to step down from the ____________.

• Later that year, Vladimir ____________ led a second revolt that overthrew the temporary government.

• He set about establishing a __________________________ state in which the government controlled the economy and society.

**Rise and Fall of Communism**

• Vladimir Lenin and his followers created a new nation called the Union of Soviet ________________ Republics, or the Soviet Union.

• This nation included ________ republics made up of different ethnic groups.

• Russia was the ________________ republic, and the Russian ethnic group dominated the Soviet Union’s government.

• Lenin followed the ideals of Karl ____________, who believed that industrialization had created an unjust system in which factory owners held great power while the workers held little.

• To make everyone in Soviet society more ________, Lenin did away with the private ownership of businesses.

• All farms and __________________ came under the control of the Soviet government.

• Lenin’s policies were continued by Joseph ________________, a harsh dictator who killed or imprisoned anyone who disagreed with him.

• Soviet leaders set up a __________________________ economy in which the government ran all areas of economic life, including deciding what crops farmers should grow and what goods factories should produce.

• Soviet leaders introduced __________________________—a system in which small farms were combined into large, factory-like farms run by the government.

• These were __________________________ and did not produce enough food for the people.

• __________________________ production was more successful.

• Huge factories produced steel, __________________________, and military equipment.

• Under strict government control, __________________________ was eliminated, or done away with, allowing only certain factories to make certain goods.
This led to low efficiency and poor ___________ goods.

In ___________, during World War II, Germany invaded the Soviet Union.

By the time the war was over, 20 to 30 million Soviet soldiers and civilians had ____________.

Stalin wanted to make sure the Soviet Union would not be invaded again, so he kept Soviet troops in _____________ eastern European countries and established Communist governments in them.

The Soviet Union and the United States were _____________ during World War II, but became bitter rivals after it.

They engaged in a struggle for world influence known as the _____________ War.

Each superpower became the center of a group of nations that pledged to help each other if ____________

The United States was the chief member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or ____________, which included most of western Europe’s democracies.

The Soviet Union led the _____________ Pact, a group of Communist countries that included most of Eastern Europe.

In 1985 Mikhail _________________, the new Soviet leader, began a number of reforms.

Under the policy of ________________, or “openness,” Soviet citizens could say and write what they thought without fear of being punished.

The policy of ________________, or “rebuilding,” aimed to boost the Soviet economy. It gave factory managers more freedom and called for small, privately-owned businesses.

Gorbachev’s policies made the Soviet people ____________ communism, and by 1991, Russia and other Soviet republics had declared independence.

As communism ended in eastern Europe, the Soviet Union faced growing unrest among its ethnic groups, and Gorbachev was _____________ by all sides.

Hard-liners wanted to stop changes, while reformers felt that Gorbachev was not moving ________ enough.

In August 1991, hard-line Communists attempted a _____________, an overthrow of the government by military force.

Boris _________________, the president of Russia—the largest of the Soviet republics—called on the people to resist, and the hard-liners backed down.

Within a few months, Russia and all of the other Soviet republics declared independence, and by the end of _____________, the Soviet Union no longer existed as a nation.

Section 2- Cultures and Lifestyles

Russia’s Cultures

Under communism, Russia’s people were not allowed to practice ____________, but that has changed.

Today, Russia is home to many Eastern Orthodox Christians. ________________, Roman Catholics, Protestants, and Jews also live in Russia.

Early Russians developed a strong oral tradition, or passing stories by word of _____________ from generation to generation.
• Writers and __________________ have drawn on these stories or on folk music for their works.

• The Russian people’s strong sense of nationalism, or feelings of ______________ toward their country, is reflected in many artistic works.

• Russia has long been a center of music and ______________.

• During the Soviet era, writers did not enjoy freedom of ______________ but were required to promote government policies in their works.

• Today’s government has also placed limits on freedom of ______________.

• Famous Russian musicians and writers are Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky, Igor Stravinsky, Leo ______________, and Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

• Russia is famous for its _______________ Ballet, Kirov Ballet, and Hermitage Museum.

• Because the Soviet Union emphasized education in the sciences, Russia has many ______________ mathematicians, and doctors.

• Russia has also long participated in the ______________ program.

Life in Russia

• Most Russians live in _______________ located west of the Ural Mountains.

• City dwellers generally live in large _______________ buildings rather than in single-family homes.

• Wealthy Russians may own _______________ homes called dachas.

• Housing is _______________ and often expensive. For this reason, grandparents, parents, and children frequently share the same apartment or dwelling.

• Russia’s most popular sports are associated with winter or are played _________________.

• Russian _______________ players, figure skaters, and gymnasts are strong competitors in international events.

• Russian holidays include the new Independence Day on June 12, which marks the country’s declaration of autonomy, or _______________ from the Soviet Union.

• Other popular holidays are New Year’s Eve and ______________, a week-long holiday marking the end of winter.

• _______________ were the primary means of transportation during the Soviet era and are still important today.

• The famed Trans-Siberia Railroad runs from Moscow in the west to _______________ in the east and is the longest rail line in the world.

• The railroad made it possible for Russians to exploit Siberia’s _______________ resources.

• For years, _______________ were less common in Russia than in most European countries.

• Since the 1990s, new phone lines allow for the rapid transfer of _______________, making it easier to use the Internet in Russia.

Chapter 15 Geography Notes- Russia Today

Essential Question- Why is the success of democracy in Russia important to the rest of the world? ______________
Section 1 - A Changing Russia
Changing Politics and Society

- Under communism, the Russian people could neither choose nor challenge their leaders, but today the country is more ____________________.
- Russia’s official name is the Russian ____________________, reflecting the fact that Russia comprises, or is made up of, many different regions or territories.
- It is a federal republic, with power divided between national and ________________ governments.
- To create a market economy, the government introduced ____________________, or the transfer of ownership of businesses from the government to individuals.
- In a market economy, prices result from _______________ between companies and from what consumers need, want, and are willing to pay.
- Russians today have freedoms ____________________ by the Communists.
- The people now have different ________________ parties; can criticize their leaders and policies; and enjoy uncontrolled access to news, books, and different cultures and ideas.
- Russia’s new economy led to the spread of ____________________, or the desire to buy goods.
- Many businesses made large profits, and a Russian ________________ class emerged.
- The term, middle class, refers to a social group that is neither very rich nor poor but has enough money to buy some ________________ items.
- The new economic system also gave workers freedom to quit their jobs and seek employment ________________, open their own businesses, or invest.
- ____________________ means putting money into businesses run by others in hope of making even more money.
- Some businesses failed and some stayed open but fired workers to cut costs, causing ____________________.
- Some skilled workers still face ____________________________, which means they are forced to take jobs that require lesser skills than they have.
- The unsettled economy is also difficult for ________________, or people who regularly receive fixed payments from the government because they are too old or too sick to work.
- When prices rise but the amount of the ________________ does not increase, it becomes difficult for pensioners to buy goods.
- Russia’s population declined from 150 million people in 1991 to ____________ million in 2006, due to low birthrates and rising death rates.

Russia’s Economic Regions
- ________________ is the political, economic, and transportation center of Russia.
- A large amount of ____________________________ also takes place in or near Moscow.
• Under Soviet rule, most of Russia's factories focused on _________ industry, or the production of goods such as machinery, mining equipment, and steel.

• After communism's fall, more factories shifted to _________ industry, or the production of consumer goods, such as clothing and household products.

• High technology and _____________ industries have also developed in Moscow.

• St. Petersburg is a major port and _____________ center, attracting thousands of tourists to its palaces and churches.

• St. Petersburg is also an important _____________ and industrial center.

• A high volume of goods passes through its port, while its factories make machinery, ships, and _____________.

• ________ is a small, isolated area of Russia between Poland and Lithuania, but it is still a major Russian port on the Baltic Sea.

• The Urals region is a major center of manufacturing and the ________ of wheat and sugar beets.

• The area of the Ural Mountains is a major source for copper, gold, lead, _____________, bauxite, and energy resources.

• Siberia's climate is cold, and its land is _____________ and frozen. Its resources include iron ore, uranium, gold, coal, and timber.

**Section 2 - Issues and Challenges**

*Political and Economic Challenges*

• Prior to _____________, Russians had little experience with democratic government, but now many political parties compete in free elections.

• The Russian _____________ are also now making their own economic decisions.

• The Russian president has the power to issue _____________—rulings that have the force of law and do not need the approval of the legislature.

• Since becoming president in _____________, Vladimir Putin has strengthened presidential powers.

• Newspapers remain free, but _____________ news is again subject to government control.

• Russia is a federal republic with power shared among national, regional, and local governments, but President Putin named district _____________ who would obey his wishes.

• Politicians at all levels also disregard democratic ways, and the courts often favor _____________ and powerful citizens.

• Many Russian people do not understand how their new government works and do not know how to _________ it.

• Positive results of Russia's shift to a free market economy include new companies, higher personal _____________, and higher prices for Russia's oil and natural gas exports.

• Economic success has also brought rising _____________ and business corruption.

• _____________, or members of a small ruling class that holds great power, control various parts of the economy.
In Russia, oligarchs are often corrupt __________ leaders.
The benefits of economic changes have not reached all of Russia’s people __________.
A few Russians have grown wealthy, but many have become even __________.
Many Russians do not __________ the country’s banks.
Officials hope that the government-created __________ insurance system—which will repay people who deposit their money in a bank if the bank should go out of business—will make people feel safer and more willing to use the banking system.
Russians also have experienced regional __________ in recent years, making it difficult to unify the country.
When the Soviet Union fell, several ethnic groups in Russia saw a chance for independence and launched __________ movements, or campaigns to break away from the national government and form independent countries.
One of the most violent separatist movements began in __________, a Muslim region near the Caucasus Mountains in southern Russia.
The separatists continue to conduct, or carry out, __________ attacks against the Russian government.

Russia and the World

As a major world power, Russia plays an important role in __________ affairs and, in recent years, has worked to strengthen ties with other countries.
In 2002, Russia agreed to support the United States and other NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) countries in fighting __________ terrorist activities.

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<th>Country</th>
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