Name: ____________________

World Geography

Unit 6: North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia

Chapter 16- Physical Geography of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia

Chapter 17- History and Cultures of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia

Chapter 18- North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia Today

Genesis 12:2- I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
Chapter 16 Notes - Physical Geography of Northwest Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia

Essential Question - How have natural resources made this region a key player in world affairs?

____________________________________________________________________________________

Section 1 - Physical Features

The Regions Landforms

- The region of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia extends from the _________________ coast of northwestern Africa to the middle of Asia.
- The region is surrounded by oceans, seas, and gulfs that have helped people _________________ more easily with the rest of Africa, Asia, and Europe.
- The Strait of _________________ separates Africa and Europe and links the Mediterranean Sea with the Atlantic Ocean.
- The _________________ Strait, the Sea of Marmara, and the Bosporus Strait together link the Mediterranean and Black Seas and separate Europe from Asia.
- The _________________ Canal is a human-made waterway that allows ships to pass from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea.
- North of the Arabian Peninsula, the Strait of _________________ allows oil tankers to enter and leave the Persian Gulf.
- The _________________ Pass is a narrow gap between mountains in the Hindu Kush, used for centuries as a trade route linking Southwest Asia to other parts of Asia.
- The ancient Egyptians relied on the Nile’s yearly _________________, which not only supplied water, but also carried silt—small particles of rich soil that made the land fertile for growing crops.
- Ancient Mesopotamia was located on an _________________ plain, an area of fertile soil left by the flooding of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

Natural Resources

- Oil is common in the Persian Gulf because the land is made up of _________________ rock, or rock created when layers of material are hardened by the intense weight of more materials piled above.
- Over millions of years, heat and pressure below the Earth’s surface helped turn the remains of sea _________________ and plants into oil.
- Some of the region’s countries have used the wealth gained from selling oil to develop new industries and provide _________________ to the region’s people.
- Television and the _________________ have exposed the cultures of the oil-rich countries to ideas from other parts of the world.
- Sometimes this results in _________________ between people who support new ways and people who favor traditional customs and values.
- Coal, iron ore, and _________________ are also important resources in the region, as are phosphates, mineral salts used to make fertilizer.
- Only _________________ has enough timber to support a lumber industry.
• Poaching—or illegal fishing or hunting—of __________________, the fish whose eggs are used to make caviar, has harmed the Caspian Sea and hurt the region’s fishing industry.

• The __________ Sea was damaged during the 1960s when irrigation projects drained water from the two main rivers that feed the sea.

• The water in the Aral Sea also became saltier—unfit for ______________ and harmful to the sea’s fish populations.

• Farmland is both helped and ______________ by irrigation.

• Because the climate is dry, when irrigation water ______________, it leaves behind a deposit of salt on the land that makes it less fertile or even worthless for farming.

• The ______________ High Dam on Egypt’s upper Nile River controls the river’s floodwaters and enables farmers to grow and harvest food throughout the year.

• A disadvantage of the dam is that it has blocked the flow of __________ down the river, forcing farmers to turn to chemical fertilizers, which can pollute the Nile.

• The Aswan High Dam also causes less ______________ to flow downriver.

• This allows saltwater to back up into the ______________, ruining some farmlands.

• __________ pollution is a growing problem in the region.

• A large number of cars in the region are ______________, and they release more pollutants.

• Chemicals released by ______________, the facilities that turn petroleum into gasoline and other products, also pollute the air.

Section 2: Climate Regions

A Dry Region

• Dry continental air masses warmed by the sun blow over much of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia, creating mostly ______________ land with a dry, hot climate.

• The ______________, the world’s largest desert, covers much of North Africa. Summer temperatures can climb as high as 136°F (58°C), but winter temperatures are cooler, averaging about 55°F (13°C).

• Only about 3 inches (8 cm) of rain fall each year in the Sahara. Dry riverbeds called ______________ fill with water when it rains.

• Most of the Sahara is dry land covered with __________________ or gravel.

• About 20 percent of the desert is covered by ______________, or large sand dunes.

• The Sahara also contains ______________ where the land is fertile as a result of water from a spring or well.

• In the south of the Arabian Peninsula lies the Rub’ al Khali, or ______________ Quarter, desert, which averages only about 4 inches (10 cm) of rainfall per year.

• In Central Asia, rain shadow areas created by high peaks along with dry continental winds have formed large deserts—the ______________ and the Kyzyl Kum.

• Both deserts have hot summers but very ______________ winters because they are in the middle latitudes.

• Bordering the region’s deserts are dry, ______________, but grassy plains called steppes.
• Steppes are found in areas north of the Sahara, in _______________, and to the east in Central Asia.

• Steppe areas receive more _______________—between 4 and 16 inches (10 and 41 cm) per year—than do deserts.

• Some people on the steppe live as _______________, moving across the steppes to find food and water for their herds.

• Others in the steppes practice ____________ farming, a method in which land is left unplanted every few years so that it can store moisture.

The Need for Water

• Rainfall is _______________ over much of the region, so the growing population does not have adequate water to meet its needs.

• A large amount of water is used to _______________ dry farmland.

• Some countries, such as _______________, now draw water from aquifers, or underground rock layers through which water flows.

• Governments, such as those of Jordan and Syria, are dealing with water shortages by ________________, or making a resource available to people in limited amounts.

• Another approach to managing water is desalinization, a process for making _______________ drinkable.

Chapter 17 Notes- History and Cultures of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia

Essential Question- How does religion affect the lives of people today? __________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

Section 1- History and Religion

Early Civilizations

• Two of the world’s _______________ civilizations—Mesopotamia and Egypt—arose in Southwest Asia and North Africa about 5,000 years ago.

• Mesopotamia—present-day _______________—began in the Fertile Crescent, a strip of land that curves from the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf.

• Beginning about 4000 B.C., people settled along the _______________ and Euphrates Rivers where they farmed, watering their crops by irrigation, or bringing water to the fields.

• By 3000 B.C., many cities had developed in southern Mesopotamia in a region known as _______________.

• Each city and the land around it, called a _________________, formed its own government.

• Mesopotamia’s religion was based on _________________, or the worship of many gods and goddesses, and initially was a theocracy, a government controlled by religious leaders.

• The Sumerians created one of the first calendars, were the first to use the wheel and the plow, and developed _________________, an early form of writing.
• About 1790 B.C., King Hammurabi invaded Mesopotamia. He created the _______________ of Hammurabi, one of the first written legal codes.

• Around 5000 B.C., farm villages began to develop along the ____________ River in northeastern Africa.

• The ancient Egyptians relied on the Nile’s annual ____________ to bring water and enrich the soil.

• ____________ unified under a single ruler around 3100 B.C.

• Egypt was a ________________, and the people worshipped many gods and goddesses.

• The rulers, called ________________, were believed to be gods as well as rulers.

• They owned the land and ordered thousands of people to build temples, tombs, and _______________, or a type of tomb.

• The Egyptians also developed a system of writing called ________________, which used pictures for words or sounds.

• Through trade and ________________, the achievements and ideas of Mesopotamia and Egypt spread to other lands.

• The measurement of ____________ developed by the Sumerians, for example, is still used today.

• One of the greatest trading empires of the ancient world, stretching from the Mediterranean Sea as far as present-day Spain, developed in the land of Phoenicia—today’s _______________—around 1000 B.C.

Three World Religions

• Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are major world faiths. All three are examples of ________________, or the belief in one God.

• Judaism is the ________________ of the three religions.

• First practiced by a small group of people in Southwest Asia called the Israelites, Judaism’s followers today are known as ________________.

• Their holy book is the ________________, or the Hebrew Bible.

• In the Tanakh, God made a covenant, or agreement, with Abraham, the father of Judaism, about 1800 B.C., promising to bless Abraham and his descendants if they would move from Mesopotamia to ____________.

• Jews believe that God revealed the Ten Commandments and other laws to ________________, a prophet, or messenger of God.

• About 1000 B.C. the Israelites under King ________________ created a kingdom in the area of present-day Israel, which had Jerusalem as its capital.

• By 922 B.C., the kingdom had split into two states—Israel and ________________, and the people of Judah were called Jews.

• In later years, the Jews were forced to leave their ________________.

• This scattering of Jews across the world is called the ________________.

• ________________, another monotheistic religion, arose from Judaism.
• About A.D. 30, a Jewish teacher named ____________________ began preaching in what is today Israel and the West Bank.

• Jesus was greeted by some as a savior sent by God but by others as a traitor under Roman law, and he was ____________________, or executed on a cross.

• Soon afterward, Jesus’ followers declared that he had risen from the dead and was the Son of ____________, and they spread his message throughout the Mediterranean world.

• People who follow Jesus’ teachings are known as Christians, and Christianity is the world’s ____________ religion, with about 2.1 billion followers.

• The ____________ Testament is part of the Christian Bible, or holy book.

• The third major monotheistic religion to develop in Southwest Asia was _________________.

• Islam began in the A.D. 600s in the ____________ Peninsula with the teachings of Muhammad.

• Muslims, or followers of Islam, believe that ________________ was the last and greatest prophet of Islam, following Abraham, Moses, and Jesus.

• The holy book of Islam is the _________________.

• After Muhammad died in A.D. 632, leaders known as ________________ ruled the Muslim community.

• Over several centuries, Islam ________________ into areas of Asia, North Africa, and parts of Europe.

• From the A.D. 700s to the 1400s, Muslims were the leading merchants in many parts of Asia and Africa, including the cities of ________________, Cairo, and Damascus, which became centers of government and learning.

• Important developments from Muslim trading were the creation of ____________, which made trade easier, and the creation of banking.

The Region in the Modern World

• Between the late A.D. 900s and the late 1200s, waves of ________________ invaders swept into the Muslim world from Central Asia, ending the Arab Empire.

• The Muslim ________________ Empire next arose and lasted until the end of World War I.

• By the end of World War I, ________________ powers had gained control of large areas of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia.

• The region’s people resented European rule and cultural influences and turned to ________________, or the belief that every ethnic group has a right to have its own independent nation.

• Through wars and political struggles, most countries in Southwest Asia and North Africa won political freedom by the 1970s, and several Muslim nations in Central Asia gained their independence after the fall of the __________________________ in 1991.

• Today, some groups in the region see themselves as ________________ nations, or people with strong ethnic loyalties but no country of their own, such as the 25 million Kurds that live in several different lands.

• Since 1948, when the United Nations divided ________________ into separate Jewish and Arab countries, Israel and its Arab neighbors have fought several major wars.

• In one conflict, Israel won control of neighboring Arab areas, such as the West Bank and the ____________ Strip, leaving many Palestinian Arabs homeless and demanding their own country.
Arab-Israeli conflicts have had an ________________ on the rest of the world.

America’s ________________ for Israel has stirred anger among many people in the region.

Israel signed peace treaties with Egypt in ________________ and Jordan in 1994.

A 1993 agreement between Israel and Palestinian Arab leaders fell apart by 2000, resulting in continued ________________ and distrust.

Political ________________ based on Islam have arisen in response to regional problems.

Some Muslims believe that American and European involvement in the region has kept their nations poor and weak and that they must return to Islamic culture and values in order to ________________.

In 1979, an Islamic revolution in ________________ overthrew that country’s shah, or king, and made Iran an Islamic republic enforcing the strict laws of a traditional Islamic society.

Then, from 1980 to 1988, Iran clashed with the dictator of Iraq, ________________, costing a million lives.

Since the 1990s, both Southwest Asia and other areas of the world have seen the dramatic growth of ________________, or the use of violence against civilians to achieve a political goal.

A Muslim terrorist group called ________________ was formed by a Saudi Arabian named Osama bin Laden whose goal is to remove American and European influences from the Muslim world.

Al-Qaeda trained its fighters in the country of ________________, where it was helped by a militant Muslim government called the Taliban.

On September 11, 2001, members of al-Qaeda attacked the United States by seizing four American passenger planes and flying them into the World Trade Center in New York City and the ________________ outside Washington, D.C.

The fourth plane crashed in a field in ________________.

The United States declared a war on terrorism and, along with other countries, sent troops to attack Afghanistan, where they defeated the ________________ and helped set up a democratic Afghan government.

In 2003, a group of countries led by the United States invaded ________________, believing that Iraq’s leader, Saddam Hussein, was hiding deadly chemical and biological weapons.

The Iraqi army was quickly defeated, and Saddam Hussein was later ________________.

For the United States and its partners, rebuilding Iraq was more difficult than overthrowing Hussein because many Iraqis continue to ________________ American forces.

Also, the ________________ and Shia Muslim groups compete for power and fight each other.

These conflicts have made it difficult for Iraq to create a ________________ and rebuild its society.

Section 2 - Cultures and Lifestyles

Population Changes

Because ________________ is scarce in North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia, people live along seacoasts and rivers, near oases, or in rainy highland areas.

Nomads stay near oases where there is enough ________________ to feed their herds.
The vast deserts covering much of the region remain largely ________________ of people, except where oil is plentiful.

The region’s population is growing ________________ because improved health care reduces the number of infant deaths and increases the life span of adults.

Rural areas where farming is difficult cannot support the growing population, so many villagers are moving to cities such as Istanbul, Turkey; ________________, Egypt; Tehran, Iran; and Baghdad, Iraq.

**Religion, Language, and Arts**

Islam, divided into the Sunni and ________________ groups, is the major faith in the region.

Both groups follow the Quran and share many beliefs, but they disagree on how the Muslim faithful should be ________________.

Most Muslims in the region and throughout the world are Sunni, but in Iran, Iraq, ________________, and parts of Lebanon and Syria, most are Shia.

All Muslims must undertake a holy journey to ________________, or a hajj, once in a lifetime.

Most Jews in the area live in ________________.

Christians are dominant in ________________ and Georgia, with large groups also in Israel, Lebanon, Syria, and Iran.

Islam, Judaism, and Christianity all believe in that one ________________ holds all power and created the universe; that God determines right and wrong; and that people are expected to love God, obey God’s will, and show kindness to others.

Christians celebrate ________________ as their major holy day, but they also set aside special days to honor saints, or Christian holy people.

Armenians and Georgians are Orthodox Christian, but in Egypt, Christians belong to the ________________ Orthodox Church.

In Israel, where three-quarters of the population is Jewish, people follow the traditional practice of marking the ________________ from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday.

The holiest of Jewish holy days is ________________, the Day of Atonement, when Jews fast, attend services, and ask God’s forgiveness for their sins.

Both Jews and Muslims have ________________ laws that state which foods they can and cannot eat and how food should be prepared and handled.

As Islam spread though Africa and Asia, so did the ________________ language.

Non-Arab Muslims ________________ Arabic in order to read the Quran.

As more people became Muslim, Arabic became the ________________ language in much of the region.

Other major languages include Hebrew in Israel, Turkish in Turkey, and ________________ in Iran.

Armenians, Georgians, and Central Asians have their ________________ languages.

A number of great works of ________________ have been written in the languages of the region.

Many of these works are exciting ________________—tales or poems about heroes and heroines.
For many hundreds of years, the region’s three religions provided inspiration for ______________ and architects.

Today, the region’s arts also reflect European and American secular, or ______________ influences.

Over the centuries, Muslims have developed a distinctive style of ______________ that includes large interiors, highly decorated surfaces, and brilliant colors.

Islamic houses of worship, called ______________, can be seen throughout the Muslim world.

Believing the showing of human figures in art might lead to idol worship, Muslim artists feature ______________ patterns and floral designs in their works.

They also use ______________, or the art of beautiful writing, for decoration.

Other art forms in the region include stone churches with domed roofs and religious music in the Christian countries of Georgia and Armenia and ______________ making in Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, and the Central Asian countries.

**Daily Life**

In North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia, some people struggle to earn a living from nomadic herding and small-scale farming, while others live in great ______________.

Some people have adopted ______________ culture, but others have maintained traditional ways.

More than __________ percent of the region’s people live in urban areas, sometimes in high-rise apartments, but sometimes in very old stone or mud-brick buildings that still lack running water or electricity.

People in the countryside often depend on their own farms or the village ______________ for food.

City dwellers can shop at supermarkets or the ______________, or the traditional marketplace of stalls.

Countries whose economies are based on manufacturing or oil production have relatively __________ standards of living, but developing countries have little wealth.

Israel has a strong economy with highly skilled workers and exports of high-______________ products.

Citizens of Saudi Arabia and ______________ have prospered from oil production, and those governments have used oil revenues, or income, to build schools, hospitals, roads, and airports.

Many people in these prosperous nations live in modern cities, work in manufacturing or service jobs, and receive ______________ education and health care from their governments.

In the region’s developing countries, high population growth has greatly ______________ the economies.

Many North Africans have migrated to Europe to find ______________ not available in their own countries.

In some places, such as Afghanistan and ______________, farming and herding are the leading economic activities, and daily life has changed little over hundreds of years.

______________ in the region are expected to dress modestly, and many Muslim women wear a headscarf or veil in public.

Primary education is free; many students now complete both primary and secondary school, and a small percentage attends ______________.

Women in rural areas have always done farm work alongside their husbands, and most urban women in the past stayed at ______________ to manage households.
• Today, however, many women in the cities have jobs in business, ____________, and government.
• Saudi Arabian women may not ____________ drive, or travel without a male relative.
• They may attend universities but must go to separate classes from men, and they may work, but only in professions such as teaching and medicine in which they can avoid close ____________ with men.
• In Turkey, women can vote and hold public office, and Turkey and Israel have both had women ____________ ministers.

Chapter 18 Notes- North Africa, Central Asia, and Southwest Asia Today

Essential Question- What effects can conflict have on a region? ____________________________

Section 1- North Africa

Egypt

• Egypt has a developing economy with about a third of its people—many are peasant farmers called the ____________—working in agriculture in the fertile Nile Valley.
• Egypt’s main energy resource is oil, and petroleum products and ____________, which are minerals used in fertilizers, are Egypt’s major exports.
• Egyptian ____________ also make food products, textiles, and other consumer goods.
• Egypt’s industries have drawn millions of people to Cairo and Alexandria, but the cities cannot provide enough houses, ____________, and hospitals.
• The result is ____________, heavy traffic, and pollution.
• From about 300 B.C. to A.D. 300, Egypt was dominated politically by Greece and Rome, but in A.D. 641, ____________ from Southwest Asia took control of the country.
• Most of Egypt’s people began to speak the Arabic language and became ____________.
• In the 1800s, Europeans and Egyptians together built the ____________ Canal, one of the world’s most important waterways, which eventually came under British control.
• In 1952, army officers overthrew the British-supported king, and Egypt became fully ____________.
• Today Egypt is a ____________ with one political party controlling the government.

Libya and Maghreb

• As well as being part of North Africa, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco also form a smaller region known as the ____________.
• Much of ____________ is desert, but aquifers lie beneath the sands.
• New pipelines carry the water from the desert to Libya’s growing population in the modern cities of ____________ and Benghazi.
• In recent decades, oil has brought Libya great wealth, which has helped to build schools and hospitals and to improve the country’s ____________—or roads, ports, and water and electric systems.
• Almost all of Libya’s people have a mixed Arab and ___________________ ethnic background.

• Berbers are a group that settled _________________ Africa before the arrival of the Muslim Arabs in the A.D. 600s.

• From that point, Libya has been a Muslim and ___________________ -speaking country.

• Libya became independent in 1951, but soon Muammar al-Qaddafi set up a ____________________________, or a government under the rule of one all-powerful leader.

• From the 1970s to the 1990s, _________________ supported terrorism and sought to acquire nuclear weapons.

• The United States and the United Nations forced Qaddafi to chance his policy, or plan of action, by punishing Libya through trade barriers called trade ___________________.

• Tunisia is North Africa’s _________________ country, and most of its people are of mixed Arab and Berber ancestry, speak Arabic, and practice Islam.

• ___________________ is the country’s capital and largest urban area.

• Tunisia gained independence from _________________ in 1956 and today has one of the lowest rates of poverty in Africa as well as many rights for women not found in other Arab nations.

• Algeria is North Africa’s _________________ country, and its Muslim people are of Arab and Berber heritage.

• Algiers, the modern capital city and major Mediterranean port, is still known for its _________________, or older sections with narrow streets and bazaars.

• In spite of industrial growth from Algeria’s oil and natural gas deposits, widespread poverty remains, and many Algerians have moved to _________________ to find work.

• Beginning in 1954, Algerian Arabs fought the French, who had ruled the country since ________________.

• This conflict between different groups inside a country is called a ___________________ war.

• Algeria won independence in 1962 and is now a republic with a strong _________________ and a legislature.

• In the early 1990s, though, another civil war occurred between Muslim _________________ factions.

• Although it ended in 1999, Algeria’s government is still trying to bring _________________ to the country.

• ___________________ has an Arab and Berber heritage and was for many years a Muslim kingdom.

• In the early 1900s, Europeans gained control, but in 1956 Morocco became ________________ once again.

• Today Morocco is a ______________________ monarchy, where a king or queen is head of state but elected officials run the government.

• Morocco seized Western ___________________ in 1975, and since then, groups of Western Saharans have fought for independence.

Section 2- Southwest Asia

The Eastern Mediterranean

• ___________________ bridges the continents of Asia and Europe.
• The country's mild __________________ climate allows farmers to grow food for local use and cotton and tobacco for export.

• Turkey also produces _______________, steel, and cars.

• Most of Turkey's people live in cities or towns such as ______________ and Ankara.

• Most are Muslims, and ________________ is the official language.

• Turkey became a _______________ in 1923.

• Muslim political groups have gained support since the 1990s, but many Turks prefer a ______________, or nonreligious, society.

• Turkey has not allowed the Kurdish _______________ group to break away and form its own county but has promised to respect the right of Kurds and other non-Turkish groups.

• Most of Syria's people live in __________ areas, where they grow cotton, wheat, and fruit.

• Dams on the _______________ River provide water for irrigation and electric power.

• __________________ is the capital.

• Syria became an independent country in 1946, but since the 1960s, one very strict _______________, or government, has controlled the country.

• _______________, independent since 1943, produces citrus fruits, vegetables, grains, olives, and grapes.

• Most Lebanese live in or near ______________, the capital and major port, and work in banking, insurance, and tourism.

• Most speak Arabic, but their culture ________________ Arab, Turkish, and French influences.

• Religious conflict has been a problem for years, including the 2006 clash between the Muslim group _______________ and Israel.

• ______________ farmers rely on irrigation to grow wheat, fruits, and vegetables.

• Jordan's people are mostly Arab Muslims who live in urban areas such as ______________, the capital, and work in service and manufacturing industries.

• Jordan's desert is home to tent-dwelling ______________ or nomads who traditionally raise livestock.

• In 1946 Jordan gained independence as a constitutional ________________ .

• In 1947, the United Nations gave the ______________ control of land where their Israelite ancestors had lived about 3,000 years ago.

• ______________ was proclaimed an independent Jewish republic in 1948.

• Palestinian Arabs who lived in the region believed that Israel was founded on land that belonged to ________.

• Arab/Israeli conflict has taken place ever since and has claimed ________________ of lives.

• About ________ percent of Israel's people are Jews.

• The rest are ________________ Arabs and include both Muslims and Christians.
Israel has a developed industrial economy and produces high-technology equipment, chemicals, and machinery.

Irrigation systems allow citrus fruits, vegetables, and cotton to be grown.

In an Israeli, farmers share all of the work and property.

In a federation, members share in the work, but each can also own some private property.

In 1993 Israel agreed to give self-rule to the Palestinian Arabs living in the West Bank in return for their government’s recognizing Israel’s right to exist.

Some Palestinians continue to carry out attacks on Israelis, causing Israeli forces to enter the area to hunt down attackers.

In 2006 the Islamic group won legislative elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

That group Israel and supports armed attacks on Israeli territory.

The Arabian Peninsula

is the largest country in Southwest Asia, with vast deserts, highlands, and valleys with rainfall for crops.

Most of Saudi Arabia’s people live along the Sea and Persian Gulf coasts, the country’s oil region, or around desert oases.

The capital and largest city, sits amid a large oasis in central Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia has existed as a country since 1932 when the Saud family established a monarchy that united the country’s many, or groups of families related by blood or marriage.

Under Saud rule, has maintained a strong influence.

All aspects of life are organized to allow the required daily and celebration of holy days.

The government helps prepare the holy cities of Makkah and for millions of Muslims who visit each year.

The role of in public life is stricter than in other Muslim countries.

The profits of Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates have built prosperous economies, but each country is also planning for when the oil runs out.

Qatar has developed its natural industry, and Bahrain is now a banking center.

, in the United Arab Emirates, is a large port, financial center, and tourist resort.

Recently some of the Persian Gulf countries have moved away from monarchies toward.

Legislatures elected by voters now hold some of the power in Bahrain, , and Kuwait.

Women in these nations also have rights.

has used its wealth to build its tourist industry and to build ports for oil tankers.

Oman is important to world oil markets because of its strategic Strait of.
must go through this narrow waterway to pass from the Persian Gulf into the Arabian Sea.

 has little oil.

Most of its people are farmers or sheep and herders who live in the high fertile interior where Sanaa, the capital, is located.

Farther south lies a major port for ships traveling between the Arabian Sea and the Red Sea.

Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan

Between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Iraq is an area built up by rich soil left by river floods, called an plain.

Farmers grow wheat, , rice, vegetables, dates, and cotton.

Factories process foods and make textiles, chemicals, and building.

is Iraq’s major export.

Most Iraqis live in urban areas such as the capital.

Muslim Arabs—the Shia, the Sunnis, and the Kurds—make the largest groups in Iraq’s population.

Modern Iraq gained its independence in 1932 and in 1958 the last was overthrown.

During the rest of the 1900s, Iraq was governed by , including Saddam Hussein, who ruled from 1979 to 2003.

After Iraq invaded neighboring Kuwait, the United States led the Gulf War in 1991.

Following Iraq’s defeat, the United Nations put an embargo on the country.

An embargo is an order that trade with another country.

This embargo severely Iraq’s economy.

Then, fearing that Iraq owned weapons, in 2003 American and British forces invaded and overthrew Saddam Hussein.

With the goal of building a democratic Iraq, in June 2004, American forces transferred power to a Iraqi government.

Elections in December had a high turnout of both Shia and Sunni voters.

Nearly 90 percent of Iran’s population is Muslim, but most Iranians are not Arab.

Three-fourths of Iran’s people are or Azeri.

Most Iranians live in cities, such as the capital.

In 1979 religious leaders overthrew the monarchy making Iran an Islamic republic, or a government run by Muslim religious leaders and based on Islamic .

Iran is an oil-rich nation, but it is building other industries, such as textiles, metal goods, and building materials, to be less on oil income.

Farmers grow wheat, rice, sugar beets, and cotton.
Since 1995, the United States and other western leaders have accused Iran of attempting to develop ___________ weapons, but Iran claims it wants nuclear energy only to produce electrical power.

____________________, whose capital is Kabul, is covered by the Hindu Kush range.

Its Khyber Pass has been a trade route through the mountains for ________________.

Major ethnic groups are the __________________ and the Tajiks.

Most of the people herd livestock or grow ___________ such as wheat, fruits, and nuts.

Export products include wool and ________________ carpets.

Responding to the September 2001 attacks, the United States invaded and overthrew Afghanistan’s terrorist-supporting _______________ government.

With American help, Afghanistan began to build a democracy and by 2006, the country had held elections for a ______________ and parliament.

Section 3- Central Asia

The Central Asian Republics

Dry, treeless plains cover much of ________________ landscape.

Farming is limited, but raising livestock has become an ________________ industry.

The country is rich in minerals such as copper and ________________.

Kazakhstan’s people are mostly ethnic Kazakhs and ________________.

After the Soviet collapse in 1991, Kazakhstan became independent but did not adopt ________________.

Although Kazakhstan’s leaders keep a tight grip on citizens and deny rights to their political opponents, there is a free ________________ economy, and many government-run industries have been sold to individual buyers.

_______________ businesspeople are investing in industries in the country, boosting the economy.

Most of ________________ people are Uzbeks who live in fertile valleys and oases.

Tashkent, the capital, is Central Asia’s largest ______________ and industrial center.

About 2,000 years ago, the oases of Tashkent, ________________, and Samarqand were part of the busy trade route called the Silk Road that linked China and Europe.

Uzbekistan relies on ________________, with an emphasis on cotton, the country’s major cash crop, or farm product grown for sale as an export. Uzbek leaders are trying to vary the economy by drawing on newly discovered deposits of oil, gas, and gold.

Most of ________________ is part of a huge desert called the Kara-Kum.

Turkmenistan has a largely ethnic Turkmen population, and most people live in ________________, where they grow cotton and raise livestock.

Turkmenistan contains abundant amounts of petroleum and natural gas, and the government hopes to increase oil and natural gas output to ________________ the economy.
Turkmenistan’s capital and major city is ____________________.

A powerful president runs the country from this city, keeping ______________ control over education, religion, and printed materials.

____________________ is largely mountainous, but farmers raise cotton, vegetables, and fruit in valleys and plains.

Kyrgyzstan has valuable ______________ and gold deposits but little industry.

The government has sought foreign investment in an attempt to help ______________ businesses grow.

Ethnic groups in Kyrgyzstan are the Kyrgyzs, Russians, Uzbeks, and ______________.

In 2005 the government was overthrown during a revolt, but Kyrgyzstan’s new leaders have promised ______________ reforms.

____________________ has fertile mountain valleys in which farmers grow cotton, grapes, grain, and vegetables.

Factory workers in urban areas produce ______________, vegetable oils, and textiles.

The largest city and industrial center is ______________, the capital.

Most of Tajikistan’s people are ethnic ______________ or ethnic Uzbeks.

In the 1990s, a civil war between the government and certain Muslim political groups ______________ many people and damaged the economy.

Since the fighting ended in 1997, recovery has been slow, and political tensions remain ______________.

**The Caucasus Republics**

- The Caucasus Mountains extend across Armenia, ______________, and Azerbaijan, giving these countries the name the Caucasus Republics.

- They were once part of the ____________________.

- The ______________ Republics generally have mild climates that support commercial farming of tea, citrus fruits, wine grapes, and vegetables.

- The northernmost Caucasus Republic is Georgia, a country bordering the ______________ Sea.

- Georgia’s mountains contain many mineral resources, such as copper, coal, ______________, and oil.

- Swift rivers provide hydroelectric power for Georgia’s industries. ______________, Georgia’s capital, lies near the Caucasus Mountains.

- Because the city is located in an area where tectonic plates collide, it has warm mineral ______________ heated by high temperatures inside the Earth.

- Most of Georgia’s people are ethnic Georgians who are proud of their unique language, culture, and ______________ heritage.

- Georgia became ______________ after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

- Since then, ______________ has taken place between Georgians and other ethnic groups in the country who want independence.
- Landlocked ___________ sits on top of many cracks in the Earth’s crust, called faults, caused by colliding tectonic plates.
- As a result, the country suffers frequent, ___________ earthquakes.
- Armenia’s people are mostly ethnic Armenians who share a unique language and ___________ culture.
- ___________, the capital, is one of the world’s oldest cities.
- During World War I, the Ottoman Turks killed hundreds of thousands of Armenians in a terrible ___________, or the deliberate killing of an ethnic group.
- In 1991 Armenia became an independent ___________.
- Shortly afterward, the country sent its ___________ to protect ethnic Armenians living in a small enclave surrounded and ruled by neighboring Azerbaijan.
- An enclave is a small territory surrounded by a ___________ territory.
- Fighting over this land hurt the economies of both countries, and the dispute remains ___________ today.
- ___________ is a developing economy on the eastern edge of the Caucasus region.
- Most of its people are ___________ and practice Shia Islam.
- The largest city is the capital, ___________, a port on the Caspian Sea.
- Farmers use ___________ to grow grains, cotton, and wine grapes.
- Oil and natural gas deposits under the ___________ Sea promise a bright future for Azerbaijan.

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