



World Studies for Georgia Students-Grade 6

Chapter 7: Russian Federation

Section 1: The Geography of Russia

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Russia is the _____ country on Earth, by far.
2. The _____ one-third of Europe is claimed by Russia along with the northern portion of _____, the world's largest continent.
3. Russia is bordered by _____ countries and two oceans.
4. Because of Russia's large size, there are a variety of _____. However, because it is spread across the _____ part of the northern hemisphere, _____ weather is a big part of its climate.
5. _____, the large region to the north and east, has sub-Arctic temperatures that make much of the area challenging for people to live.
6. About 73 percent of the Russian population lives in _____ Russia, where the weather is tough, but not as severe as the Asian Plains and Siberia.
7. While it is largest in area, when it comes to _____ Russia has about 142,000,000 people, which is less than half the population of the United States.
8. The area around _____ is the most densely populated.
9. Russia has great amounts of _____ resources.
10. Although it is the largest country by area, less than 8 percent of the land is _____.
11. _____ and gas are among the most important natural resources found in Russia. They are found mostly in _____ and Asian Russia.

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12. The European _____ extends into Russia from its western border eastward to the Ural Mountains for over 1,000 miles.
13. Of the world's 20 longest _____, 5 are in Russia. One of the most important is the _____—Europe's longest river.
14. _____ (clearing an area of forests) has contributed to a massive loss of habitat.
15. The use of older machinery and vehicles that use fossil fuels contributes to high air _____.
16. Russia's _____ disasters have been especially damaging.



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Section 2: A Brief History of Russia

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Modern Russia has its roots in the 13th-century Grand Principality of _____ (or Moscow).
2. By 1547, a prince known as Ivan was crowned as the first _____. Ivan expanded his territory and created a strong unitary (centralized) _____ as an authoritarian ruler.
3. The _____ family ruled Russia from 1613 until the Russian Revolution in 1917.
4. The workers were known as _____. They were peasants bound to work the land for the estate of the _____ in charge of the region.
5. This system is referred to as a _____ system, and it created classes of people who were unable to move from the social class and economic level in which they were born.
6. In 1682, Peter (later Peter the Great) became _____. He believed that Russia's economy would improve if he could increase _____ and other connections to the powerful countries of Western Europe such as England, France, and Spain.
7. The next ruler, _____ the Great, continued the connection with the West and increased funding for the _____ such as architecture, painting, music, opera, and ballet.
8. After her death, Russia continued to expand but was _____ by France's Napoleon in 1812. This was a _____ conflict.
9. In early 1917, there were _____ in the streets.

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10. The czar and his family were _____. A temporary _____ was set up to try and return order to the country.
11. Later in the year, there was another _____. Communists, the rising new political party led by Vladimir _____, took control.
12. Lenin's group, called _____, executed the czar and his family.
13. Lenin reorganized the country and renamed it the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, or _____. The new Soviet Union signed a peace treaty with _____, ending Russia's involvement in World War I.
14. From its first years, government in the Soviet Union was based on the one-party rule of the _____.
15. Under the leadership of Joseph _____, the country entered into many decades of hunger, joblessness, and fear.
16. The rivalry and _____ between the United States and the Soviet Union during this period led to the _____.
17. By the mid-1980s, the _____ of the Soviet economic and political structures became overwhelming.
18. In 1985, the Soviet Union signed a treaty with the United States agreeing to reduce the size of their _____. They began an era of less _____ control and more individual freedom.
19. On November 9, 1989, the _____ Wall in Germany fell. Within a few short months, each of the "socialist republics" became independent _____, with Russia being the largest.

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20. The history of the modern Russian _____ that exists today officially began January 1, 1992.



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Section 3: The Government of Russia

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Russia today operates under a modified presidential _____.
2. The Russian Federation is governed under a _____ that was drafted into law in December of 1993. Since then it has been modified by the present day _____ (the legislature) to meet the changing needs of the country.
3. The head of state is the _____, who is directly elected by the people. The president then selects the _____ and directs the military and security forces.
4. The _____ has the power to disband the Federal Assembly.
5. The Federal Assembly is divided into two parts: the _____ Council and the _____ Duma.
6. The _____ Council has two representatives from each of the states.
7. The _____ Duma is larger than the Council. It has 450 members who are elected by the _____.
8. Members of the State Duma _____ the president's choice for prime minister.
9. The day-to-day running of the government is split between the _____ and the _____ of Russia.

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Section 4: The Economy of Russia

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. In the days of the USSR (Soviet Union), there was a centralized _____ economy. The _____ owned all businesses and farms.
2. The expectation was that, when all workers met all _____, everyone in the country would be able to have the goods they wanted when they wanted them.
3. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the Russian Federation moved toward a _____ system. Today, however, Russia is still less economically _____ than other countries in Europe.
4. Another problem is the level of _____ (dishonest behavior) of government officials.
5. For example, Russia has an abundance of _____ resources. However, the harsh, cold _____ and lack of infrastructure such as roads make it difficult to get these natural resources out of the ground and to the _____.
6. In the western and southern areas where the climate is mild, products are _____ in order to trade.
7. By _____ vehicles, pharmaceutical products, meat and fruit, as well as medical equipment, Russia can better provide for the daily needs of its people.
8. Although Russia is partly in Europe, the country is not a member of the _____ (EU).

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9. _____, or government protection of a country's industries from foreign competition, works both ways.
10. Russia is a member of the _____ Economic Union (EEU).
11. Russia holds one of the _____ literacy rates in the world at 99 percent.
12. But even with the high literacy rate, Russia still has a _____ Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and high _____ levels.
13. By the second half of 2014, the Russian _____, the country's currency, lost about half its value. Falling oil prices, lack of government economic reforms, and sanctions placed on Russia by other countries have contributed to Russia's economic _____.

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Section 5: US-Russia Relations

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. By the end of 2008, US-Russia relations were _____. When US President Barack Obama took office in January 2009, this provided an opportunity for both sides to change the tone of the relationship and _____ in areas where both had interests.
2. The presidents also agreed to create a _____ Presidential Commission. This commission was dedicated to improving _____ between the two countries, identifying areas of cooperation, and working on joint projects that strengthen _____ between the countries.
3. The United States and Russia work closely to address the threat of _____ terrorism and keep terrorists from acquiring nuclear materials.
4. Although relations with Russia recovered after the election of President Obama in 2008, _____ have risen again. Beginning in 2011, Vladimir _____, the Russian president, supported the dictator of Syria, Bashar al-Assad, in a war against his own people.
5. The United States is working to expand _____ and economic cooperation that can benefit both Americans and Russians.
6. In 2012, Russia joined the _____ Organization (WTO).
7. Adding Russia to the group was a major accomplishment because it brought the _____ economy outside the WTO into the organization and bound it to a set of rules governing trade.