



World Studies for Georgia Students-Grade 7

Chapter 8: Geography and History of Africa – Section 1: The Geography of Africa

Guided Reading

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

1. Your journey in Africa will focus on a few countries: _____, Kenya, _____, South Africa, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the _____.
2. The _____ River flows the length of Egypt before emptying into the Mediterranean Sea near the city of Alexandria.
3. Most of Egypt is a _____, which means that most people live along the Nile River so they can have access to fresh water.
4. Political and ethnic problems in recent years have made _____ one of the most unstable countries in Africa.
5. The country of _____ is located along the eastern coast of Africa bordering the Indian Ocean.
6. _____ is a beautiful country known around the world for its amazing animal parks and rich savanna grasslands.
7. The Democratic Republic of the _____ is located in central Africa and has a very small coastline on the Atlantic Ocean.
8. The Democratic Republic of the Congo is home to the _____ River, which is surrounded by the Congo _____.
9. The _____ River flows through Nigeria, bringing much-needed fresh water to people, as well as providing a transportation route.
10. The Nigerian coast is very rich in _____; however, oil has not brought wealth to average Nigerians.

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11. This is where the country of _____ is located with coasts on both the Atlantic Ocean and Indian Ocean.
12. Because of its harsh climate, very few people live in the _____.
13. Move your finger south of the Sahara, and you will cross into a region called the _____, which is a dry and semiarid region that acts as a _____ zone between the desert sands of the Sahara and the lush savannas.
14. Many of the African iconic animals, such as elephants, lions, giraffes, and many others, live in the _____ region.
15. These _____ are located in the center of Africa, along the Atlantic coast.
16. The longest river in the world is the _____.
17. The _____ Nile, which begins in Lake Victoria, is the longest tributary of the Nile.
18. Another important waterway in Africa is the _____ River, the second-longest river in Africa.
19. The _____ regions receive plentiful rainfall and have a mild climate as a result of the Mediterranean Sea. However, the _____ Mountains act as a barrier that keeps the moisture from reaching the interior of Africa.
20. The tallest mountain in Africa is Mount _____.
21. The _____ Valley formed thousands of years ago as a result of plate tectonics.

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22. One of the most important environmental issues in Africa is water _____ and unequal access to water.
23. Not only is access to water a problem in Africa, but the limited amount of fresh water is also becoming _____.
24. People who do not have access to clean water are at risk for many _____.
25. _____ is a problem affecting the soil in the Sahel and in other regions of Africa.
26. Another significant problem in Africa, especially in the Sahel, is _____.
27. The _____ is the largest non-polar desert on Earth.
28. The hot and arid climate of the _____ has a large impact on the people who live there.
29. Africa has the largest _____ (grassland region) in the world.

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Chapter 8: Geography and History of Africa – Section 2: The People of Africa

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

1. The two largest religions in African are _____ and _____.
2. Today, North Africa and parts of East Africa are mainly _____.
3. Europeans brought _____ with them when they explored and colonized Africa during the 1800s.
4. In Africa, there are thousands of different _____ groups. Three examples are the Arabs, _____, and _____.
5. The _____ arrived in North Africa in the 5th century when the first Muslim armies reached Egypt.
6. Wherever the Arabs went, they brought _____ and the _____ language with them.
7. The _____-speaking people of Africa have had a large impact on many different ethnic groups across central and southern Africa.
8. The _____ migration was one of the largest movements of people in Africa's history.
9. Today, over 60 million people in central and southern Africa speak a Bantu-based language and share some of the _____ culture.
10. The _____ ethnic group is found along the coast of East Africa. Their culture began as a result of contact between _____ and Persian traders and marriage with the local _____ population.

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11. While _____ is considered a Bantu language, there are many _____ words and phrases as well.
12. Because of contact with _____ traders, most Swahili today are _____.



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Chapter 8: Geography and History of Africa – Section 3: An Overview of African History

Guided Reading

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

1. The first _____ who landed on Africa’s shores were explorers trying to find a route around Africa to India and the rest of Asia.
2. This led to the creation of the trans-Atlantic _____, which lasted from the 1500s until the middle of the 1800s.
3. During the years of the slave trade, Europeans stayed close to the _____.
4. Eventually, competition for _____ among the Europeans forced them to move further into the interior of Africa in the 1800s as they looked for raw materials and began to create _____.
5. The _____ groups in Africa tried to fight against the Europeans.
6. However, the Europeans had more advanced _____ and _____, so they were able to defeat the Africans.
7. During the 1800s, Europeans saw the number of _____ they had as a measure of national power, which was a key part of _____.
8. The competition between European countries to gain _____ and colonies in Africa is called the Scramble for Africa.
9. The major outcome of the _____ Conference was agreement on which European country controlled which parts of Africa. Unfortunately, no _____ leaders were invited to this conference.

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10. The _____ period in Africa began in the 1800s and lasted until the mid-1900s.
11. Though they worked to keep order in their African colonies, most European powers did not do anything to _____ the lives of the Africans themselves, unless doing so would increase profits.
12. As a result, the Europeans began to slowly give _____ to their African colonies.
13. When the Europeans were creating their colonies and establishing borders, they paid little attention to traditional _____ and _____ groups of the people living in Africa.
14. As a result, _____ groups were divided among colonies, while rival ethnic groups were sometimes put into the same colonies.
15. This led to _____ in many of the newly created African countries.
16. The _____ - _____ movement began as a reaction to the terrible experiences of colonial rule. Its _____ was for people of African descent around the world to think of Africa as a homeland.

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Chapter 8: Geography and History of Africa – Section 4: Government Instability in Africa

Guided Reading

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

1. One of the most significant legacies of the European colonial period in Africa is the presence of _____ governments throughout Africa.
2. To many African people, the reality of _____ - _____ was new, and they were not prepared to develop a new government.
3. As a result, _____ broke out in several countries, like Nigeria.
4. In other countries, like Zimbabwe, _____ who were supported by the military seized power.
5. Government _____ (a tendency toward unpredictable or erratic behavior) has led to many problems within African countries.
6. Government stability has a significant effect on _____ for children.
7. Another area where government instability has caused problems is in the control and treatment of _____.
8. Government instability can also lead to _____.
9. _____ in Africa today are caused by climate change, political conflict—which can disrupt farming— low prices for African goods on the world market, and poorly organized or corrupt _____.