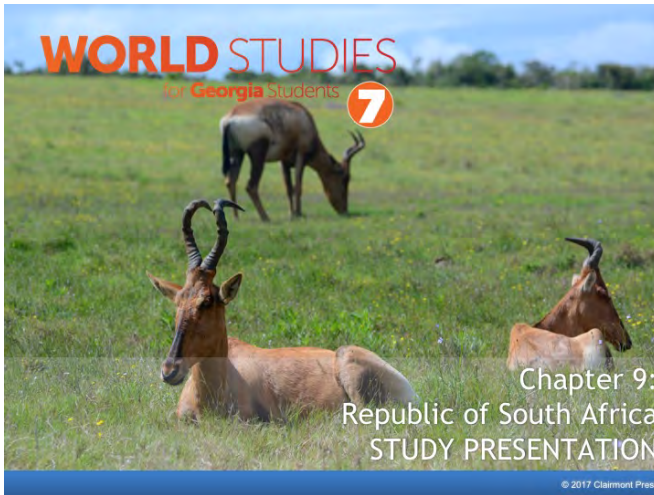
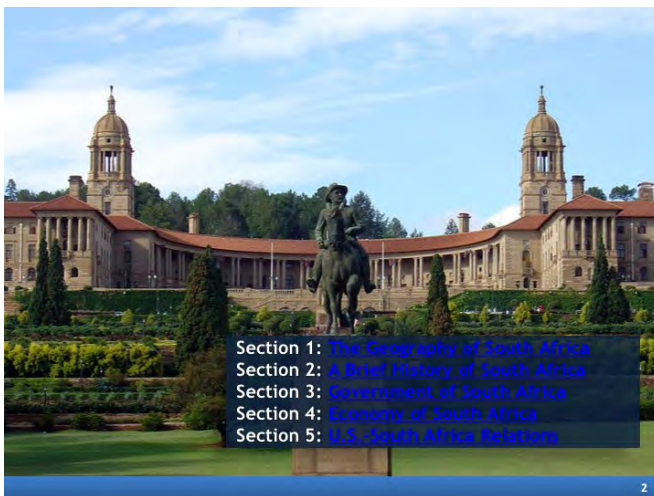


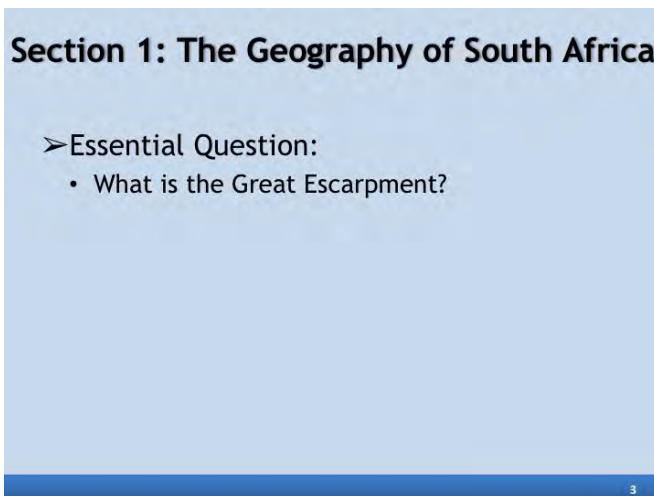
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Chapter 9: Republic of South Africa

Quick Notes







Chapter 9: Republic of South Africa

Quick Notes

Section 1: The Geography of South Africa

- What terms do I need to know?
 - veld
 - escarpment
 - acid rain

4

Location and Size of South Africa

- South Africa is located at the southern tip of Africa, having over 1,864 miles of coastline.
- Located in the southern and eastern hemispheres, South Africa is bordered by Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe.
 - The kingdom of Lesotho is located inside the country.
- The country has grasslands, mountains, beaches, and more, as well as open lands that farmers farm called **velds**.

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Location and Size of South Africa



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Location and Size of South Africa



Physical Geography of South Africa

- None of South African river mouths along the coast are good for harbors or ports.
 - The Orange River is the country's longest river.
 - Additionally, none of the country's rivers are navigable for transportation and trade.
- The Great Escarpment is one of the most important physical features in South Africa.
 - An **escarpment** is a long, steep slope that usually separates lands at different heights.
 - The Great Escarpment separates an interior plateau from a coastal plain.
- The Kalahari Desert is located in the northwest corner of the country.
 - Ironically, it receives too much rain to be considered a true desert, and the Okavango River runs through it.

Climate of South Africa

- The climate is mainly temperate, or mild.
- The climate is greatly affected by the ocean currents and altitude.
 - Because of the elevation of the large plateau covering most of South Africa, the temperature is quite cooler than it would be normally.
 - The costal plain is subtropical because of the warm ocean currents.

Chapter 9: Republic of South Africa

Quick Notes

Natural Resources of South Africa

- South Africa has very valuable natural resources.
- Along with fertile land, it has large deposits of diamonds, gold, and platinum, and it also has chromium, coal, iron ore, uranium, natural gas, and much more.
- These resources have helped South Africa's economy grow quite a bit.

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Where People Live in South Africa

- The majority of people live in the eastern part of the country, where climate and geography are more favorable, and the northwest is the Kalahari Desert, which is sparsely populated.
- Over half the population lives in urban areas, with over 8 million living in the Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Area.
- For a long time, apartheid limited where black South Africans could live, so the effects of it are still present even though it ended in 1994.

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Environmental Issues in South Africa

- The lack of rivers and lakes is hard on the population, so the people must practice water conservation to meet their needs.
- A result of the growing population and urbanization is **acid rain**, or rain with an increased acidity caused by pollution and environmental factors.
 - Acid rain can kill forests as well as fish and other plant life.
- Desertification and soil erosion are also issues in South Africa.

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South Africa's People

- South Africa is home to over 54 million people, and they have diverse religious beliefs, cultures, and languages.
 - The main ethnic groups are Nguni, the Sotho-Tswana, the Venda, and the Tsonga.
- There are 11 official languages, and most speak two or more languages.
 - English is the most commonly used language for government and commercial use.
- 80% of South Africans identify as Christian.

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Section 2: A Brief History of South Africa

- Essential Question:
 - Which European countries colonized South Africa?

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Section 2: A Brief History of South Africa

- What terms do I need to know?
 - Dutch East India Company
 - African National Congress (ANC)
 - homeland
 - embargo
 - Truth and Reconciliation
 - African Union (AU)

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Chapter 9: Republic of South Africa

Quick Notes

Early History of South Africa

- Thousands of years ago, the people living in this area were hunter-gatherers.
- Around 2,000 years ago, these people began herding animals and planting crops, which allowed development for larger settlements.
- About 1,800 years ago, the Bantu of the north moved into the area.
 - Most South Africans trace their history to these people.

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Early Colonial Period

- The Portuguese were the first Europeans to arrive in South Africa in the late 15th century.
 - They were looking for a sea route to India.
 - In the late 16th century, the Dutch and British, along with other Europeans, arrived.
- In 1652, the **Dutch East India Company**, a trading company who protected Dutch interests in the Indian Ocean, set up a trading post in modern-day Cape Town.
- In 1657, European settlers began creating permanent farms, and in the 1700s, European settlements began moving further inland, forcing natives off their land and into servitude.
 - Even after slavery was abolished in 1834, native Africans were still heavily discriminated against.

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British Colonial Rule

- The British took over the colony in the early 1800s, and Dutch descendants moved north into Zulu territory, causing conflict.
- The Dutch set up two states in South Africa: Transvaal and Orange Free State.
 - These states merged with British South Africa in the early 1900s to form the Union of South Africa, which had recently discovered vast deposits of gold and diamonds.
- The Union of South Africa was a constitutional monarchy, and the African natives were considered second-class citizens under this government.
 - They formed the **African National Congress (ANC)** to work towards equality.
- In 1961, South Africa changed from a monarchy to a republic, but even with this change, racist policies continued to be enforced.

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Chapter 9: Republic of South Africa

Quick Notes

Robben Island

- Robben Island was the most notorious prison for anti-apartheid protesters, with Nelson Mandela spending 18 of his 27 prison years here.
- Located 6 miles north of Cape Town, the island is only 5 miles in area.
- It became a Dutch prison island after many failed attempts at settlement, and it would eventually become a British penal colony.
 - It was a leper colony for a time as well as a colony for the insane.
- From the mid-1960s to 1991, it became a maximum security prison, with most of the prisoners there for political offences.
 - In 1991, all prisoners were released.
- Today, Robben Island is a museum.

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Apartheid

- In 1948, the National Party came to power and instituted a strict policy of segregation called apartheid.
- Blacks were allowed to own very little land, even though they made up over 70% of the population.
- Black Africans were forcefully relocated to areas known as **homelands**, which were assigned based on ethnic group and required black Africans to have passbooks to leave them for work.
 - The white minority controlled the lives of the nonwhite minority, with segregation everywhere.
- The African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress worked for many years to end this, eventually convincing the international community to place an embargo on South Africa.
 - An **embargo** is a refusal from one country to trade with another country.
- Eventually, the South African government was forced to begin making changes, repealing apartheid laws and releasing political prisoners.
- In 1994, Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, was voted president when South Africa held its first multiracial elections.

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Desmond Tutu

- Desmond Tutu was an outspoken critic of apartheid.
- After becoming a teacher and seeing the inequality between education for blacks and whites, he resigned, attended theological college, and became an ordained Anglican priest, later a Bishop.
- Tutu was appointed general secretary of South Africa's Council of Churches and became a spokesperson for the rights of blacks in the country.
- He promoted nonviolent protest and economic punishment to push his message.
 - His work earned him the Nobel Peace Prize.
- As apartheid ended, Tutu continued to work towards equality.
- Though now retired, he works with a group of older world leaders to promote solutions for various problems with human rights, climate change, HIV/AIDS, and poverty.

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Post-Apartheid South Africa

- The government wrote a new constitution, set up a democracy, and restructured the country into 9 new provinces, with the intention of improving the lives of all South Africans and encouraging unity.
- In 1999, the government established the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission** that was tasked with wrongs and abuses during the apartheid era.
 - The government continues to assist families who were victims of the apartheid system.
- South Africa became one of the leading countries in Africa in politics, economics, and social matters, helping to establish the African Union in 2002 to promote unification in Africa and acting as an active member of the United Nations.
- In 2004, the government issued a mandate to cut the amount of unemployment in half by 2014, and they plan to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030.
- In 2010, South Africa hosted the FIFA World Cup, showcasing the country to the world.

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Section 3: Government of South Africa

- Essential Question:
 - What are some challenges facing South Africa's government?

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Section 3: Government of South Africa

- What terms do I need to know?
 - republic
 - head of government
 - head of state
 - Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
 - Constitutional Court

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Type of Government

- The government is a republic (a country with elected representatives) with a bicameral, or two house, parliament.
- Citizens 18 or older are able to vote in elections for parliament.
- The government is based on a constitution written in 1996 and has been amended several times since.
- South Africa has three capital cities, with one capital for each branch of government.

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Branches of Government

- The executive branch of the government is made up of the president and cabinet.
 - The president is elected by a National Assembly for a 5-year term and can serve 2 terms in a row.
 - The president is both the **head of government** (person who deals with government business day-to-day) and the **head of state** (chief representative of the country).
 - The president appoints his cabinet to give him advice.
- The legislative branch is the **Parliament of the Republic of South Africa**.
 - Its two houses are the National Council of Provinces and National Assembly.
- The judicial branch of South Africa's government is made of the Supreme Court of Appeals and the Constitutional Court.
 - The **Constitutional Court** has a chief justice, deputy chief justice, and nine judges, who are appointed by the president and enforce the constitution.
 - The Supreme Court of Appeals has a court president, deputy president, and 21 judges, and they are the final authority on all legal matters excluding the constitution.

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Challenges Facing the Government

- A major challenge is the slow growth of the country's economy, with unemployment as another factor.
- The government is also dealing with apartheid's aftermath, like inequality between races and housing shortages.
- Corruption within the government has also begun to be a problem.

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Section 4: Economy of South Africa

- Essential question:
 - What are the reasons for high unemployment in South Africa?

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Section 4: Economy of South Africa

- What terms do I need to know?
 - National Development Plan
 - rand

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Type of Economy

- The economic system is a technologically advanced market economy with some government control, with property-rights laws.
- While mining, services, manufacturing, and agriculture sectors of the economy are strong, the economy is still dealing with the effects of apartheid, and many still live in poverty.
- The government faces the challenges of poverty, inequality, and high rates of unemployment.
 - Access to high-quality education is difficult for many, which can lead to high unemployment rates.
- In 2012, the government created a **National Development Plan** with the goal to reduce and end poverty and inequality by 2030.
- The government is working to build more power generators, but blackouts are a common problem.

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Chapter 9: Republic of South Africa Quick Notes

Trade in South Africa

- South Africa exports about \$94 billion per year, with the top exports being things like gold, diamonds, machinery, and equipment.
- South Africa imports about \$81 billion per year, with the top imports being things like petroleum products, chemicals, and food.
- The currency of South Africa is the **rand**, and a US dollar can exchange for roughly 13 rand.
- Georgia businesses trade with South African people and businesses, with the top exports being motor vehicles, internal combustion piston engines, and insecticides.

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Natural Resources of South Africa

- South Africa is the leading African nation in mining and sale of gold, containing 40% of the world's gold.
- 96% of the world's platinum reserves are found in the country.
- Other important resources include diamonds, coal, iron ore, nickel, manganese, phosphates, salt, uranium, and natural gas.
- In other less stable countries, diamonds have been sold to provide money and weapons for wars and conflicts, but South Africa is stable and can get all the benefits from this trade.

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Human Capital in South Africa

- South Africa invests 6% of its GDP on education, has a diversified economy, and has one of the highest GDPs in Africa.
- The literacy rate is about 94%, and most students attend school for 13 years.
- The country's electronics industry requires skilled and trained workers, and the mining industry needs workers who can use sophisticated technology.
 - However, the unemployment rate is still high due to difficulties accessing education as well as inequality from the aftereffects of apartheid.

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Capital Goods in South Africa

- South Africa needs specific equipment to mine gold, diamonds, and platinum from deep within the earth.
- The country has invested in such equipment, technology, and training.
- The same is true for the country's iron and steel production and their vehicle assembly plants.

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Entrepreneurship in South Africa

- Some people are working to become entrepreneurs to avoid unemployment.
- Unfortunately, it is not as easy as it sounds, since the biggest challenge facing them is funding.
- To start a business, a business license must be purchased, which takes about 2 months.

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Section 5: U.S.-South Africa Relations

- Essential question:
 - What is the focus of US-South African relations today?

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Section 5: U.S.-South Africa Relations

- What terms do I need to know?
 - African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)
 - BRICS

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A Changing Relationship

- The US and South Africa have had diplomatic relations since 1929, but relations were strained when apartheid took over.
 - The United States joined in the embargo against South Africa, but today, the US is one of South Africa's major trading partners.
- The two countries recently have worked together to focus on areas of health, security, trade, and political and economic development.
- South Africa's stability and success makes it a leading country on the continent, so the US would like to continue these positive relations.

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US Assistance to South Africa

- South Africa faces the challenges of high unemployment, HIV/AIDS, crime, and corruption.
- US assistance to South Africa focuses on improving health care and increasing education standards and teacher training.
- The US also helps with improving agriculture practices and creating clean energy.

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Bilateral Economic Relations

- Because of the **African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)**, South Africa receives trade benefits with the US.
- South Africa has also joined the Southern African Customs Union, whose goals are to encourage trade, reduce trade barriers, and promote investment with the US.
- Some top traded items between both countries include machinery, medical equipment, diamonds, platinum, iron and steel, and vehicles.

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South Africa's Membership in International Organizations

- South Africa belongs to many international organizations, with hopes that these memberships will benefit the people.
- Some organizations focus on bringing peaceful endings to conflicts in Africa and encouraging economic and political development.
- South Africa is a part of the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and World Trade Organization.
- South Africa is a member of **BRICS**, which is made up of fast-developing countries in the world and includes Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

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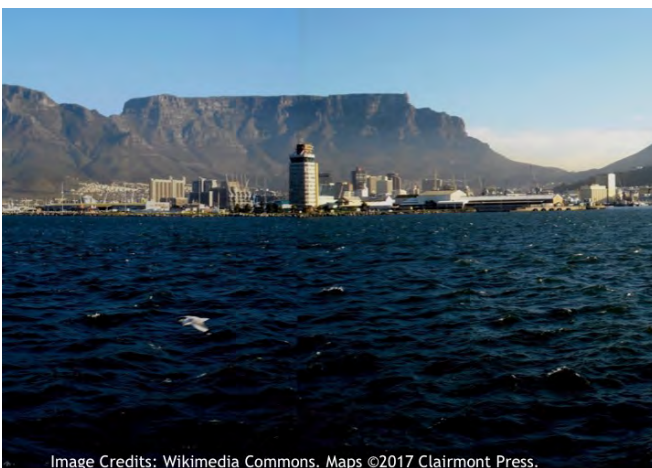


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Quick Notes