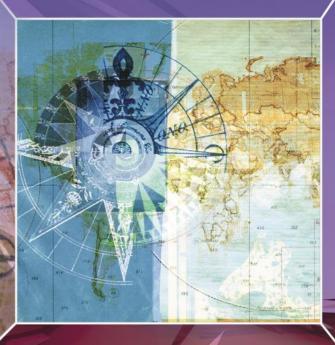


# **World Geography**

# Teacher's Guide





**Social Studies** 



## **Table of Contents**

| To the Teacher   |  |
|--|--|
| Unit 1: Geography and Maps   |  |
| Unit Overview         Suggested Activities                                     |  |
| Unit 2: The Americas   |  |
| Unit Overview3Suggested Activities5  |  |
| Unit 3: Europe   |  |
| Unit Overview  |  |
| Unit 4: Africa   |  |
| Unit Overview  |  |
| Unit 5: Russia, Central Asia, and the Middle East                              |  |
| Unit Overview11Suggested Activities13  |  |
| Unit 6: South Asia and East Asia   |  |
| Unit Overview14Suggested Activities15  |  |
| Unit 7: Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica                                     |  |
| Unit Overview  |  |
| Answer Key19Graphic Organizers24Student Book Appendix28Student Book Glossary39 |  |

## To the Teacher

#### Overview

Power Basics® is a complete textbook program designed to meet the needs of students who are daunted by the length and complexity of traditional textbooks. The goal of all textbook programs is to provide students with important new information. However, in traditional textbook programs, this goal is often overshadowed by other considerations. Many textbooks are written for the above-average reader and cover a wide range of content. They are filled with photographs, illustrations, and other visual elements. For some students, the amount of material is overpowering, the visual elements are distracting, and the rapid pace is unnerving. In *Power Basics*®, we revisited the basic goal, developing a streamlined textbook program that presents the essential content students need to succeed.

#### **Program Components**

As with traditional textbook programs, *Power Basics*® includes a core textbook and ancillary products designed to round out the program. The student text provides coverage of the essential content in each subject area. A consumable workbook provides a variety of activities for each lesson, including practice activities, extension activities, and activities designed for different learning styles.

Teacher support materials include a teacher's guide and test pack for each student text. The teacher's guide includes the following: an overview of each unit in the student text; suggestions for extension activities; the student text glossary and appendix; a complete answer key to all practice activities and unit reviews in the student text; classroom record-keeping forms, and graphic organizers for student use.

For more detailed assessments, the test pack offers a pretest, unit tests for each unit in the student text, a posttest, and test-taking strategies for students.

#### Student Book Organization

The student text is divided into units. Each unit contains a series of lessons on related topics, with one

lesson for each topic. Each lesson begins with a clear, student-centered goal and a list of key words that are introduced in the lesson. The definitions for these words are found in the glossary, located in both the student text and the teacher's guide.

Next comes a brief introduction to the topic of the lesson, followed by instructional text that presents essential information in short, easy-to-understand sections. Each section of instructional text is followed by a practice activity that lets students apply what they have just learned. A unit review is provided at the end of each unit to assess students' progress. The review is followed by one or more application activities that encourage students to extend and apply what they have learned.

The student text also includes several special features. "Think About It" sections ask students to use critical-thinking skills. "Tip" sections give students useful hints to help them remember specific pieces of information in the student text. "In Real Life" sections show students how the material they are learning connects to their own lives.

The reference section at the back of the student text includes an appendix, a glossary (with pronunciation guide) that includes all vocabulary in the Words to Know sections, and an index to help students locate information in the text.

#### **Record-Keeping Forms**

To make record-keeping easier, we have provided a reproducible class chart that you can use to track students' progress. Fill in your students' names, and make copies of the chart for each unit in the student text. Add lesson numbers, lesson titles, and practice numbers as needed. We have also provided a generic grading rubric for the application activities in the student text so that these activities may be assigned for credit, if you wish. You may customize the rubric by adding more grading criteria or adapting the criteria on the sheet to fit your needs.

We're pleased that you have chosen to Power Up your Basic Skills Curriculum with *Power Basics*®!

## To the Teacher, continued

#### **Guide to Icons**

#### Teacher's Guide



#### **Teaching Tip**

Practical suggestions help you to engage students in the learning process.



#### Differentiation

Different approaches to the content gives all learners the opportunity to connect to the material.



#### Thinking Skills

Helpful suggestions increase students' ability to think critically.



#### **Fascinating Facts**

These tidbits of information are guaranteed to pique your students' interest.

#### **Student Text**



#### Tip

Tips give helpful hints to boost understanding and retention.



#### Think About It

These sections develop critical-thinking.



#### In Real Life

These features connect learning concepts to students' lives.

#### Workbook



#### Reinforcement

Reinforcement activities give students additional opportunities to practice what they have learned.



#### Multiple Intelligences

Different approaches capitalize on different learning styles and interests to help all students connect to the material.



#### **Extension**

Deepen and broaden learning with critical-thinking activities, real-life applications, and more.

# **Classroom Management**

|               | Less        | on No.:    | :          | _ Title:   |            |            |            |            | _                    |
|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
|               | $\prod_{i}$ | Τ,         | T                    |
|               |             |            |            | #          |            |            |            | #          | Unit Review<br>Score |
| Stradomá Nomo | Practice #  | Practice # | Practice # | Practice # | Practice # | Practice # | Practice # | Practice # | nit Re               |
| Student Name  | Pr          | Pr         | P.         | P.         | P.         | P.         | Pr         | Pr         | 8 4                  |
| 1.<br>2.      |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 3.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 4.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 5.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 6.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 7.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 8.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 9.            |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 10.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 11.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 12.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 13.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 14.<br>15.    |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 16.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 17.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 18.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 19.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 20.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 21.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 22.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 23.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 24.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 25.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 26.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 27.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 28.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 29.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |
| 30.           |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                      |

# **Application Activity Rubric**

| Name                                   | Г                          | Oate                        |                        |                                       |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Unit Activity                          |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| POINTS                                 | 4<br>all of<br>the<br>time | 3<br>most of<br>the<br>time | some of<br>the<br>time | 1<br>almost<br>none<br>of the<br>time |
| followed directions                    |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| organized material well                |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| used appropriate resources             |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| completed the entire activity          |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| showed an understanding of the content |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| produced error-free materials          |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| drew logical conclusions               |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
| where appropriate, listed sources used |                            |                             |                        |                                       |
|  |                            |                             |                        |                                       |



## **Use Chart**

### POWER BASICS WORKBOOK STUDENT TEXT PRACTICE

#### Unit 1: Geography and Maps

| Activity 1: What Is Geography?         | Practice 1: What Is Geography?                  |
|--|---|
| Activity 2: Types of Maps              | Practice 2: Maps                                |
| Activity 3: Classroom Map              | Practice 3: Getting Information from a Map      |
| Activity 4: Continents and Oceans Game | Practice 4: Continents, Oceans, and Hemispheres |
| Activity 5: Latitude/Longitude         | Practice 5: Latitude and Longitude              |
| Activity 6: Create Your Own Island     | Practice 5: Latitude and Longitude              |

#### **Unit 2: The Americas**

| Activity 7: Location: North America                  | Practice 6: Location                                 |
|--|--|
| Activity 8: Population in North America              | Practice 7: Population Distribution                  |
| Activity 9: Hawaii                                   | Practice 8: Political Divisions of the United States |
| Activity 10: Nunavut                                 | Practice 9: Political Divisions of Canada            |
| Activity 11: Coastal Waters of North America         | Practice 10: Islands, Coasts, and Bodies of Water    |
| Activity 12: The Mississippi River                   | Practice 11: Inland Waterways                        |
| Activity 13: North American Landforms                | Practice 12: Landforms                               |
| Activity 14: Introduction to Climographs             | Practice 13: Climate                                 |
| Activity 15: Agriculture: Wheat                      | Practice 14: Agriculture                             |
| Activity 16: Natural Resource Marketing Campaign     | Practice 15: Natural Resources                       |
| Activity 17: Urban Centers: United States and Canada | Practice 16: Urban Centers                           |
| Activity 18: Location: Latin America                 | Practice 17: Location and Population Distribution    |
| Activity 19: Population Distribution in Haiti        | Practice 17: Location and Population Distribution    |
| Activity 20: Political Divisions in Latin America    | Practice 18: Political Divisions                     |
| Activity 21: Water in Latin America                  | Practice 19: Islands, Coasts, and Bodies of Water    |
| Activity 22: The Amazon River                        | Practice 20: Inland Waterways                        |
| Activity 23: Latin American Landforms                | Practice 21: Landforms                               |
| Activity 24: Climate Comparison                      | Practice 22: Climate and Agriculture                 |
| Activity 25: Food in the Americas                    | Practice 22: Climate and Agriculture                 |
| Activity 26: Urban Centers in Latin America          | Practice 23: Natural Resources and Industry          |

#### Unit 3: Europe

| Activity 27: Population Density                 | Practice 24: Location and Population Distribution     |
|---|---|
| Activity 28: Population Distribution in Hungary | Practice 24: Location and Population Distribution     |
| Activity 29: Political Divisions in Europe      | Practice 25: Political Divisions                      |
| Activity 30: Landforms of Europe                | Practice 26: Peninsulas, Islands, and Bodies of Water |
| Activity 31: The Danube                         | Practice 27: Inland Waterways                         |
| Activity 32: The Winter Olympics                | Practice 28: Landforms                                |
| Activity 33: Climate in Europe                  | Practice 29: Climate                                  |
| Activity 34: Tulip History                      | Practice 30: Agriculture                              |
| Activity 35: Industry Comparisons               | Practice 31: Natural Resources and Industry           |

## **Unit 4: Africa**

Unit 4 presents the geography of Africa. Lesson 5 opens with an overview of the African continent as a whole, including its location and ways in which its enormous size is manifested. Lesson 5 then turns to an examination of the geography of the five countries of North Africa, including its population distribution and density (as largely related to the region's water resources), bodies of water and their coastlines, landforms (dominated by the great Sahara Desert), the mostly very dry climate, agriculture and the scarcity of arable land, and natural resources. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of the African continent, of North Africa, and of this region's landforms and climate. Lesson 6 examines the geography of sub-Saharan Africa, beginning with its location on the globe and its political divisions by region and as affected by colonial rule. The lesson goes on to discuss population distribution, bodies of water and associated land formations, rivers, landforms, climate regions, agriculture, and natural resources and mining industries. Students' understanding of this lesson's geography is facilitated by maps of sub-Saharan Africa, of landforms, and of climate.

#### **Lesson 5—North Africa**

Goal: To understand the geography of North Africa and how it affects economic and population patterns in the region

#### WORDS TO KNOW

| arable | population density | staple  |
|--------|--------------------|---------|
| oases  | sand dunes         | tropics |

#### PLACES TO KNOW

| Algeria         | Mediterranean Sea | Strait of Gibraltar |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Atlas Mountains | Morocco           | sub-Saharan Africa  |
| Egypt           | North Africa      | Suez Canal          |
| Libya           | Sahara Desert     | Tunisia             |

#### **Additional Activity Suggestions**

- There are many aspects of African life that students might like to know more about. Suggest that they read a general article about an African country they are interested in, then narrow their interest to one topic, such as a major religion, gold mining, birds of the rain forest, or nomadic peoples. Have them prepare a written report, then share what they learned with the class.
- If you have Internet access, International Voices (http://www.kirkwood.edu/esl/index.htm) is a web site that offers a collection of essays written by ESL students. This site, sponsored by Kirkwood Community College in Iowa, provides a great way for students to explore other regions in the world.
- Also visit National Geographic on-line (http://www.nationalgeographic.com). This site posts featured articles from each month's issue and a cumulative photo gallery. It also reports on current geography in the news, gives updates to world atlases, and offers links and interactive activities.



## Differentiation

■ Using a large and current political outline map of Africa on heavy paper or cardboard, create (or have students create) several jigsaw puzzles of the nations of Africa. Each nation should be labeled with its name. Disassemble the puzzles. Then divide students into teams who work to reassemble their puzzle. You could make this a timed contest, or simply let students work until their puzzle is completed.



# **World Geography**





**Social Studies** 



## **Table of Contents**

| To the Student                                    | ν   |
|---|-----|
| Unit 1: Geography and Maps                        |     |
| Lesson 1: Geography and Maps                      | 3   |
| Unit 2: The Americas                              |     |
| Lesson 2: The United States and Canada            | 19  |
| Lesson 3: Latin America                           | 40  |
| Unit 3: Europe                                    |     |
| Lesson 4: Europe                                  | 59  |
| Unit 4: Africa                                    |     |
| Lesson 5: North Africa                            | 89  |
| Lesson 6: Sub-Saharan Africa                      | 101 |
| Unit 5: Russia, Central Asia, and the Middle East |     |
| Lesson 7: Russia and Central Asia                 | 127 |
| Lesson 8: The Middle East                         | 141 |
| Unit 6: South Asia and East Asia                  |     |
| Lesson 9: South Asia and East Asia                | 161 |
| Unit 7: Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica        |     |
| Lesson 10: Australia and Oceania                  | 195 |
| Lesson 11: Antarctica                             | 209 |
| Appendix  |     |
| Glossary  | 239 |
| Index   | 254 |

#### **LESSON 5: North Africa**



GOAL: To understand the geography of North Africa and how it affects economic and population patterns in the region

#### **WORDS TO KNOW**

| arable             | sand dunes |
|--------------------|------------|
| oases              | staple     |
| population density | tropics    |

#### **PLACES TO KNOW**

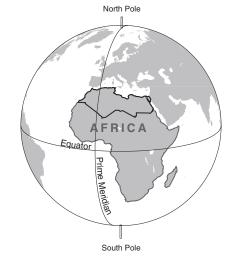
| Algeria                | Mediterranean Sea | Strait of Gibraltar |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Atlas Mountains</b> | Morocco           | sub-Saharan Africa  |
| Egypt                  | North Africa      | Suez Canal          |
| Libya                  | Sahara Desert     | Tunisia             |

#### Location

The continent of Africa lies south of Europe and west of Asia. Parts of Africa are located in each of the four hemispheres. The equator cuts horizontally across the center of Africa. This leaves the northern part of the continent in the Northern Hemisphere. The southern part is in the

Southern Hemisphere. The prime meridian runs vertically through West Africa. This puts the northwestern regions of Africa in the Western Hemisphere. The central and eastern parts are in the Eastern Hemisphere.

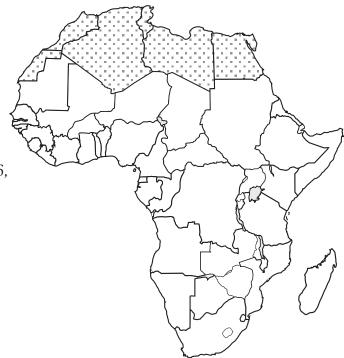
Africa is the world's second-largest continent in land area. (The largest is Asia.) The list of facts on the next page may help you understand how big Africa really is.



- It has the world's second-largest population.
- It holds about one fifth of Earth's land area.
- It contains about one eighth of the world's population.
- It is divided into over 50 independent countries.
- The world's largest hot desert is in Africa.
- The world's longest river is in Africa.
- More than 1,000 languages are spoken in Africa.

Because Africa is so big, you will learn about it in two parts. In this lesson, you will study the five countries of **North Africa—Morocco**, **Algeria**, **Tunisia**, **Libya**, and **Egypt**. (Western Sahara is also considered part of North

Africa. But it is not an independent country. It has been occupied by Morocco since 1980.) These countries lie along the northern coast of Africa. In Lesson 6, you will learn about the nations of sub-Saharan Africa. Those are the countries to the south of the great Sahara Desert.



**North Africa** 

Look at the map below. This map shows the main countries and regions of North Africa.



**North Africa** 

#### ■ PRACTICE 32: Location

Decide if each statement below is true (**T**) or false (**F**). Write the correct letter on the line before each statement.

- **1.** All of Africa is located in the Northern Hemisphere.
  - **2.** Africa is located south of Europe and west of Asia.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **3.** Africa is the largest continent in the world.
  - **4.** The world's largest hot desert and longest river are both in Africa.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **5.** North Africa includes all the African countries that lie along the Pacific Ocean.



In the list of facts on page 90, you read that Africa has the world's largest *hot* desert. This is because not all deserts are hot. You can find very cold deserts in Canada, Greenland, northern Russia, and even Antarctica. But both hot and cold deserts are dry. The coldest type of desert, a polar desert, is dry because the water is always frozen. Hot deserts are dry because they are usually far from any water. Winds that carry rain cannot reach them. Also, water evaporates faster in high temperatures. So any rain that does fall in a hot desert quickly evaporates.

#### **Population Distribution**

Much of North Africa is very dry and hot. So most of the region's major population centers are near water. They are along the coasts or near the Nile River in Egypt. Look back at the map on page 91. Note how many of the North African capitals are close to the Mediterranean coast.

Algeria is the largest country in North Africa. But it has only the third-largest population. Egypt is the most populous nation in North Africa. It is also the second most populated in Africa as a whole. (Nigeria is the first.)

In fact, the Nile River valley in Egypt is one of the most heavily populated regions on Earth. Cairo, Egypt's capital, has a population of more than ten million. It is located on the east bank of the Nile. Alexandria, Egypt's other large city, has over three million people. It lies on a narrow strip of land between the Mediterranean Sea and Lake Mareotis.



Algiers, the Capital of Algeria

**Libya** has North Africa's smallest population. It is also the least densely populated nation. (It has the least number of people per square mile.) This is because desert and desertlike regions cover 92 percent of Libya. In Libya, the population density is only eight people per square mile. Compare this to Egypt, which has 198 people per square mile.

#### PRACTICE 33: Population Distribution

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

- **1.** Which North African country has the largest population?
  - **a.** Morocco
  - **b.** Libya
  - c. Algeria
  - d. Egypt

- 2. Where are most of the North African capitals located?
  - **a.** on the Nile River
  - **b.** on the Pacific Ocean
  - **c.** in the Sahara Desert
  - **d.** on the Mediterranean Sea
- **3.** Why does Libya have such a low population density?
  - a. because most of it is covered by desert
  - **b.** because most of it is covered by mountains
  - **c.** because most of it is too cold
  - **d.** because its government is too strict

#### **Coasts and Bodies of Water**

Look at the map on page 91. Note how smooth the North African coastline is. It has few peninsulas, bays, or inlets. To the west of Morocco lies the Atlantic Ocean. The **Strait of Gibraltar** is a narrow waterway on Morocco's north coast. It connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. Ships from all North African nations (except parts of Morocco) must sail through this strait to reach the Atlantic.

The **Mediterranean Sea** is the most important body of water for most North African nations. All of these countries have a Mediterranean coastline. The Mediterranean Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar allow North African ships to reach the Atlantic Ocean and the Americas. To reach the Pacific Ocean, North African ships have two choices. They may go around the entire landmass of Africa. They may also sail through the **Suez Canal**. The Suez Canal is a human-made waterway. It connects the eastern end of the Mediterranean to the Red Sea. From the Red Sea, ships can reach the Pacific Ocean.

#### ■ PRACTICE 34: Coasts and Bodies of Water

Check each statement below and on the next page that is TRUE.

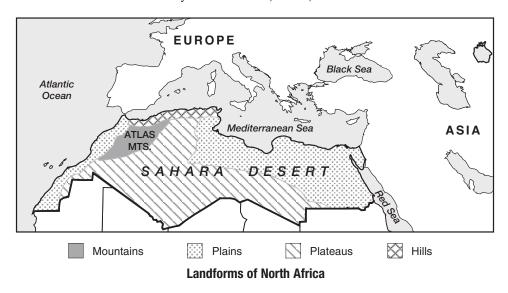
| □ 1. | All five North African nations have a Mediterranean coastline.    |
|------|---|
| □ 2. | All five North African nations have coasts on the Atlantic Ocean. |

- □ 3. North African nations have two ways to reach the Pacific Ocean.
- $\square$  **4.** The North African coast has few peninsulas, bays, or inlets.

#### Landforms

Look at the landforms map below. This map shows where the major mountains, plateaus, hills, and plains in North Africa are located. You can refer to this map as you read this section.

As you can see on the map, much of North Africa is a plateau. The only major mountain system in North Africa is the **Atlas Mountains**. These mountains border Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia in the west. There are actually several ranges within the Atlas Mountains. The highest peaks are in Morocco. The tallest is Jebel Toubkal, at 13,665 feet.



West of the Atlas Mountains is a coastal plain that runs along the west coast of Morocco. To the east of the Atlas Mountains lies the Sahara Desert. Libya and Egypt are mainly low plateaus or plains.

As the map shows, the **Sahara Desert** dominates this area. This desert stretches from the west coast all the way across Africa to the Nile River in the east. The word *sahara* is Arabic for "desert." The Sahara covers about

3.5 million square miles. It is larger than the entire continental United States (with Alaska and Hawaii not included).

People usually think of a desert as being covered with sand. But only about one third of the Sahara is covered with sand and sand dunes. **Sand dunes** 



Sand Dunes in the Sahara Desert

are formed when the wind blows grains of sand up against something. The sand forms into piles. These piles gradually become mounds or ridges. Some dunes reach 1,000 feet in height.

The rest of the Sahara is not covered with sand. It is covered with gravel, stones, and bare rock. There are also oases in the desert. **Oases** are areas fed by underground water reserves. These water reserves make oases lush and green. Nor is the Sahara all flat. It varies from 100 feet below sea level to 11,000 feet above sea level.

#### IN REAL LIFE



Traveling through the Sahara Desert has never been easy. A sandstorm can come up suddenly and blind, or even bury, travelers. A heavy rainstorm might fill the desert's dry riverbeds, called *wadis*, and drown everyone. Neither horses nor automobiles are suited for the hot, dry distances. Only the camel is well suited for desert travel. A camel is one of the few animals that can stand extreme heat. It can also go for days without eating or drinking. It lives off the fat in its hump. This is why the camel is called "the ship of the desert."

The Sahara is a hot desert. In fact, it is the hottest place on Earth. The world record for the highest air temperature in the shade was recorded here in 1922—136°F. Winter temperatures in some parts of the

Sahara cool down to between 50°F and 60°F. But closer to the equator, temperatures stay at 75°F or above all year round. As with all deserts, the Sahara is also very dry. Six or seven years can go by without any rainfall!

The Sahara is still growing along its southern border. Some people blame climate trends for this growth.

#### PRACTICE 35: Landforms

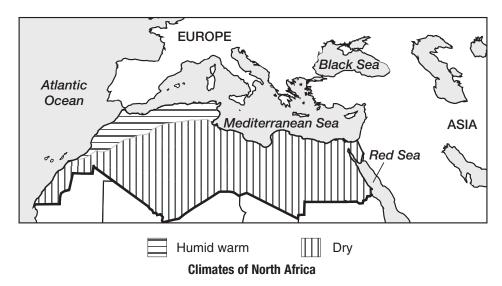
Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

- 1. What is the major mountain system in North Africa?
  - **a.** the Atlas Mountains
  - **b.** the Sahara Mountains
  - **c.** the Alps
  - d. the Rockies
- **2.** What does the word *sahara* mean in Arabic?
  - a. ocean
  - **b.** oasis
  - **c.** desert
  - **d.** mountain
- **3.** How much of the Sahara Desert is covered with sand?
  - **a.** all
  - **b.** about one quarter
  - **c.** about two thirds
  - d. none

#### Climate

Look at the climate map on page 97. This map shows the different climate regions of North Africa. You can refer to this map as you read this section.

North Africa is a very dry region. It usually gets no more than 10 inches of rainfall each year. This makes it one of the driest regions in the world. This is partly due to the area's high temperatures. Any moisture that does fall evaporates quickly in the heat. Also, there are no large inland bodies of



water. So the prevailing winds do not pass over any body of water before reaching the inner parts of North Africa.

Much of Africa is in the **tropics**. So you might think that the whole continent would be very hot. There are, however, some cooler spots. One such spot is the northwest region of North Africa. This area includes most of Morocco. This region has hot, dry summers. But it also has cool, rainy winters. This is because it lies near the Atlantic Ocean. It is also near the Atlas Mountains. Plus, it is the part of North Africa that is farthest from the equator. Between these coastal regions and the desert, there is some occasional rain. It is just enough to encourage the growth of grasslands.

#### ■ PRACTICE 36: Climate

Decide if each statement below is true (**T**) or false (**F**). Write the correct letter on the line before each statement.

- Most of Morocco has hot, dry summers and cool, rainy winters.
  Much of Africa is in the tropics.
  The hottest place on Earth is in the Atlas Mountains.
  - **4.** Most of North Africa has a hot desert climate.

#### **Agriculture**

Agriculture can only exist where there is water. This means that much of North Africa, including the Sahara Desert, cannot support farming. For example, only one percent of Libya is arable. **Arable** means "able to support crops." Only three percent of both Algeria and Egypt is arable. Morocco and Tunisia are wetter and cooler. They have higher percentages of arable land.

Wheat is a staple in North Africa. A **staple** is a crop that is produced widely and in large quantities. Wheat is grown in every North African country. Barley, which is hardier (stronger) than wheat, is the chief grain of both Libya and Morocco. Despite its dry climate, North Africa also exports a lot of fruit. To export is to sell to other countries. Morocco, for example, exports large amounts of citrus fruits. Libya exports peanuts. Some countries in the region also export olives.

#### THINK ABOUT IT



Many of the countries around the Sahara Desert are worried that the desert may spread. How do you think a desert might spread? What might countries do to keep this from happening? Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper.

#### ■ PRACTICE 37: Agriculture

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

- 1. Which grain is grown in every North African country?
  - **a.** barley
  - **b.** oats
  - **c.** wheat
  - **d.** corn
- **2.** How much of the land in Libya can be used for farming?
  - **a.** none of it
  - **b.** 1 percent
  - c. 10 percent
  - **d.** 20 percent

- 3. Which of the following does North Africa export?
  - **a.** citrus fruits
  - **b.** olives
  - c. peanuts
  - **d.** all of the above

#### **Natural Resources**

North Africa has large reserves of crude oil. Oil is an important resource for most of the world. It is the main source of gasoline. It is also used in products such as soaps and medicines. Libya produces some of the purest oil in the world. Algeria also exports oil, as well as large amounts of natural gas. Egypt has rich deposits of oil in the Nile River valley, but uses most of it for its own population.

Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia have large deposits of minerals in the Atlas Mountains. The most important deposits are phosphates and iron ore. In fact, Morocco is a world leader in the production of phosphates. This mineral is used to make fertilizers.

#### PRACTICE 38: Natural Resources

Circle the letter of the correct answer to each of the following questions.

- **1.** Which North African country produces some of the purest oil in the world?
  - a. Morocco
  - **b.** Algeria
  - c. Libya
  - d. Egypt
- 2. Which North African country uses most of the oil it produces?
  - **a.** Morocco
  - **b**. Algeria
  - c. Libya
  - d. Egypt

- **3.** Tunisia, Morocco, and Algeria all have large deposits of minerals. Where are these deposits located?
  - **a.** in the Atlas Mountains
  - **b.** in the Sahara Desert
  - **c.** in the Mediterranean Sea
  - **d.** in the Atlantic Ocean

#### THINK ABOUT IT

| Oil is an important resource in many North African countries. So is water. If you lived in one of those countries, which resource would you rather have? Why? |
|---|
| Write your reasons below.   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |



#### **UNIT 4 • ACTIVITY 37**

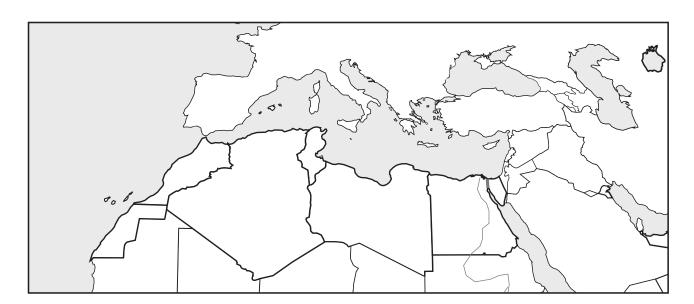
#### **Location: North Africa**

North Africa refers to the northernmost region of Africa bordering the Mediterranean Sea. These five countries—Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt—are north of the Sahara Desert. North Africans historically have been connected to people in southern Europe and the Middle East through culture and trade.

On the map, label the places listed below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Bodies of water: Strait of Gibraltar, Mediterranean Sea, Nile River, Suez Canal

Countries: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt Capital cities: Rabat, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, Cairo



- **1.** Why are four of these capital cities located on the coast? \_\_\_\_\_
- **2.** What body of water has historically connected southern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa?
- **3.** Choose one of the countries of North Africa. Research that country and write a brief report on the country. Include its history, people, climate, and economy. Use a separate sheet of paper for your report.

