



CC5753

GRADES
5-8

READING
LEVELS
3-4

World Continents Series

AFRICA

High-Interest • Low-Vocabulary

Aligned to
your
State
Standards

12
Outline
Maps

Based on
Five Themes of
Geography

 Reproducible

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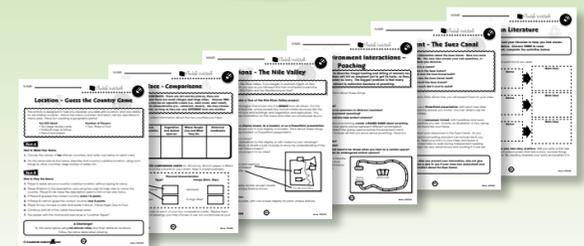


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Africa - Location

1. Which word matches the definition? Color the arrow that points to the correct word. You may use an atlas or a dictionary to help.

hemisphere	←	A One of the two shapes made by cutting a sphere in half.	→	latitude
prime meridian	←	B An imaginary line running around the middle of the Earth in an east-west direction. It is half way between the North and South Poles.	→	equator
continent	←	C A word that is used to describe the usual temperature, the rain or snowfall, and the winds found in a certain place.	→	climate
prime meridian	←	D An imaginary line of longitude running from the North Pole to the South Pole. It divides the world into the eastern and western hemispheres.	→	equator

2. On the map, color Africa in green. Show the prime meridian as a red line. Show the equator as a purple line.



Africa - Location

We can describe **location** in two ways. If we describe the **absolute location** of a place, we describe exactly where it is found by looking at where lines of **latitude** and **longitude** cross. When we describe its **relative location**, we describe the things around it and the things that connect it to other places.



Africa is the world's second largest continent. It is so large that parts of it are in both the eastern and western hemispheres, and both of the northern and southern hemispheres!

Both the **Equator** and the **prime meridian** pass through Africa, meeting at a point just south of Ghana, in the Gulf of Guinea. Its eastern boundary is near 50°E longitude, and its western boundary is near 17°W longitude, with almost 5,000 miles between these two points! It is also approximately 5,000 miles from its most northerly point to its most southerly point. Because it is so large, it is very difficult to give its absolute location. It is easier to describe Africa's relative location by looking at those features and places around it.

Africa is like a large island, surrounded by several large bodies of water. The Atlantic Ocean lies to the west, the Indian Ocean to the east, and the Mediterranean Sea to the north. These bodies of water provide **links** between Africa and the other continents. Europe is to the north, Antarctica is to the south, and Asia is to the east. Africa is linked to Asia at the Sinai Peninsula.

Why is Africa like an island?



Africa's huge size and location gives it many different, extreme **climates**. In Africa we find both the Sahara Desert and the Kalahari Desert, each vast, dry, and hot. Near the Equator are huge tropical rainforests, hot, wet, and humid, and full of wildlife. There are also many areas of flat, hot plains through which herds of animals pass, and several mountainous regions throughout the continent.



Africa - Location

1. Circle **T** if the statement is true or **F** if it is false.

T = True
F = False

- T F a) Africa is the world's second largest continent.
- T F b) The prime meridian does not pass through Africa.
- T F c) The Atlantic Ocean lies to the east of Africa.
- T F d) Europe is north of Africa.
- T F e) Antarctica is to the south of Africa.
- T F f) Africa is linked to Asia at the Panama Canal.
- T F g) The Sahara is a rainforest in Africa.

2. You be the teacher! Someone has matched the word on the left to the definition on the right. Are they correct? If **yes**, mark it correct with a check mark in the box beside each. If **no**, write an **X** in the box and correct the work by drawing an arrow to the correct definition. You may use an atlas or a dictionary to help.

<input type="checkbox"/>	prime meridian	Lines we have drawn on a map to find the location of a place north or south of the equator.	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	longitude	An imaginary line of longitude running from the North Pole to the South Pole through Greenwich, England. It divides the world into the eastern and western hemispheres.	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	hemisphere	One of the two shapes made by cutting a sphere in half.	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	latitude	Lines we have drawn on a map to find the location of a place east or west of the prime meridian.	D



Africa - Location

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- 3. Why is Africa in each of the Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western Hemispheres?
- 4. Which major bodies of water surround Africa?

Research and Applications

- 5. Using the **Countries Graphic Organizer** on the next page, write the names of three different countries in each box or circle. For example, looking at a map of Africa, find three countries in **northern Africa** and write them in the Northern Africa box. Do the same for each box or circle, for each part of the continent. Compare your organizer with a friend's and look for differences.
- 6. Many atlases list the exact locations of the world's major cities using latitude and longitude. Using an atlas, find the exact location of **ten** African cities of your choice. Also, list the country in which we find each city and the hemisphere(s) in which it is found. Make a chart like this to help you organize the information you find. One has been done for you.

City Name	Hemisphere (give two)	Exact Location	Country
Cairo	northern and eastern	30°N latitude 31°E longitude	Egypt

- 7. Find the **Democratic Republic of Congo** on a map of Africa. Using the features around it, describe its **relative location**.



Endangered Animal Organizer

Endangered Animal and Facts
(How many are left, where they live, etc.)

Endangered Animal and Facts
(How many are left, where they live, etc.)

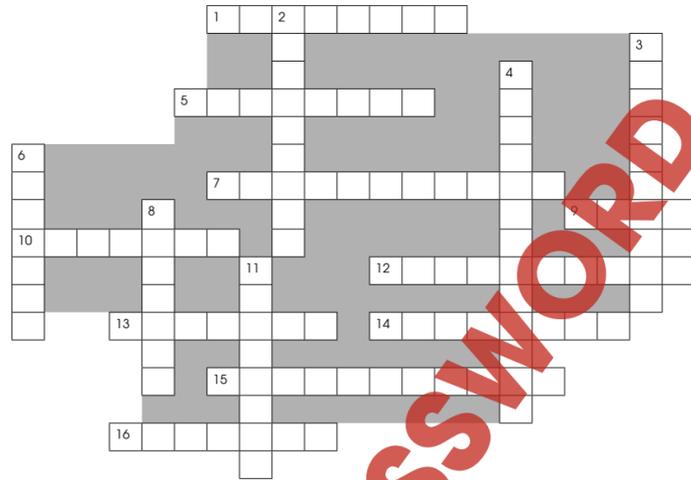
Things Being Done to Protect It

Things Being Done to Protect It

EXTINCTION!



Crossword



Word List

- antonym
- chronological
- conclusions
- context
- evidence
- fact
- fishbone map
- graphic
- inference
- main idea
- opinion
- purpose
- reading
- sequencing
- supporting
- timeline

Across

- The facts about something (proof)
- A graphic organizer that displays events or dates in the order that they happened.
- Drawing _____
- Something that is always true
- The main reason you read a selection
- _____ details
- _____ Comprehension
- The most important part of a reading Selection
- A graphic organizer shaped like a fish (2 words)
- A word that means the opposite of another word

Down

- Using clues from the text and your own knowledge and experience to figure out what the author is trying to say.
- Putting events or actions in the order they occurred.
- The order in which something happens
- _____ Organizers
- _____ Clues (a reading comprehension skill)
- What someone thinks or believes



Comprehension Quiz

22

Circle the correct answer for each question.

- Proof of something is called:
a) opinion b) evidence c) synonymous
- The ability to read and understand the meaning of a text is called:
a) reading comprehension b) reading between the lines c) purpose for reading
- Words that mean the opposite of each other are called:
a) antonyms b) synonyms c) participles
- Pieces of information that tell about the main idea are called:
a) timelines b) fishbones c) supporting details
- Something that can always be proven is called a:
a) fact b) fib c) fantasy
- The most important part of a reading selection is called:
a) an inference b) conclusion c) main idea
- A diagram or chart that shows the relationships among concepts or ideas is called a:
a) chronology b) graphic organizer c) scoreboard
- The reason you read a text is called the:
a) purpose for reading b) homework assignment c) directions
- A word that means the same or about the same as another word is called:
a) a simile b) a synonym c) a metaphor
- Words or phrases that can help readers understand the meaning of a new word are:
a) context clues b) reading purposes c) main ideas

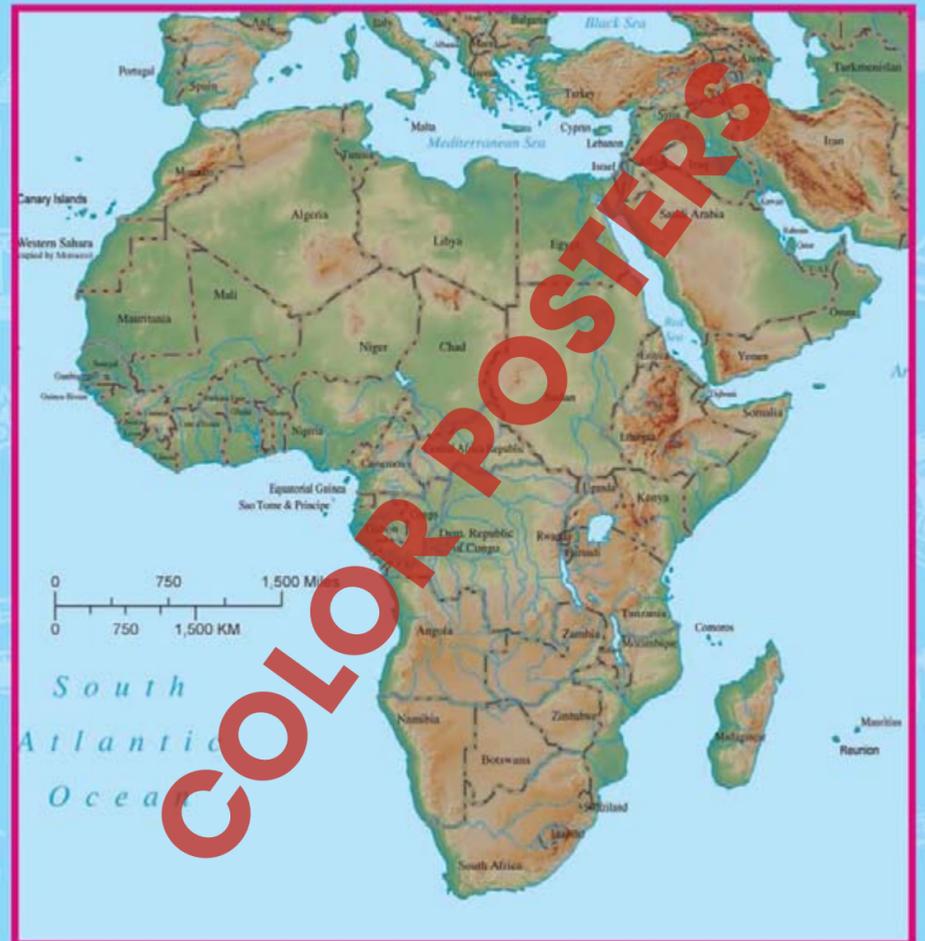
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Put a "T" in front of each true statement and put an "F" in front of each false statement.

- 11. A drawing can be a graphic organizer.
- 12. Evidence does not mean the same thing as proof.
- 13. A fishbone map is usually shaped like the skeleton of a fish.
- 14. Making an inference is the same thing as "reading between the lines".
- 15. It is very important to have good reading comprehension skills.

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Africa Physical Map





Africa - Location



Answer the questions in complete sentences.

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Research and Applications

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City Name	Hemisphere (give two)	Exact Location	Country
Cairo	northern and eastern	30°N latitude 31°E longitude	Egypt

7. Find the **Democratic Republic of Congo** on a map of Africa. Using the features around it, describe its **relative location**.

3. The prime meridian and equator cross in the Atlantic off of Ghana, etc.

4. Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea

5. Answers will vary

6. Answers will vary

7. Possible answers: east of Congo, north of Zambia, south of Sudan, west of Uganda, etc.

10

1. **A** physical characteristics
B plains
C port
D desert

2. Answers will vary
12

Possible answers: travel, trade, easy access to other places
13

1. a) D
b) B
c) D

2. a) Circle the following: wildlife, languages spoken, where people live, mountains, physical characteristics, valleys
14

b) Answers will vary; should follow the first paragraph of the reading, using all of the terms circled

14

3. Answers will vary
Response should include: travel, trade, easy access to other places
4. Possible answers: modern way of life vs. traditional (tribal); wide variety of physical characteristics; etc.

5. Possible answers:
a) Kenya and Tanzania border area
b) A Nilotic language (of the Nile basin area)
c) Clothing: traditional (i.e. men - red cloaks; women - neckpieces); ornamentation; body decoration
Food: follow their herds of cattle
d) A nomadic people who follow their cattle

6. Answers will vary

7. Possible answers: French (Morocco), Egyptian (Egypt), etc.

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