

World Geography
Semester 2 Study Guide – Version 1.10
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I. Europe and Northern Eurasia	
Landforms	Northwest Highlands, Northern European Plain, Central Uplands, Alpine mountain system (Alps)
Mountains	Alps, Massic Central, Jura, Ardennes, Pyrenees (natural border between Spain, France)
Climates	United Kingdom – Marine West Coast Italy – Mediterranean
Agriculture	Leading producer of E. Europe – Poland Leading producer of Europe – France
Government	United Kingdom – Constitutional Monarchy (government and monarchy)
Capitalism	An economic system based on the private ownership of the means of production and distribution of products.
Socialism	An economic system in which the means of production and distribution of goods are controlled by the government.
Communism	Originally, as proposed by Marx, a political system in which all property, business, and wealth is owned in a classless society by all the members of a community. Changed to be a system in which the government controls the means of production and distribution by the Soviets.
Languages	Switzerland – German, French, Italian, Romansh
Religions	Protestant – Northern and Central Europe, such as UK, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany Roman Catholic – Southern Europe, such as Spain, Italy Portugal; Poland, France, Austria, Ireland, Belgium; Northern portions of Eastern Europe Eastern Orthodox – Eastern Europe Islamic – southeastern Europe, spread with Ottoman invasions
Population	Russia population center – Moscow
Major Rivers	UK – Thames France – Seine, Loire, Garonne, Rhone Germany – Rhine, Danube, Elbe, Weser Iberian Peninsula – Ebro, Douro, Tagus, Guadiana, Guadalquivir Italy – Po, Arno, Tiber Eastern Europe – Danube
Industrial centers	Russia – West of Ural mountains Germany and Europe – the Ruhr in western Germany Italy – Milan, Turin, Genoa in northern Italy; other cities include Venice and Rome Busiest port – Rotterdam, Netherlands
United Kingdom	England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland
Strait of Gibraltar	It is the only way into the Mediterranean Sea and its surrounding countries. It is between Spain and Morocco.
Colonial Empire	Spain and Portugal first; then British, French, Dutch, Belgians. British Empire became largest in the world. Colonization because of trade, resources, population
Polders	Lowland areas of the Netherlands that have been drained.
Greenland	Self-governing district of Denmark; north of Canada; largest island in the world

Europe's oil reserves	Beneath North Sea; Europe has to import oil from SW Asia, Africa, Russia
Renaissance	Started in Italy; featured major cultural and artistic changes, and many famous artists
1990's Soviet Union Breakup	The Soviet Union broke apart into Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. It broke because of decreased authority by the Communist party, unhappy people, and an unstable government.
Soviet Union history	1921 – Bolsheviks, led by V. I. Lenin, take control. They establish Union of Soviet Socialist Republics 1924 – Lenin died, Stalin took over 1953 – Stalin died 1985 – Gorbachev became leader of USSR, promoted <i>glasnost</i> (open discussion) and <i>perestroika</i> (rebuilding). 1989 – Client states in Eastern Europe collapse 1991 – Soviet Union broke apart
Ukraine's greatest resource	rich farmland
Rich mineral region of Russia	Urals region
Ethnic cleansing	In Yugoslavia, many people were forced to move where their ethnic group was dominant on the Balkan Peninsula.

II. Africa and Southwest Asia

Southwest Asia

Resources of SW Asia	Oil, small amounts of metals
Present day Persia	Iran
Peninsulas of Turkey	Balkan Peninsula (western section), Anatolian Peninsula
Largest city of Turkey	Istanbul (seaport)
Cyprus	Divided between Greeks, Turks
Largest oil producer	Iraq, deposits found along Persian Gulf
Persian Gulf War	1990 – 1991; Iraqi forces attacked and occupied Kuwait because they wanted more oil
Israeli – Palestinian conflict	Israelis and Palestinians fight over disputable areas such as West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights. Palestinians believed that the existence of Israel denied Arabs their rights to their homeland.
Economy of Israel	High-technology industries, such as computers, complex military weapons, precision engineering equipment, tourism
Climate of SW Asia	Mostly desert; steppe, Mediterranean
Religions	Judaism, Islam, Christianity
Greece's major conflict	With Turks over oil deposits
Bedouins	Migrating herders; nomads

Africa

Deserts	Sahara, Libyan, Namib, Kalahari, Nubian
Physical geography	High plateaus, wide plains caused by erosion. Atlas Mountains major mountain range. Rivers – Nile, Niger, Zambezi, Congo (Zaire) Drakensberg Escarpment – steep slope capped by a nearly flat plateau 5 huge depressions – El Djouf, Chad Basin, Sudan Basin, Congo Basin, Kalahari Basin

	Serengeti Plain – lots of animals
Climates	Lots of desert, tropical savanna; steppe, humid tropical; marine west coast, highland; small amount of Mediterranean
Largest nation	Size – Sudan Population – Egypt
Most economically developed	South Africa
Population of N. Africa	Most speak Arabic. Most people are concentrated in Egypt. There are about 140 million people living in North Africa.
Cash crop of Egypt	Cotton
Mount Kilimanjaro	Northeastern Tanzania mountain, highest point in Africa, 19340 ft.
S. Africa's mineral resources	Gold, uranium, copper, platinum, iron ore, coal, chromium, diamonds.
Colonization	Europeans did not care about the Africans living in Africa, and scrambled to claim territory. They divided Africa in 1884–1885 without consideration for ethnic groups, landforms, or climate regions. Soon, almost all the countries in Africa were colonized. Since 1951, many countries have gained independence.
Apartheid	Dutch for 'separateness', policy of segregation between various ethnic groups in South Africa.
Problems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Illogical colonial boundaries 2. Slow economic progress 3. Poverty 4. Population growth 5. Foreign debt 6. AIDS
Primary incomes	Kenya – tourism Tanzania – agriculture
Traditional lifestyle	They were mainly farmers and herders. Religion and family traditions are very important for Africans. Many people believe in spirits of waters, animals, trees, and mountains. Also, the memory of ancestors are honored. This is called animism.
III. Asia	
<i>East and Southeast Asia</i>	
"Four Dragons"	Newly Industrialized Countries: Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia
"Land of the Free"	Thailand
Confucianism	A religion based on the teachings of Confucius. It centers on family, social relationships, and duty.
Shinto	A religion in Japan in which people believe that <i>kami</i> inhabit natural objects.
Buddhism	Founded by Buddha. Many local varieties; people seek enlightenment through meditation. It is dominant in Tibet.
Taoism	A religion based on the teachings of Lao–Tzu that states that one should live a simple life close to nature.
Singapore's success	It is the center of trade and banking for southeast Asia. It is rich because of its productive population and its location on major shipping routes used for trade.

Taiwan's success	Highly industrialized, democratic government, self-sufficient in food
Brunei's primary exports	Petroleum exports
Crops of SE Asia	Rice, coconuts, oil palms, spices, sugarcane, rubber, coffee
Climate of SE Asia	Tropical climates
Traditional work	Agriculture, fishing
Mount Everest	Highest mountain in the world, 29028 ft high
Communist countries	China, North Korea
Agricultural region of China	Southern China
Islands of Japan	North to south – Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu
Japan's exports	Fish
Formation of Himalayas	Tectonic activity – Indian plate collided with Eurasian plate
Tibet, Dalai Lama	Make up most of China. The spiritual leader of the Tibetans is the Dalai Lama. They practice Lamaism, a form of Buddhism. Tibet is the home of many Buddhist monks.
<i>South Asia</i>	
Hinduism	A polytheistic religion that believes that salvation is offered through good conduct. Hindus believe in reincarnation. It is dominant in India.
Islamic dominance	SW Asia, Indonesia
Influences on India's climate	The monsoon
Ganges River	Called the "mother river," it is sacred to Hindus. It has a fertile region around it.
Mohandas Gandhi	He was the independence leader for India from the British. He believed in non-violent demonstrations, protests, and fasting.
Kashmir	It is a mountainous region between northern India and Pakistan. Indians and Pakistanis are currently fighting over this region.
Caste System	Four hereditary classes into which Hindu society is divided and that dictate the social position and status of people according to their professions.
IV. Australia and Antarctica	
Employment in Australia	Mainly agriculture Traditional industries – iron, steel Coal mining, wine, food processing, automobiles, computer technology, service industries
Agriculture in Australia	One-third of world's wool supply; leading beef exporter in the world; 6% of land is used for farming; wheat is major crop; other crops are sugar, rice, cotton.
Climate in Australia	"A desert with green edges" – Mostly desert; some steppe, tropical savanna, humid subtropical, marine west coast
Colonizers of Australia	1788 - Used by Britain as a prison colony
Endemic species	Species that originate only in a particular geographic region; i.e. koalas, kangaroos, and other marsupials; platypus, spiny anteater
Great Barrier Reef	Largest coral reef in the world – over 1200 miles long. It is the second most complex ecosystem in the world. Problems: tourism, offshore oil drilling
Aborigines	First inhabitants of Australia. Now, only 1% of the population are Aborigines.
Physical geography of	Two islands, separated by Cook Strait. Mountains and hills cover 75% of New Zealand.

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New Zealand	Mount Cook is the highest peak. It is found in the Southern Alps on South Island. It is located on the Ring of Fire.
Ring of Fire	A “ring” of tectonic activity and volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean.
Population of Antarctica	No native population; some research stations, penguins
Physical geography of Antarctica	Contains over 90% of the world's ice. Average depth of ice is over one mile. The Transantarctic Mountains separate Antarctica into East Antarctica, West Antarctica, some dry coastal valleys, and the Antarctic Peninsula. The highest mountain is Vinson Massif, which is 16860 feet high.

This is the end of the study guide. If you find any errors or have any questions or comments about this study guide, feel free to email me at fenguin@gmail.com. Thanks a lot for reading, and good luck on finals!

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