


**Chapter**  
**17**  
**Section 1****Guided Reading Activity 17-1***The Physical Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia: The Land*

Use with Chapter 17,  
Section 1

After reading Section 1, you should be able to locate the seas and coastal areas of North Africa and Southwest Asia, to discuss the mountains and plateaus in North Africa and Southwest Asia, and to identify the kinds of natural resources found in the region.

 As you read Section 1, fill in the blanks below.

1. The largest peninsula in the central area of North Africa and Southwest Asia is the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_, a landlocked saltwater lake, forms part of the border between Israel and Jordan.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ are located on the Anatolian Peninsula, along the Black Sea.
4. The Zagros and the Taurus Mountains are along a belt of frequent and often severe \_\_\_\_\_, or earthquake, activity.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_, which flows 4,160 miles (6,693 km), is the longest river in the world.
6. Alluvial-soil deposits from the Nile formed a \_\_\_\_\_, a section of land at the river's mouth.
7. A series of civilizations thrived in the fertile valley between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ rivers.
8. Streambeds that are dry except during a heavy rain are called \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The most important natural resources in North Africa and Southwest Asia are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. \_\_\_\_\_, a chemical compound often used in fertilizers, is mined in Morocco and other countries of the region.


**Chapter**  
**17**  
**Section 2**

# Guided Reading Activity 17-2

## *The Physical Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia: The Climate and Vegetation*

Use with Chapter 17  
Section 2

After reading Section 2, you should be able to identify the three types of climate found in North Africa and Southwest Asia, to explain how mountain ranges influence rainfall in coastal regions of North Africa and Southwest Asia, and to describe the type of vegetation found in the region.

 As you read Section 2, fill in the blanks below.

1. In many parts of North Africa and Southwest Asia \_\_\_\_\_ averages 10 inches (25 cm) or less each year.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ cover about 50 percent of North Africa and Southwest Asia.
3. The deserts of North Africa and Southwest Asia have extensive \_\_\_\_\_, or rocky gravel areas.
4. The desert with the largest area of sand in the region is the \_\_\_\_\_, or Empty Quarter, in the Arabian Peninsula.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ climate is found in upland areas as well as on coastal plains and in river valleys.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is used in many parts of the region, but it is practiced most extensively in the Nile River valley and along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ climate predominates in grassy areas of North Africa and Southwest Asia.
8. The most common economic activity in steppe climates is \_\_\_\_\_, the raising and grazing of livestock.
9. The most common herds of livestock in the region are of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. In desert areas, vegetation is rare and, in most cases, nonexistent except around \_\_\_\_\_.