


Chapter
18
Section 1**Guided Reading Activity 18-1***The Cultural Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia: Population Patterns*

Use with Chapter 18
Section 1

After reading Section 1, you should be able to discuss the different ethnic groups that inhabit North Africa and Southwest Asia, to locate the areas in the region where most people live, and to explain the recent trend toward urbanization.


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

1. For centuries, North Africa and Southwest Asia has served as the crossroads for the peoples of _____, _____, and _____.
2. The vast majority of people in North Africa and Southwest Asia are _____.
3. The _____ is the area of North Africa now made up of Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco.
4. Israeli Jews trace their ancestral roots to the _____, who settled in the region in ancient times.
5. _____ was founded as a Jewish homeland in 1948.
6. The empire of the _____ ruled much of the eastern Mediterranean world for more than 600 years.
7. The people of Iran speak _____, an Indo-European language that is distantly related to English.
8. The nation of _____ is divided between Greek and Turkish populations.
9. The _____ live in the border region separating Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and the former Soviet Union.
10. _____, the capital of Egypt, has more than 11 million people.

Chapter
18
Section 2**Guided Reading Activity 18-2***The Cultural Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia: History and Government*

Use with Chapter 18
Section 2

After reading Section 2, you should be able to describe the natural environment of two of the world's earliest civilizations, to compare three of the world's major religions, and to discuss influences created by the interactions of different peoples in the region.

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

1. Farmers in North Africa and Southwest Asia were among the first to _____, or take plants and animals from the wild and make them useful to people.
2. The ancient Egyptians developed a form of picture writing called _____.
3. The Phoenicians' most important achievement was the development of an _____.
4. The Jews based their religion on _____, the belief in one God.
5. The three major religions that emerged in Southwest Asia are _____, _____, and _____.
6. Muslims pay close attention to the rules of Islam that are set down in a holy book called the _____.
7. The continuing rise of nationalism in the 1900s gradually brought an end to _____ in North Africa and Southwest Asia.
8. An ongoing issue in the Arab-Israeli dispute is the status of the _____, who want a separate homeland.
9. The Iraqi occupation of _____ ended only after a coalition of nations led by the United States expelled Iraqi forces.
10. Iran's government is based on _____.


Chapter
18
Section 3

Guided Reading Activity 18-3

The Cultural Geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia: Culture and Lifestyles

Use with Chapter 18
Section 3

After reading Section 3, you should be able to explain the impact of religion on the cultural and political development of North Africa and Southwest Asia, to compare three different ways of life in North Africa and Southwest Asia, and to describe the geographic factors that have contributed to the region's standard of living.

 As you read Section 3, fill in the blanks below.

1. The great majority of people in North Africa and Southwest Asia are followers of _____.
2. The overwhelming majority of Jews in the region live in _____.
3. The countries of _____ and _____ have large Christian populations.
4. As people converted to Islam, _____ became the region's main language.
5. In Mesopotamia large temples— _____—made of mud brick rose in step-like fashion above the flat landscape.
6. The epic *Shahnameh* (*King of Kings*) describes heroic events in early _____ history.
7. Today only a small percentage of the people of North Africa and Southwest Asia are _____, or desert nomads.
8. Countries with economies based on manufacturing and trade or oil, such as _____ and _____, enjoy a relatively high standard of living.
9. Staple foods of North Africa and Southwest Asia consist of _____, _____, and _____.
10. People in North Africa and Southwest Asia often buy food at a _____, or an enclosed marketplace.