

Chapter

23

Section 1

Guided Reading Activity 23-1

The Physical Geography of South Asia: The Land

Use with Chapter 23
Section 1

After reading Section 1, you should be able to identify the mountains, plateaus, and plains of South Asia, to explain the importance of the region's great river systems, and to list the natural resources of South Asia.

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

1. A landmass that is similar to, but smaller than, a continent is called a _____.
2. About 60 million years ago, a collision of land masses caused the formation of the _____ mountain range.
3. Two mountain kingdoms, _____ and _____ remained largely isolated from the outside world until the present century.
4. The _____ lie across the center of the Indian subcontinent.
5. The main tableland of South Asia is the _____.
6. In the northeastern part of the Indian peninsula lies the _____, where the rounded hills are covered with forests of bamboo and teak.
7. High in the Himalayas are the sources of South Asia's three great river systems: the _____, the _____, and the _____.
8. The largest continuous alluvial plain in the world is the _____.
9. In order to protect its forests, _____ has banned the export of timber since 1977.
10. India provides nine-tenths of the world's supply of _____, which is needed to manufacture electrical equipment.

Chapter
23
Section 2**Guided Reading Activity 23-2***The Physical Geography of South Asia:
The Climate and Vegetation*

Use with Chapter 23
Section 2

After reading Section 2, you should be able to describe the climate regions of South Asia and to explain the importance of seasonal rains.

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

1. South Asia lies at about the same distance from the _____ as the Sahara.
2. The five major climate regions of South Asia are _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.
3. At lower elevations of the Himalayas, the climate is _____.
4. The land east of the Indus River is called the _____.
5. _____ climate regions are found along the west coast of the Indian subcontinent, near the Ganges Delta, and in the southwestern part of Sri Lanka.
6. The climate of South Asia is greatly affected by _____, or seasonal winds.
7. The nation of Bangladesh is affected by _____, storms marked by high winds and heavy rains.
8. Today, only about one-sixth of the Indian subcontinent is _____.
9. Valuable teak forests are located in the _____ in the southeastern section of Bangladesh.
10. Mangrove trees and other tropical plants thrive in the _____, a swampy region in the southwest of Bangladesh.