GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)

PART 5: Geography’s Impact on Ancient Greece

• The mountainous topography (terrain) of Greece led to the creation of widely scattered settlements that developed into small, independent CITY-STATES.

(The mountainous terrain prevented the Greek city-states from uniting to form a single nation.)

• Greece’s IRREGULAR COASTLINE and many islands provided excellent HARBORS that encouraged SEAFARING TRADE.
What effect did the geography of ancient Greece have on its early development?

1. The mountainous terrain led to the creation of independent city-states.
2. A lack of natural seaports limited communication.
3. An inland location hindered trade and colonization.

What was one cause of the development of many small independent city-states in ancient Greece?

1. Greece and Rome were often at war.
2. The mountainous terrain of Greece resulted in widely scattered settlements.
3. Military leaders found small Greek settlements easy to control.
4. The Greek people had many different languages and religions.

One effect of rugged, mountainous geography on the civilization of ancient Greece was the development of

1. absolute monarchies
2. separate, independent city-states
3. extensive trade with the Persians
4. belief in one God

An important factor that prevented the ancient Greek city-states from uniting to form a single nation was the

1. lack of a common language
2. size of the desert regions
3. mountainous topography of the region
4. cold, hostile climate

How did geography influence the development of ancient Greece?

1. Rich farmland led to dependence on agriculture.
2. Excellent harbors encouraged seafaring trade.
3. Flat plains made centralized rule possible.
4. Tropical climate discouraged urban development.
PART 6: Geography’s impact on Africa

- The topography and climate of Africa has limited migration and economic development.

The presence of waterfalls (cataracts) and rapids slowed river travel.

Highlands and steep cliffs limited exploration.

The large deserts that dominate the landscape of northern (the Sahara desert) and southern (the Kalahari desert) Africa slowed land travel. These areas receive less than ten inches of rainfall annually!

- These barriers (waterfalls, rapids, highlands, steep cliffs, deserts) delayed European colonization of central Africa (European investors were attracted to southern Africa and southeast Asia because of their NATURAL RESOURCES.)

The variety of geographic barriers has also served to promote cultural diversity.

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Selected World Climate Zones

Source: Geography on File, Facts on File, 1994 (adapted)
Based on the information provided in this map, which statement is accurate?
(1) The world’s largest icecap is located in northern Europe.
(2) Most mountainous climates are located on the eastern borders of the continents.
(3) **The largest desert area stretches from western Africa through much of southwestern Asia.**
(4) South America is connected to Antarctica by a narrow land bridge.

108-1

- Large areas in the north and south received less than ten inches of rainfall annually.
- The presence of waterfalls and rapids slowed river travel.
- Highlands and steep cliffs limited exploration.

In which region did these geographic factors have an impact on European exploration and colonization?
(1) South America
(2) Southeast Asia
(3) subcontinent of India
(4) Africa

806-3

Which statement about the geography of Africa is most accurate?
(1) Much of the land in Africa is below sea level.
(2) **The variety of geographic barriers has served to promote cultural diversity.**
(3) Africa has an irregular coastline with many natural harbors.
(4) Much of the land in Africa is tundra and forest.

804-13

How did topography and climate affect the history of Africa?
(1) The slave trade declined in western Africa.
(2) Islam spread into southern Africa.
(3) **European colonization of central Africa was delayed.**
(4) Trade increased between southern and northern Africa.

104-2

Which statement concerning how geography has influenced Africa is most accurate?
(1) The lack of natural barriers has made it easy to conquer Africa.
(2) The expanse of the Sahara Desert has encouraged trade to develop in this region.
(3) The rainfall in the Sahel has provided Africa with most of its crops.
(4) **The topography of Africa has limited migration and economic development.**

101-3
During the late 19th century, which geographic factor helped attract European investors to southern Africa and southeast Asia?
(1) smooth coastlines
(2) navigable rivers
(3) natural resources
(4) temperate climates
804-21

**GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)**

**PART 7: Geography’s impact on India and Southeast Asia**

- In India, Bangladesh, and much of Southeast Asia, agricultural productivity is affected by the seasonal monsoons.

- The history of India (including the Maurya Empire – BE SURE TO SEE QUESTION 602-5) has been shaped by the monsoon cycle, the Himalaya Mountains, and the Indus River.

- In the 1500s and 1600s, control of the Strait of Malacca (located in Indonesia) determined who traded in the Spice Islands.

In India, Bangladesh, and much of Southeast Asia, agricultural productivity is most affected by the
(1) seasonal monsoons
(3) numerous deserts
(2) unnavigable rivers
(4) cold climate
804-4

The history of which classical civilization was shaped by the monsoon cycle, the Himalaya Mountains, and the Indus River?
(1) Maurya Empire
(2) Babylonian Empire
(3) ancient Greece
(4) ancient Egypt
602-5
Base your answer to the following question on the statements below and on your knowledge of social studies.

- The fertile soil of river valleys allowed early civilizations to develop and flourish.
- In the 1500s and 1600s, control of the Strait of Malacca determined who traded in the Spice Islands.
- Because Japan is an island that is mostly mountainous, people live in densely populated areas along the coast.

Which conclusion is best supported by these statements?
(1) Major urban centers are found only along rivers.
(2) The geography of a nation or region influences its development.
(3) Without mountains and rivers, people cannot develop a culture.
(4) The spread of new ideas is discouraged by trade and conquest.

605-2

**GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)**

**PART 8: Geography’s impact on 13th – 15th century Italy**

- Access to important trade routes was a major reason the Renaissance began in Italian cities. Italian city-states grew wealthy from trade between Europe and Asia during the Commercial Revolution. Wealthy patrons supported the arts and education, prompting the Renaissance.

- The favorable location of the city-states (Venice, Naples, Pisa, Genoa) along the Italian peninsula (Italy juts out into the Mediterranean Sea) was a major reason these city-states became thriving centers of trade during the Commercial Revolution.

  The cities in the Hanseatic League (in northern Europe) were successful during this era because they too were accessible by water (these cities bordered the North Sea and Baltic Sea in northern Europe).

- During the 1400s, the cities of VENICE (Italy), Constantinople (Byzantine Empire), and Canton (China) achieved prominence because their geographic locations were favorable for trade.

Which factor contributed to the beginning of the Renaissance in Italian cities?
(1) occupation by foreign powers
(2) interaction with Latin America
(3) surplus of porcelain from Japan
(4) access to important trade routes

106-17
What was one reason that some Italian cities developed into major commercial and cultural centers during the 13th and 14th centuries?
(1) unified central government
(2) isolationist economic policies
(3) geographic location
(4) system of social equality

805-12

Venice in Europe, Mogadishu in Africa, and Canton in China emerged during the 13th century primarily as important centers of
(1) agriculture
(2) trade
(3) manufacturing
(4) mining

605-14

During the Commercial Revolution, where did trading centers most often develop?
(1) in the mountains
(2) near grasslands
(3) along waterways
(4) on the tundra

105-15

A major reason that the Renaissance began in Italy was that
(1) Italian city-states had grown wealthy from trade between Europe and Asia
(2) farmers produced great agricultural surpluses on vast plains
(3) merchants supported the Green Revolution
(4) many European scholars had migrated to this area

604-14
Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which conclusion can be drawn from the information provided by the map?
(1) Africa was Europe’s most active trading partner.
(2) The Hanseatic League controlled trade in the Black Sea.
(3) Asians and Europeans traded primarily by water routes.
(4) A vast network of trade routes connected the centers of trade in Europe.

104-18
Base your answers to the following questions on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

One reason for the success of the cities in the Hanseatic League and the Italian city-states was that both were
(1) protected by mountains
(2) isolated from the rest of Europe
(3) **accessible by water**
(4) close to a network of navigable rivers

Which statement explains why the Renaissance began in Italy?
(1) Italy was not influenced by a classical heritage.
(2) **The Italian city-states were wealthy centers of trade and manufacturing.**
(3) Italy was politically unified by a strong central government.
(4) The Catholic Church did not have any influence in Italy.

Base your answer to the following question on the graphic organizer below and on your knowledge of social studies.
Which title best completes this graphic organizer?

(1) Centers of World Trade
(2) Latin American Societies
(3) Cities of Origin for Major Religions
(4) Sites of Early Civilization

During the 1400s, the cities of Venice, Constantinople, and Canton achieved prominence because their

(1) locations were favorable for trade
(2) pleasant climates led to an increase in population
(3) democratic governments attracted trade
(4) military power led to industrialization

GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)

PART 9: Geography’s impact on the Byzantine Empire and the Ottoman Empire

• Constantinople (the capital of the Byzantine Empire) was a prosperous center of trade. Its strategic location (on the Bosporus Strait) gave the Byzantine Empire control of key trade routes between Europe and Asia.

• The Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople in 1453. This event marked the end of the Byzantine Empire. The city of Constantinople (called Istanbul by the Turks) became the new capital of the Ottoman Empire. Ottoman control of the region caused the disruption of overland trade between Europe and Asia. This motivated Europeans (Spain and Portugal) to begin the Age of Exploration - an attempt to discover new overseas trade routes that would link Europe to the Spice Islands in the eastern world.

The ability of the Ottoman Empire to expand its borders depended on its strategic location between Europe and Asia.
Base your answer to the following question on the quotation below and on your knowledge of social studies.

. . . The circumference of the city of Constantinople is eighteen miles; one-half of the city being bounded by the continent, the other by the sea, two arms of which meet here; the one a branch or outlet of the Russian, the other of the Spanish sea. Great stir and bustle prevails [dominates] at Constantinople in consequence of the conflux [meeting] of many merchants, who resort thither [come there], both by land and by sea, from all parts of the world for purposes of trade, including merchants from Babylon and from Mesopotamia, from Media and Persia, from Egypt and Palestine, as well as from Russia, Hungary, Patzinakia, Budia Lombardy and Spain. In this respect the city is equalled only by Bagdad, the metropolis of the Mahometans. . . . — Rabbi Benjamin of Tudela, Manuel Komroff, ed., Contemporaries of Marco Polo, Boni & Liveright

This author would most likely agree with the idea that the
(1) size of Constantinople limited trade
(2) cities of western Europe were more impressive than Constantinople
(3) location of Constantinople contributed to its prosperity
(4) government of Constantinople failed to
606-12

Constantinople’s location on the Bosporus Strait was one reason that the Byzantine Empire was able to
(1) conquer the Russian city of Moscow
(2) spread Judaism throughout western Europe
(3) control key trade routes between Europe and Asia
(4) unite the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches
106-9

What was one reason that some Italian cities developed into major commercial and cultural centers during the 13th and 14th centuries?
(1) unified central government
(2) isolationist economic policies
(3) geographic location
(4) system of social equality
805-12

The ability of the Ottoman Empire to expand its borders depended on
(1) military assistance from western Europe
(2) extensive trade with the Americas
(3) alliances formed during World War I
(4) strategic location between Europe and Asia
division and chaos.
105-28
Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

![Map of the Ottoman and Safavid Empires](image)

Source: Elisabeth Gaynor Ellis and Anthony Esler, *World History: Connections to Today*, Prentice Hall (adapted)

Which generalization is best supported by the information in this map?
(1) The Ottoman Empire controlled the largest amount of territory by 1453.
(2) The Safavid Empire controlled parts of western Europe by 1629.
(3) **By the 1500s, the Ottoman Empire controlled parts of the Middle East, North Africa, and eastern Europe.**
(4) The Mediterranean Sea served as a cultural barrier between Asia Minor and North Africa.

804-12

One reason for the growth and success of 9th-century cities such as Baghdad, **Constantinople**, and Ch’ang-an (Xian) was that they
(1) were part of the Roman Empire
(2) tolerated religious diversity
(3) traded only with people from their immediate region
(4) were located on major trade routes

802-6
During the 1400s, the cities of Venice, Constantinople, and Canton achieved prominence because their
(1) locations were favorable for trade
(2) pleasant climates led to an increase in population
(3) democratic governments attracted trade
(4) military power led to industrialization

801-14

• The Ottoman Empire disrupted overland trade between Europe and Asia.
• Peter the Great established St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea.
• Mesoamericans relied on terrace farming.

These statements illustrate the
(1) impact of geography on human activity
(2) failure of people to adjust to their environment
(3) effect of geographic isolation on different societies
(4) movement from a traditional to a command economy

801-21

GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)

PART 10: Geography’s impact on Russia

• The topography and climate of Russia have caused Russian rulers (Peter the Great, Catherine the Great) to seek access to warm-water ports.

Peter the Great established the warm-water port of St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea.

• A strategic military error made by both Napoleon and Hitler was invading Russia with limited supply lines.

Russia’s large size, geographic location, and climate (severe winters) prevented Napoleon and Hitler from seizing control of the country.

The topography and climate of Russia have caused Russia to
(1) depend on rice as its main source of food
(2) seek access to warm-water ports
(3) adopt policies of neutrality and isolation
(4) acquire mineral-rich colonies on other continents

806-13
Which factors protected Russia from control by Napoleon’s army?
(1) religious and cultural similarities
(2) industrialization and modernization
(3) geographic size and location
(4) political and economic instability
106-24

The foreign policy of many Russian rulers supported the country’s desire for
(1) access to inland cities
(2) more mineral resources
(3) extensive canal systems
(4) warm-water ports
805-16

Which action taken by both Hitler and Napoleon is considered by historians to be a strategic military error?
(1) invading Russia with limited supply lines
(2) introducing combined ground and naval assaults
(3) invading Great Britain by land
(4) using conquered peoples as slave laborers
604-50

The need to possess warm-water ports greatly influenced the foreign policy of which nation?
(1) England
(2) Russia
(3) France
(4) Egypt
104-19

Which factors helped cause the defeat of Napoleon during his invasion of Russia?
(1) the severe winters and large size of Russia
(2) the many rivers and mountains of Russia
(3) the coalition between the Russian czar and the democratic leaders
(4) the well-trained and well-supplied Russian army
603-27

During World War II, which geographic features contributed most to the Soviet Union’s defense against the German invasion?
(1) deposits of many natural resources
(2) size and climate
(3) Atlantic ports and rivers
(4) mountainous territory and desert areas
102-33
• The Ottoman Empire disrupted overland trade between Europe and Asia.
• Peter the Great established St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea.
• Mesoamericans relied on terrace farming.
These statements illustrate the
(1) impact of geography on human activity
(2) failure of people to adjust to their environment
(3) effect of geographic isolation on different societies
(4) movement from a traditional to a command economy

GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)

PART 11: Geography’s impact on Mesoamerica (The Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas) and South America

• South America’s economic and political development has been influenced by the Andes Mountains and the Amazon River. How?

These diverse landforms prevented Latin American unity, particularly during the era of the Latin American independence movements in the early 19th century.

• A study of Aztec, Maya, and Inca agricultural systems would show that these civilizations adapted to their environments with creative farming techniques

- Mayas = slash and burn agriculture
- Aztecs = chinampas (floating gardens)
- Incas = terrace farming

• The Andes Mountains had a great influence on the development of the Inca Empire.

The Inca adapted to their physical environment by building footbridges that connected their roads across the Andes Mountains.

One similarity between the Mongols of Central Asia and the Incas of South America was that both societies adapted to difficult physical environments (The Mongols adapted to the STEPPES and the Incas adapted to the Andes Mountains.)
Which geographic feature had the greatest influence on the development of the Inca Empire?
(1) deserts
(2) irregular coastline
(3) river valleys
(4) mountains
108-17

Which continent’s economic and political development has been influenced by the Andes Mountains and the Amazon River?
(1) Asia
(2) Africa
(3) Europe
(4) South America
807-2

Base your answers to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.
Which letter identifies the region in the Andes Mountains where many Inca settlements were located?
(1) A
(2) B
(3) C
(4) D
607-14

Which geographic feature made it difficult to unify South America?
(1) Andes Mountains
(2) Straits of Magellan
(3) Gulf of Mexico
(4) Argentinian pampas
605-22

A study of Aztec, Maya, and Inca agricultural systems would show that these civilizations
(1) relied on mechanized agricultural techniques
(2) carried on extensive food trade with each other
(3) adapted to their environments with creative farming techniques
(4) relied on a single-crop economy 105-18

How did the Inca adapt to their physical environment?
(1) They built large fishing fleets to feed their populations.
(2) They built footbridges that connected their roads across the Andes.
(3) They established extensive trade agreements with Europe.
(4) They raised cattle and horses on the pampas.
104-17

One similarity between the Mongols of Central Asia and the Incas of South America was that both societies
(1) developed cash-crop farming
(2) based their wealth on the slave trade
(3) adapted to difficult physical environments
(4) practiced monotheistic religions
803-10
Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which conclusion about Incan society could be drawn from the map?

1. An extensive road system connected all parts of the Empire for trade.
2. Their trade depended on many seaports.
3. Tropical climatic conditions existed throughout the empire.
4. A similar language unified the Inca civilization.

Which geographic factor most limited the growth of Latin American unity of the early 19th century?

1. the region’s diverse landforms
2. most of the region’s rivers flowed north to south
3. the region’s location close to the equator
4. the region’s lack of natural resources
Inca terrace farming and Aztec floating gardens are examples of
(1) **the ability of civilizations to adapt to their region’s physical geography**
(2) slash-and-burn farming techniques
(3) Mesoamerican art forms symbolizing the importance of agriculture
(4) colonial economic policies that harmed Latin American civilizations

•The Ottoman Empire disrupted overland trade between Europe and Asia.
•Peter the Great established St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea.
•**Mesoamericans relied on terrace farming.**

These statements illustrate the
(1) **impact of geography on human activity**
(2) failure of people to adjust to their environment
(3) effect of geographic isolation on different societies
(4) movement from a traditional to a command economy
**GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)**

**PART 12: Geography’s impact on the Mongols, China, Korea, and Japan**

- Japan is an archipelago (a chain of islands) with irregular coastlines. Irregular coastlines provide natural harbors that promote seafaring trade.

- Because Japan is mostly mountainous, people live in densely populated areas along the coast.

- The earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and typhoons experienced in Japan led to the development of the nature-based religion known as Shinto.

- Before the use of the Silk Road, the mountains (the Himalayan Mountains) and deserts (the Gobi Desert) in western and southwestern China slowed the exchange of ideas.

- Chinese ideas and practices spread into Korea and Japan.

- Korea is a peninsula that juts out from Asia between China and Japan. This location has caused Korea to function as a cultural bridge between China and Japan. It is also the reason Korea has been the victim of invasion and occupation by other nations.

- When Koreans call their land “a shrimp among whales,” they are referring to their location between powerful neighbors: Russia, China, and Japan.

- One similarity between the Mongols of Central Asia and the Incas of South America was that both societies adapted to difficult physical environments (The Mongols adapted to the STEPPES and the Incas adapted to the Andes Mountains.)

Which statement about the geography of Japan is most accurate?

1. Location has made it easy to invade.
2. The irregular coastline has many natural harbors.
3. Large plains are its primary physical feature.
4. Earthquakes do not threaten the islands.

107-9
Which two cultures most influenced the development of early Japan?
(1) Greek and Roman
(2) Chinese and Korean
(3) Egyptian and Mesopotamian
(4) Indian and Persian
805-13

Which statement about cultural diffusion in Asia is most accurate?
(1) Byzantine traders brought the Justinian Code to China.
(2) Roman legions introduced Christianity to India.
(3) Indian monks brought Islam to the Middle East.
(4) Chinese ideas and practices spread into Korea and Japan.
605-3

Base your answer to the following question on the statements below and on your knowledge of social studies.

• The fertile soil of river valleys allowed early civilizations to develop and flourish.
• In the 1500s and 1600s, control of the Strait of Malacca determined who traded in the Spice Islands.
• Because Japan is an island that is mostly mountainous, people live in densely populated areas along the coast.

Which conclusion is best supported by these statements?
(1) Major urban centers are found only along rivers.
(2) The geography of a nation or region influences its development.
(3) Without mountains and rivers, people cannot develop a culture.
(4) The spread of new ideas is discouraged by trade and conquest.
605-2

Which two cultures most influenced the development of early Japan?
(1) Greek and Roman
(2) Chinese and Korean
(3) Egyptian and Mesopotamian
(4) Indian and Persian
805-13

Before the use of the Silk Road, how did geography affect early China?
(1) The mountains and deserts in western and southwestern China slowed the exchange of ideas.
(2) The northwestern region provided many fertile areas suitable for farming.
(3) The three major river systems provided barriers against invasion.
(4) The lack of deep-water ports on the eastern coast prevented China from developing trade with other nations.
105-4
Which statement best describes an impact of geography on the history of the Korean peninsula?
(1) Large deserts have led to isolation.
(2) **Location has led to invasion and occupation by other nations.**
(3) Lack of rivers has limited food production.
(4) Lack of natural resources has prevented development of manufacturing.
804-14

When Koreans call their land “a shrimp among whales,” they are referring to
(1) the mountains that cover much of the Korean peninsula
(2) the environmental damage caused by overfishing in the Pacific
(3) their traditional respect for the sea
(4) **their location between powerful neighbors: Russia, China, and Japan**
604-30

Which fact relating to early Japan was a result of the other three?
(1) Japan experienced earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.
(2) **The Japanese developed a nature-based belief called Shinto.**
(3) Tsunamis and typhoons sometimes destroyed coastal Japanese villages.
(4) Mountains are found throughout the islands of Japan.
604-11

One similarity between the **Mongols of Central Asia** and the Incas of South America
was that both societies
(1) developed cash-crop farming
(2) based their wealth on the slave trade
(3) **adapted to difficult physical environments**
(4) practiced monotheistic religions
803-10

**GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)**

**PART 13: Geography’s impact on Poland**

- The northern European Plain has made Poland vulnerable to invasion. Poland lacks natural barriers (e.g. mountains, desert, water bodies) that serve as an impediment to invaders.

- One reason Germany’s invasion of Poland in 1939 (This event marks the beginning of WWII) was successful is that Poland lacked natural barriers.
One reason Germany’s invasion of Poland in 1939 was successful is that Poland

(1) lacked natural barriers
(2) was located along the North Sea
(3) lacked natural resources
(4) was close to the Balkans
106-33

Which statement is most accurate concerning the effect of geography on the history of Poland?

(1) Natural barriers have isolated and protected Poland.
(2) The northern European Plain has made Poland vulnerable to invasion.
(3) Mountains have restricted the diffusion of Polish culture.
(4) The absence of seaports has limited Polish economic growth
103-34

**GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP (divided into 14 parts)**

**PART 14: Geography’s impact on the Middle East**

- The continued importance of the Middle East to the global economy is based on its quantity of oil reserves.

- The Muslim world once extended from southern Spain, across northern Africa, occupying the Arabian peninsula to Southeast Asia.

The continued importance of the Middle East to the global economy is based on its

(1) research facilities
(2) exports of manufactured goods
(3) semiarid climate
(4) **quantity of oil reserves**
804-35

The phrase “from southern Spain, across northern Africa, occupying the Arabian peninsula to Southeast Asia” once described the extent of the

(1) Aztec Empire
(2) Pax Romana
(3) Gupta Empire
(4) **Muslim world**
102-5