The background of the entire image is a vibrant orange and yellow gradient, representing a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, there is a black silhouette of a savanna landscape. On the left, a large acacia tree with a wide, flat canopy stands prominently. To its right, a giraffe is silhouetted, standing and facing right. Further right, an elephant is silhouetted, walking towards the right. In the background, another smaller acacia tree is visible. On the far right, two rhinoceroses are silhouetted, standing and facing right. A large, bright yellow sun is partially obscured by the rhinoceroses, creating a strong backlight effect. The text "SOL GGC.7 Study Packet Sub-Saharan Africa" is overlaid on the right side of the image, in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

SOL GGC.7 Study Packet Sub-Saharan Africa

Unit Outline:

- Geography
- History
- Government & Economics
- Culture



Africa is the second-largest continent and is situated over both sides of the equator, which provides for the variation in its vegetation, climate, and population structures.

Sub-Saharan Africa got its name because it is located below the Sahara Desert, in the southern part of Africa.



Major Regions & Countries

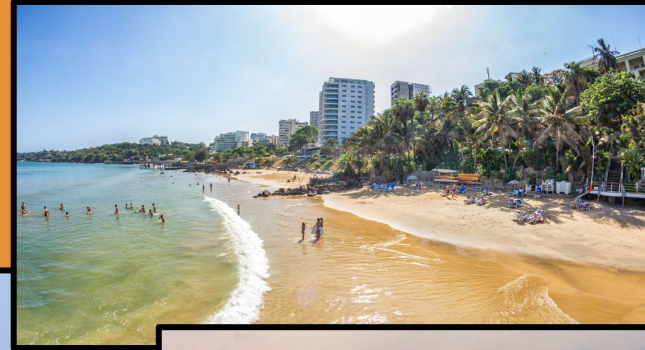
- **West Africa:** Senegal, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire
- **Horn of Africa (East Africa):** Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya
- **Central Africa:** Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon
- **Southern Africa:** Botswana, South Africa, Mozambique, Madagascar, Namibia





Major Cities

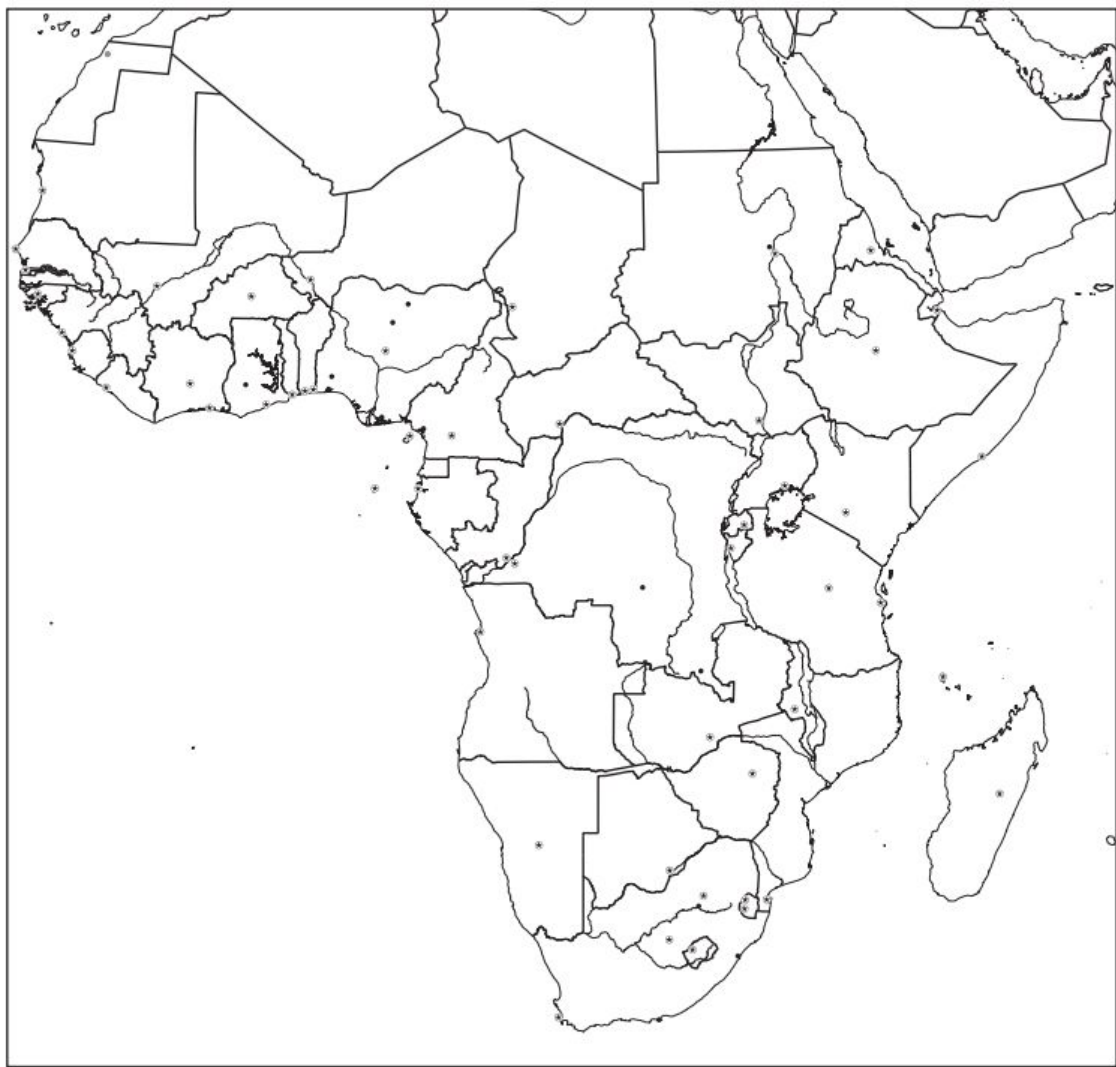
- **Lagos, Nigeria**
- **Dakar, Senegal**
- **Johannesburg, South Africa**
- **Nairobi, Kenya**





Major Cities

- Lagos, Nigeria
- Dakar, Senegal
- Johannesburg, South Africa
- Nairobi, Kenya



Matching - match the city with its correct characteristic

Lagos

Located in Kenya; known for its wildlife preserve

Dakar


Largest city in South Africa; was once a gold mining town

Johannesburg

Nigeria's largest city; located on the coast

Nairobi

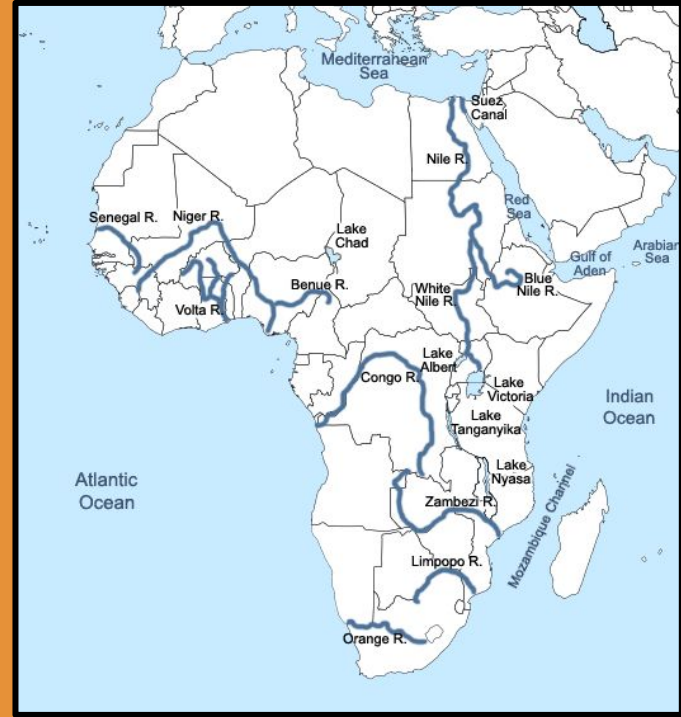
Location of the capital of Senegal as well as a crucial Atlantic port

An aerial night photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, featuring a wide river (the Hudson) and a prominent, illuminated skyscraper (the Freedom Tower) on the right. The city lights are reflected in the water, and the sky is a mix of orange and blue from the sunset or sunrise. The text "LARGEST CITIES IN AFRICA" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

LARGEST CITIES IN AFRICA

Import Bodies of Water - Rivers

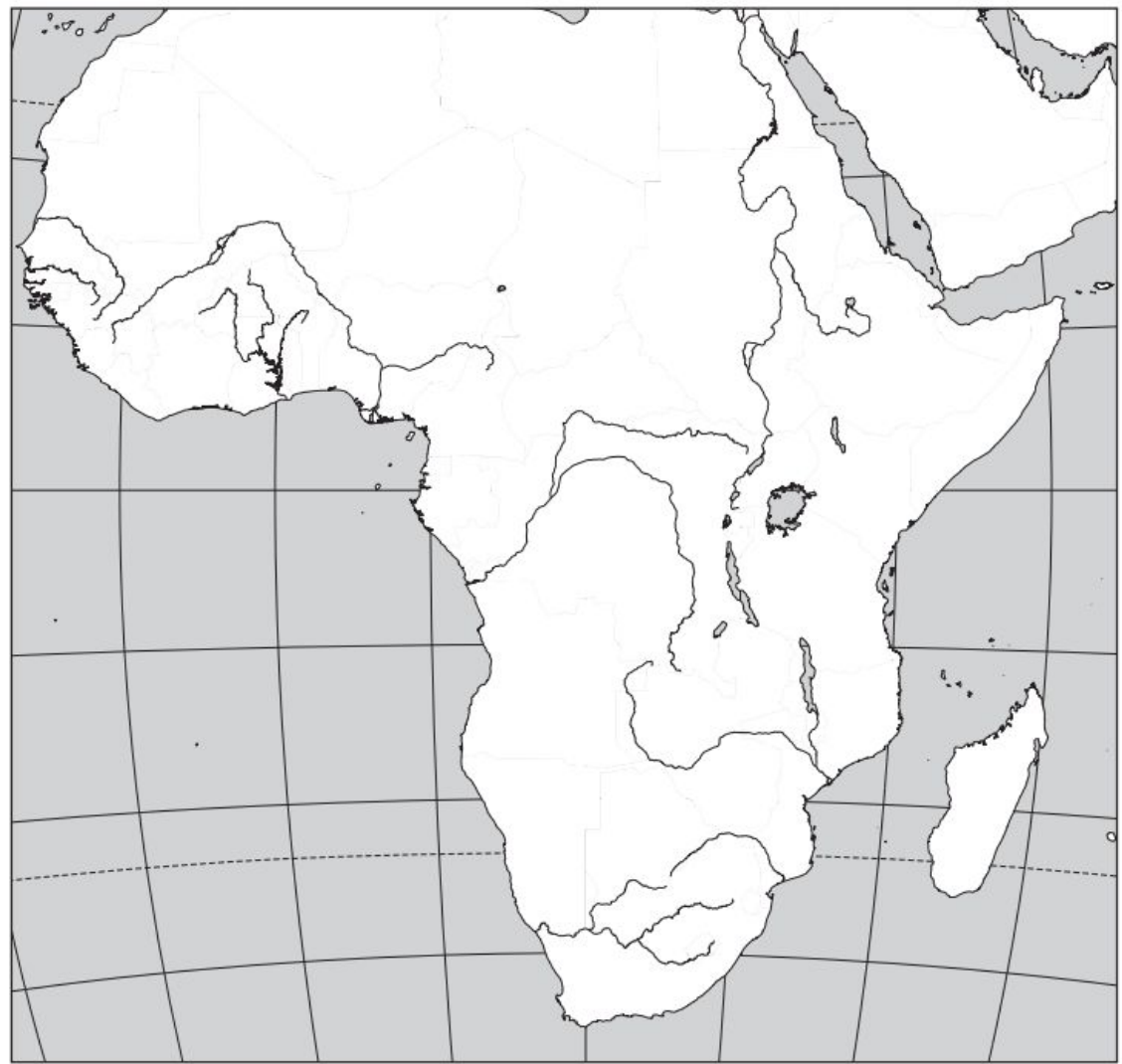
- **Nile River** - major north-flowing river in northern Africa
 - Important in the forming of early African civilizations
 - Form of transportation northward
 - Flooding crucial to the harvesting of crops
- **Zambezi River** - flows eastward through central Africa
 - About half the size of the Nile
 - Victoria Falls is along the Zambezi River
- **Niger River** - the principal river in West Africa
 - The only consistent source of water in that section of the continent
- **Congo River** - second largest river in Africa (after the Nile) and the deepest river in the world





Bodies of Water: Rivers

- Nile
- Zambezi
- Niger
- Congo

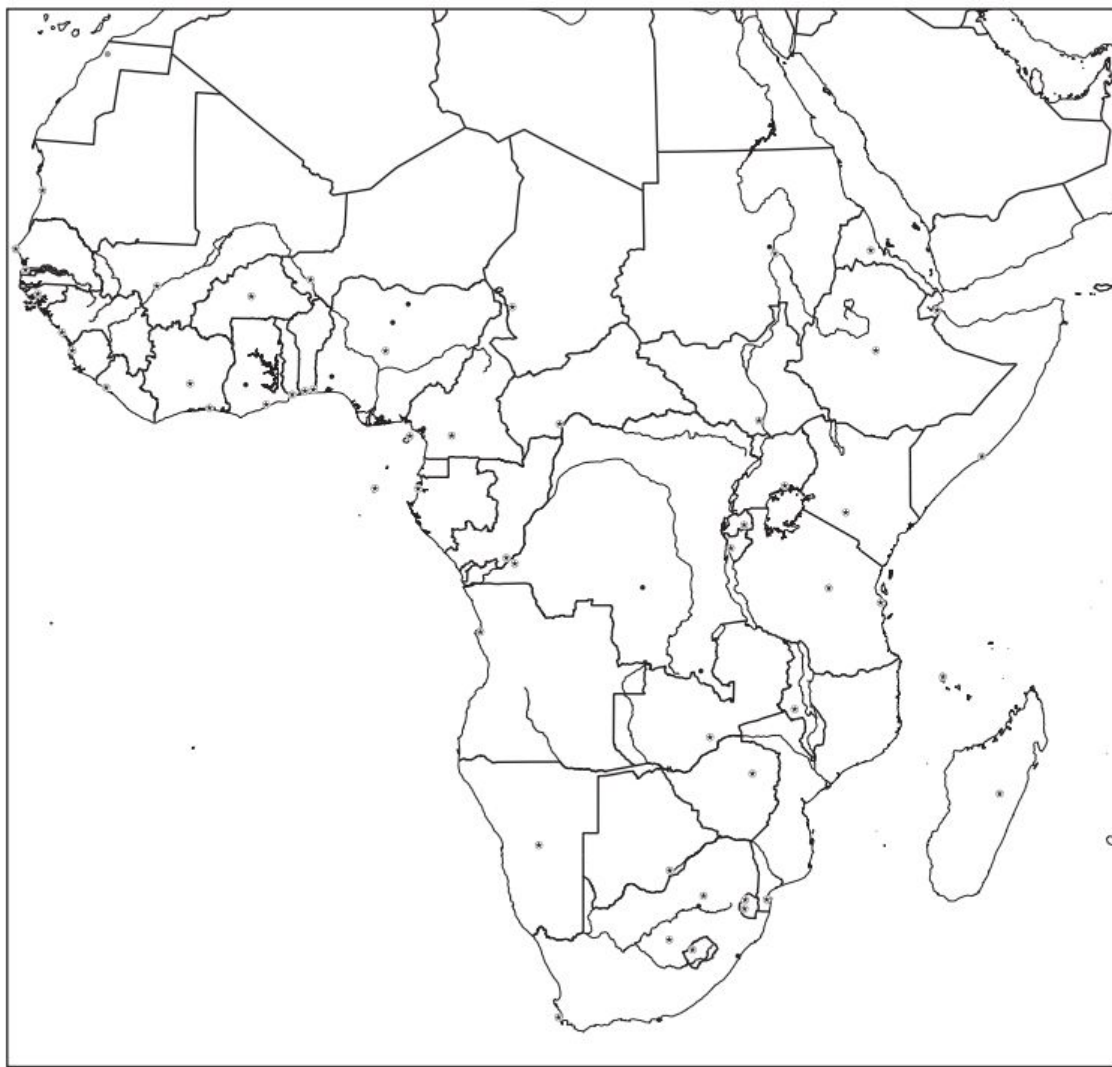


Important Bodies of Water - Seas, Oceans, and Lakes

- **Atlantic Ocean** - important for trade with countries that have coastlines along the Atlantic (Triangular Trade)
- **Indian Ocean** - important for trade with countries that have coastlines along the Indian Ocean
- **Red Sea** - important trade route in the early years of navigation; after a route around Africa was discovered, the Red Sea's importance declined
- **Lake Victoria** - one of Africa's Great Lakes; named after Queen Victoria of England by an English explorer who first documented it

Bodies of Water: Oceans, Seas, and Lakes

- Atlantic Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- Red Sea
- Lake Victoria



Deserts

- **Kalahari** - large, semi-arid savanna that covers much of southern Africa
- **Namib** - coastal desert located in southern Africa; stretches inward from the Atlantic Ocean
- **Sahara** - world's largest hot desert located in northern Africa; size can be compared to the United States

Why do you think plant life is so different in each picture?



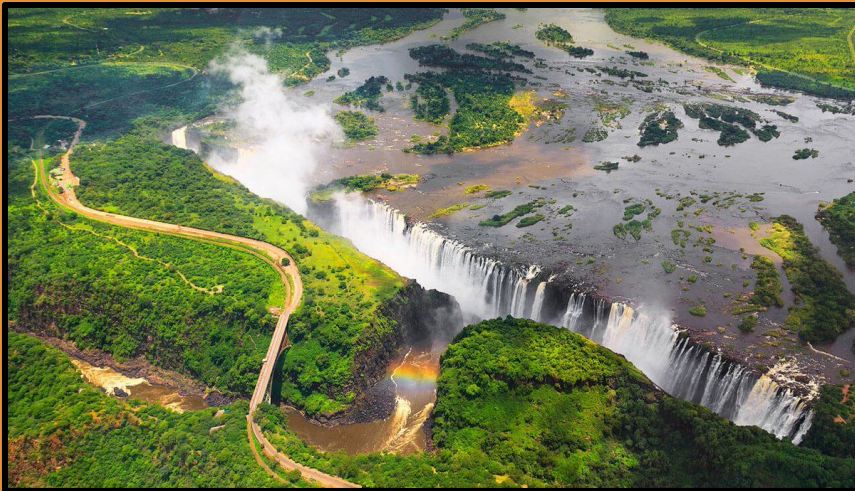
Deserts

- Kalahari
- Namib
- Sahara



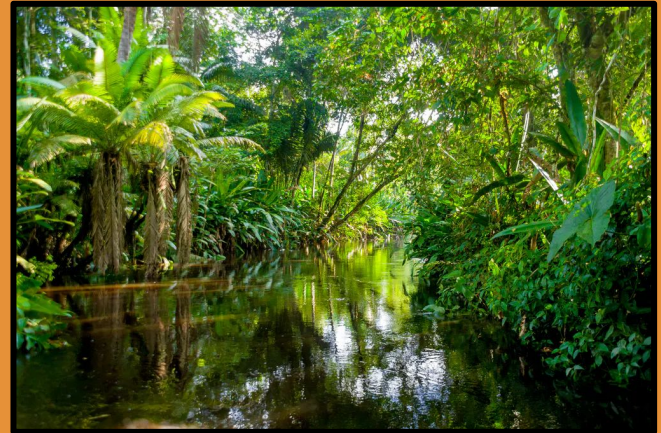
Physical Geography

- Continent of Africa is made of one large plateau
- Water transportation within the continent is hindered by waterfalls, rapids, and cataracts
- There are similar climates both north and south of the equator



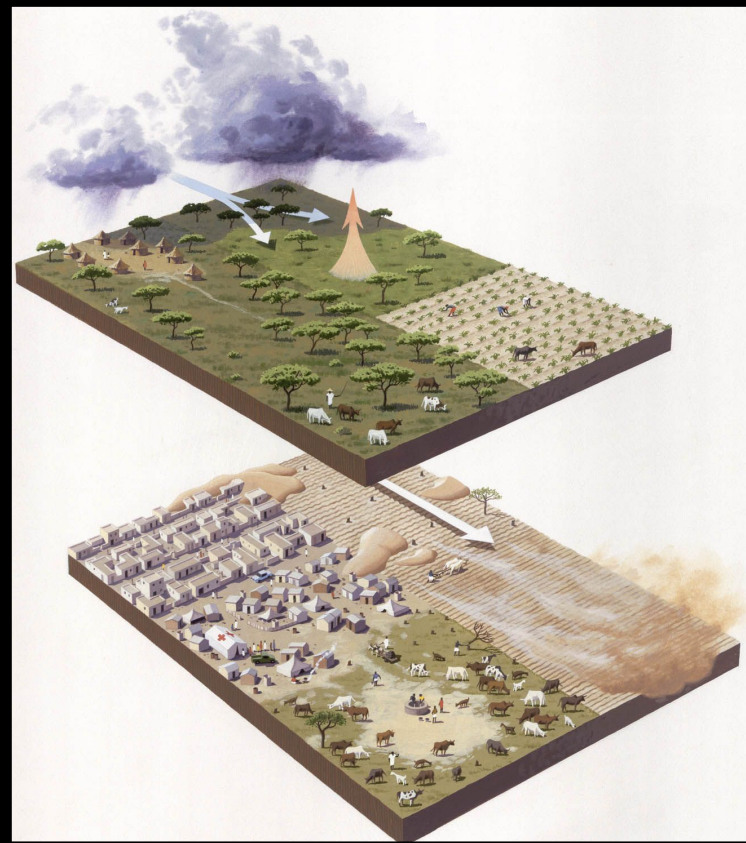
Physical Geography

- Smooth coastline, but there are few important harbors or ports
- Large number of landlocked countries
- Limited fertility of rain-forest soils



Physical Geography

- Access to fresh water is an issue for sub-Saharan Africa (limited water)
 - The situation is gradually improving (i.e. in Namibia the percentage of people with access to clean water increased from 57% in 1990 to 93% in 2010)
- **Desertification** has occurred in many places



This diagram illustrates how desertification aids drought. Drought may be both a cause and an effect of desertification. Desertification means that land can no longer support vegetation. Lack of vegetation results in soil erosion and less water to evaporate and form clouds, leading to less rainfall and, eventually, drought.

Desertification

The process in which land that was once fertile and had plantlife turns into desert.

What causes desertification?



West Africa's Geography

- **Steppes:** semiarid grasslands (the Sahel) run through the middle of West Africa; the area has a short rainy season
- **Tropical Coast:** countries on the coast have more cities & more people than interior countries; adequate rainfall, fishing, & trade make it easier for coastal cities to support growing populations
- **Desert:** interior countries in West Africa are mostly covered by desert; farming is a constant struggle; about 80% of people in Chad make their living from subsistence farming and raising livestock



1. *Where are most of the capital cities located?*
2. *Why do you think they are located there?*

West Africa's Geography



The Sahel (a transition zone) between the Sahara and the savannas. This picture was taken in Mali.



Lagos, Nigeria is one of the largest cities in the world.

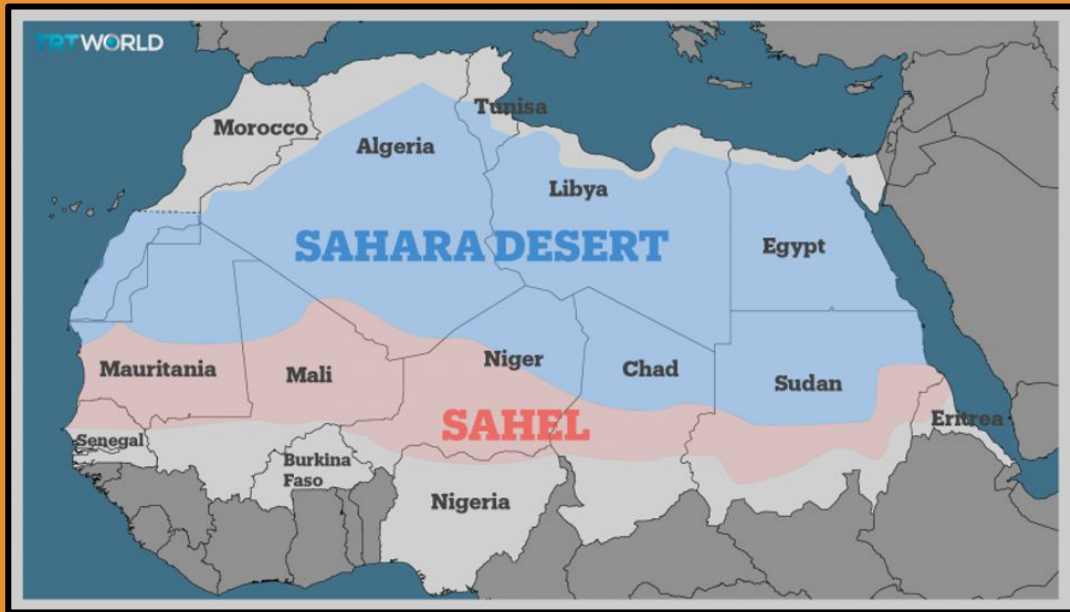


Herding cattle in Mali.

Sahel

**Transitional zone that separates the Sahara in the north and the savannas in the south;
it stretches from coast to coast across the continent**





East Africa & the Great Rift Valley

- East Africa is easy to spot on a map because it's shaped like a rhino's horn (called the Horn of Africa)
- The most important physical feature of East Africa is the Great Rift Valley



The Great Rift Valley

- It is part of a chain of valleys that stretch from southwest Asia to southern Africa
- It was created over 20 million years ago by the separation of tectonic plates.
- Plate movements also created freshwater lakes, such as Lake Tanganyika



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The Great Rift Valley





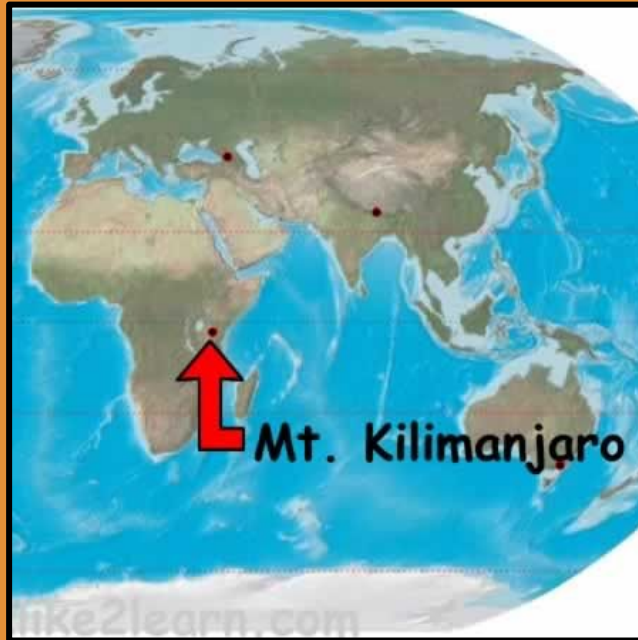
East Africa's Geography (cont.)

- East Africa sits mostly on plateaus
 - Highlands in Kenya and Ethiopia have cooler temperatures even though they are near the equator
- Plate movement also created volcanoes. Two large, dormant volcanoes in the area are Kilimanjaro and Mount Kenya
- Tanzania and Kenya have vast savannas where wildlife such as lions, giraffes, and elephants roam.



Mt. Kilimanjaro

- The volcanic soil that exists around the volcano is very **fertile**. This causes crops to grow well and wildlife to flourish.

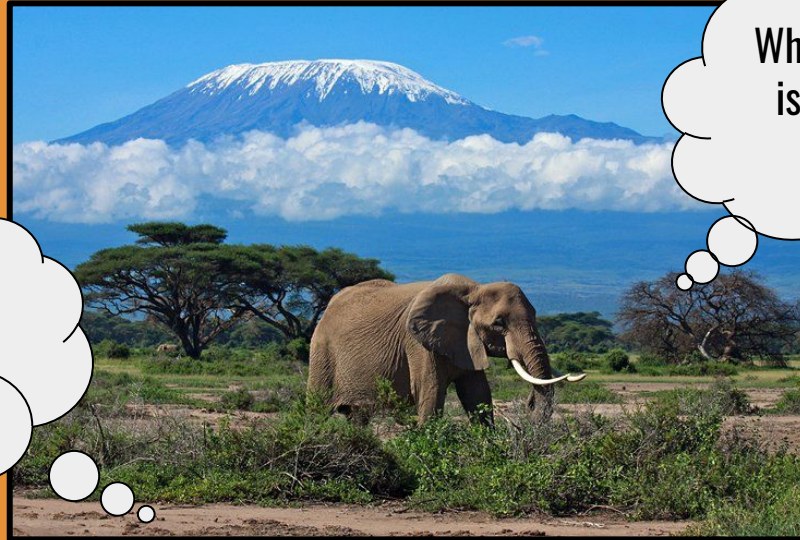


East Africa's Geography - Savannas



Preservation

Africa is home to many endangered species and changing landscapes. As an attempt to save species from becoming extinct and to preserve the continent's natural beauty, many nature preserves and national parks have been created.



Why is
preservation
important?

What mountain
is this in the
picture?

Quick Check - Summarize

In your own words, describe the physical characteristics of the Great Rift Valley. Be prepared to share with a partner.



Central Africa's Geography

- Central Africa is defined by the rainforests of the Congo River Basin & a variety of natural resources
 - Most people live on the edges of the rainforest because the vegetation is so thick in some areas that ground movement is difficult
- Natural resources include copper, forests, diamonds, and the Congo River (source of hydroelectric power)



Central Africa's Geography



Thick Vegetation



The Congo River



Spectacular wildlife, such as gorillas and okapis, thrive in the rainforest.



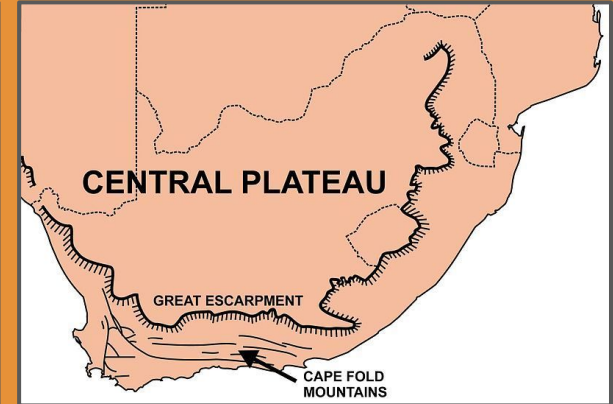
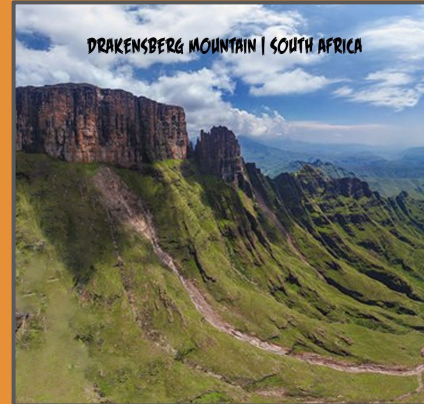
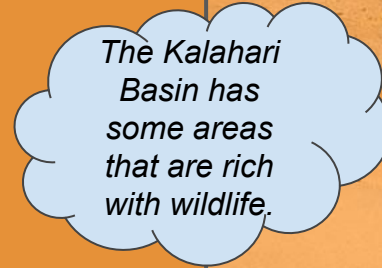
Southern Africa's Geography

- Southern Africa is mostly a large plateau
 - Has fertile farmland, valuable natural resources, and abundant wildlife
 - exporting natural resources gives Southern Africa the highest standard of living in sub-Saharan Africa
 - Six of the area's countries are landlocked
- 
- A map of Southern Africa highlighting landlocked countries. The map shows Angola, Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. Key geographical features include the Katanga Plateau, Lake Malawi (Lake Nyasa), Lake Victoria, Victoria Falls, the Zambezi River, and the Cubango River. The Mozambique Channel and Mayotte (France) are also visible. The map uses color coding to distinguish between different regions and water bodies.



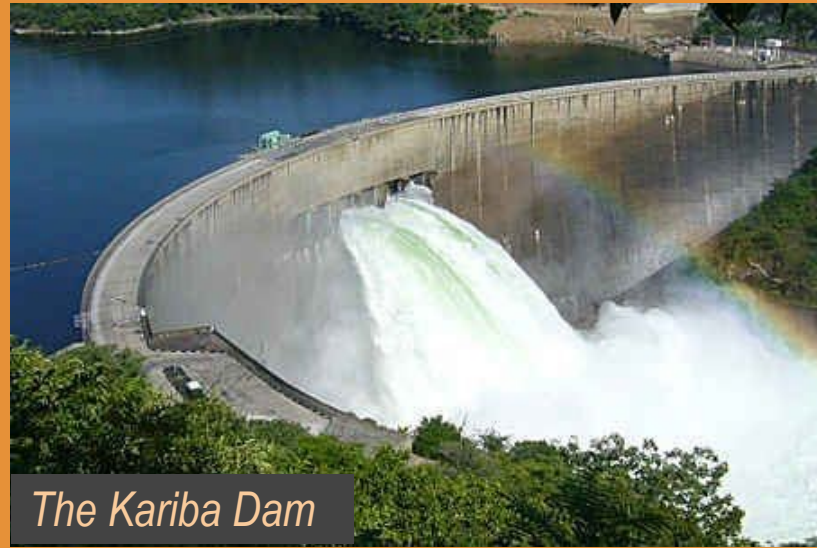
Southern Africa's Geography

- The Kalahari Desert is in Southern Africa
- The plateau of Southern Africa is defined by the **Great Escarpment** (a steep slope from the plateau to the coastal plains)

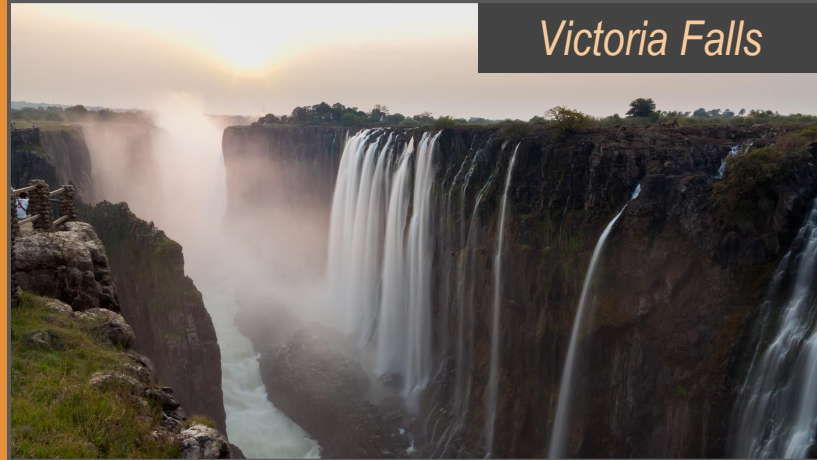


Southern Africa's Geography

- **The Zambezi River** is a major river in southern Africa. Hydroelectric power from the Kariba Dam provides most of the electricity for Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- **Victoria Falls** is located along the Zambezi River. Victoria Falls is one of the most spectacular waterfalls in the world. Despite its beauty, the falls greatly hinder travel along this section of the river.

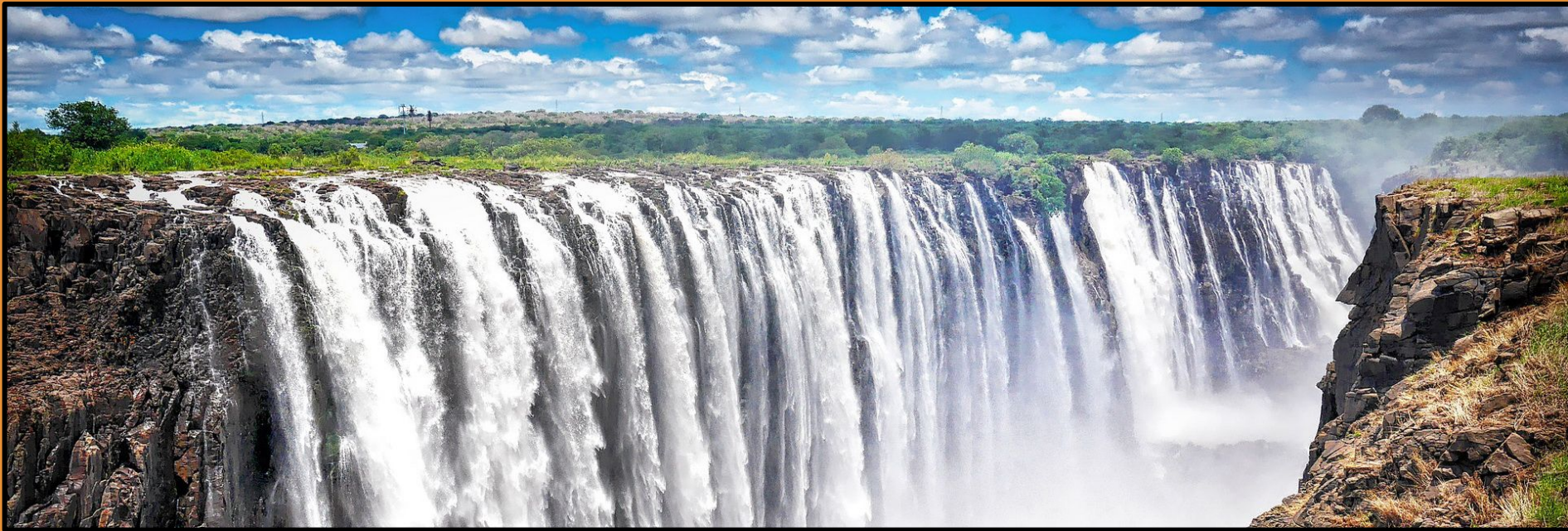


The Kariba Dam



Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls





360°



Southern Africa's Geography

- Copper, gold, and diamonds are mined from a zone of mineral deposits that winds through Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa
- Southern Africa's temperate climate supports a variety of crops (i.e. fruits, corn, wheat, tea, etc.)



Mining for Gold in South Africa



Vineyard in South Africa

Southern Africa, GDP Per Capita, 2012



SOUTHERN AFRICA

Southern Africa, Natural Resources



History - Early States and Trade

- Trade helped powerful states and empires develop in sub-Saharan Africa
- Valuable trade goods caused Arab traders to travel from North Africa to West Africa. Traders had to cross the Sahara desert to reach West Africa therefore it is known as **Trans-Saharan Trade**.
- Several empires arose over the centuries. These empires thrived because of the gold & salt trade
 - Alluvial gold was deposited along rivers
 - Salt was found in deserts

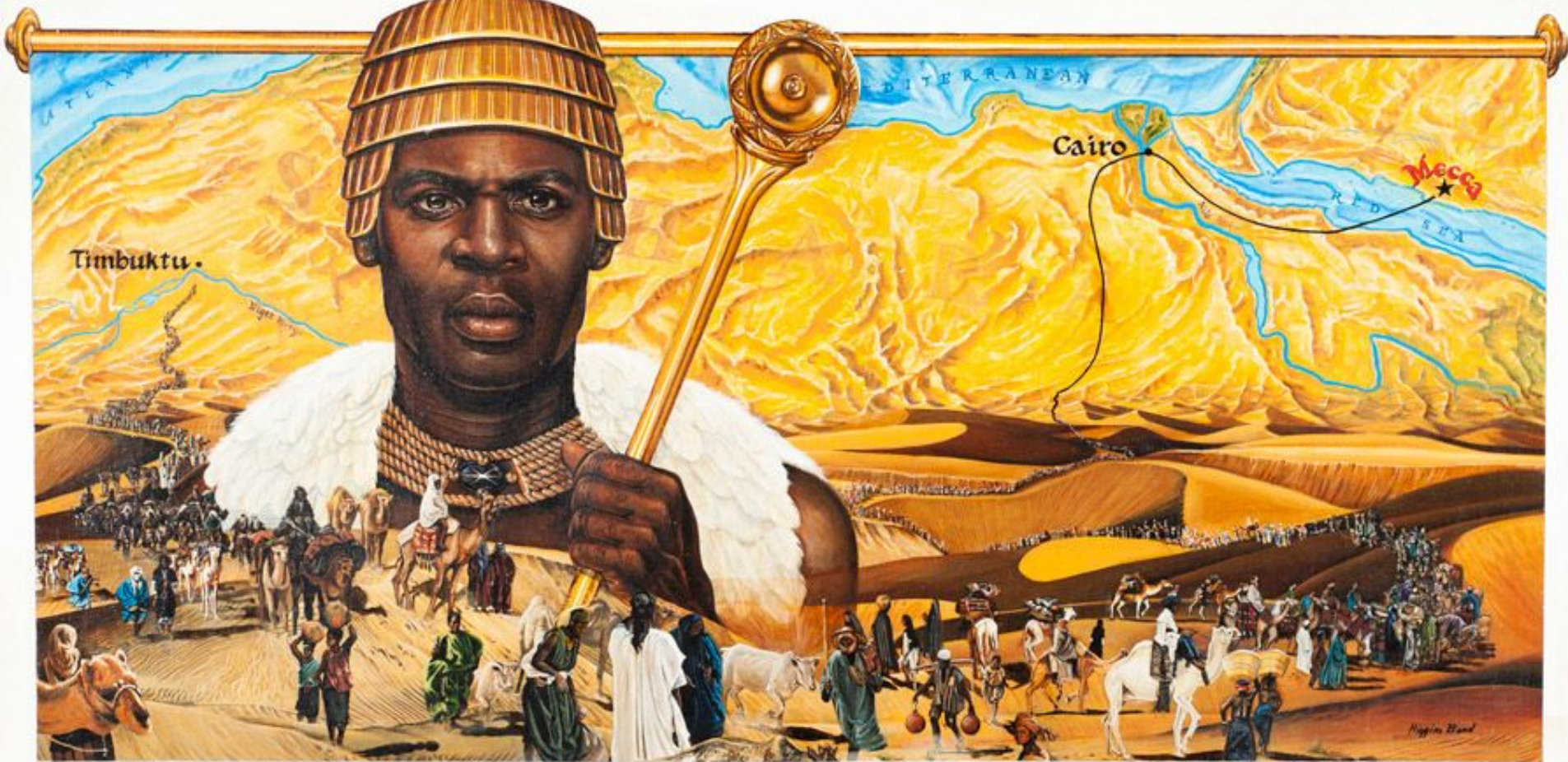


History - Early States and Trade

West African Empires

- **Ghana:** controlled West Africa from A.D. 700-1200; gained wealth and power by taxing the gold and salt trade
- **Mali:** overtook Ghana under the leadership of King Sundiata; his great-nephew, Mansa Musa, controlled trade, spread Islam, and made his capital city of Timbuktu a center of education
- **Songhai:** another empire in the same region that traded gold and salt; prospered between 900 and 1400 A.D.

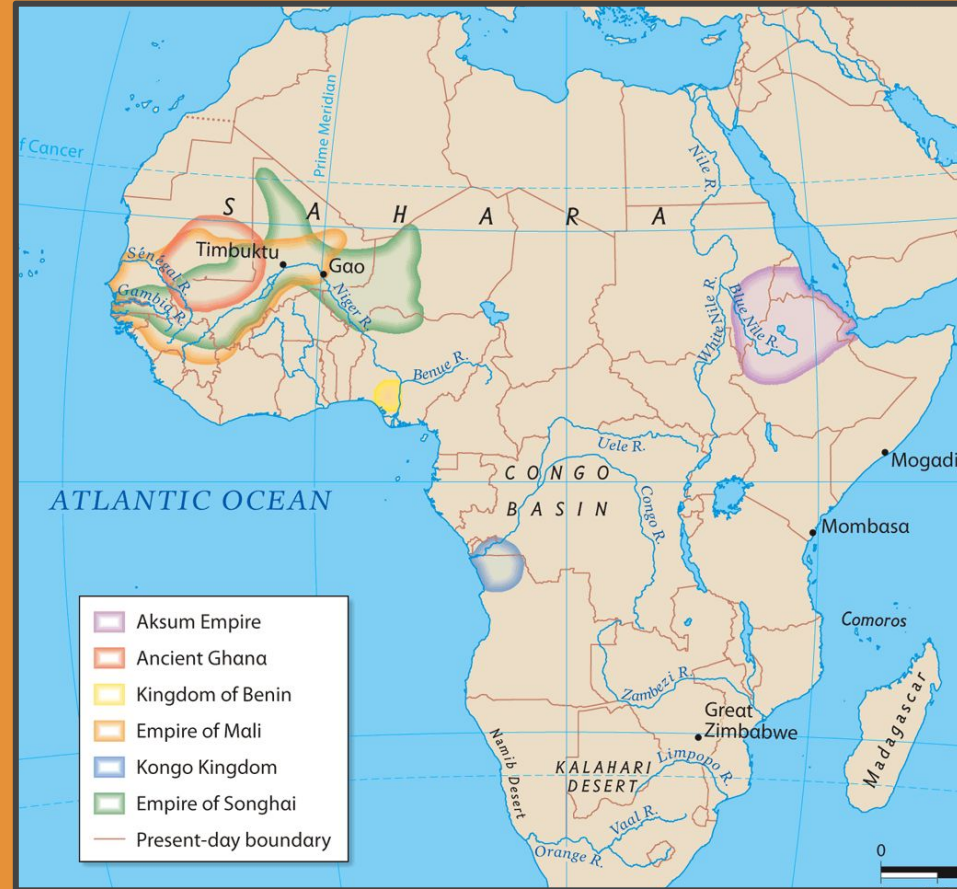




History - Early States and Trade

East African Empires & States

- **Aksum:** located in present-day Ethiopia; flourished between A.D. 300-600
 - Adulis, its main port, was located on the Red Sea; grew wealthy from trade
 - became a Christian kingdom when an early king, King Azana, encountered a missionary and converted
- Many other independent city-states formed on the coast of East Africa as trade grew



History - The Impact of the Slave Trade

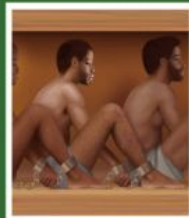
- **Slavery existed in Africa for many years before European contact**
(i.e. African tribes turned male war captives into slaves; women and children were often incorporated into families; and the children of some slaves could be born free)
- **When Islam came to Africa some Muslims began to capture and sell Africans to North Africa and Southwest Asia**
- **The Portuguese were the first Europeans to explore the African coast in the 1400s**
(slave trade began in the 1500s)
- **Enslaved people were brought to coastal cities and sold to Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, French, and English traders**



History - The Impact of the Slave Trade

- Slaves were crowded onto large ships headed for European colonies in the Americas
- The trip across the Atlantic Ocean was known as the **Middle Passage**
 - Approximately 2 million people died in the Middle Passage due to malnutrition, disease, etc.
- In the Americas, slaves were sold at auction and sent to work on sugar, tobacco, and cotton plantations





3.25 feet

The journey across the Atlantic could take up to 90 days depending on the weather. Enslaved Africans were packed onto ships and chained below deck. They were only taken above deck for brief periods. Unable to stand up or move, many Africans died where they sat.

THE MIDDLE PASSAGE

	LEFT FROM AFRICA	ARRIVED IN THE AMERICAS
1500–1600	277,506	199,285
1601–1700	1,875,631	1,522,677
1701–1800	6,494,619	5,609,869
1801–1867	3,873,580	3,370,825
TOTAL	12,521,336	10,702,656

Source: <http://slavevoyages.org/tast/assessment/estimates.faces>

THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

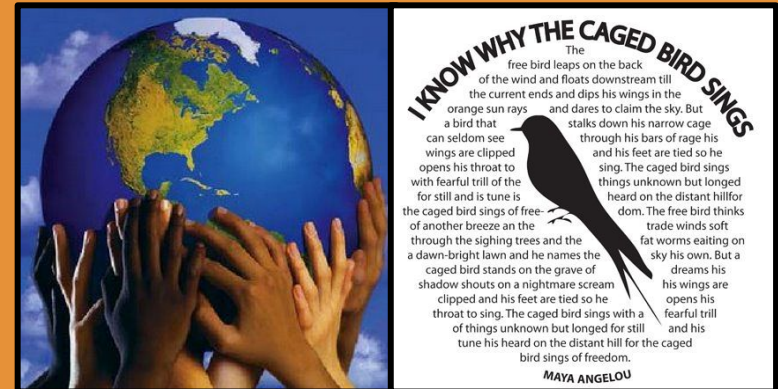
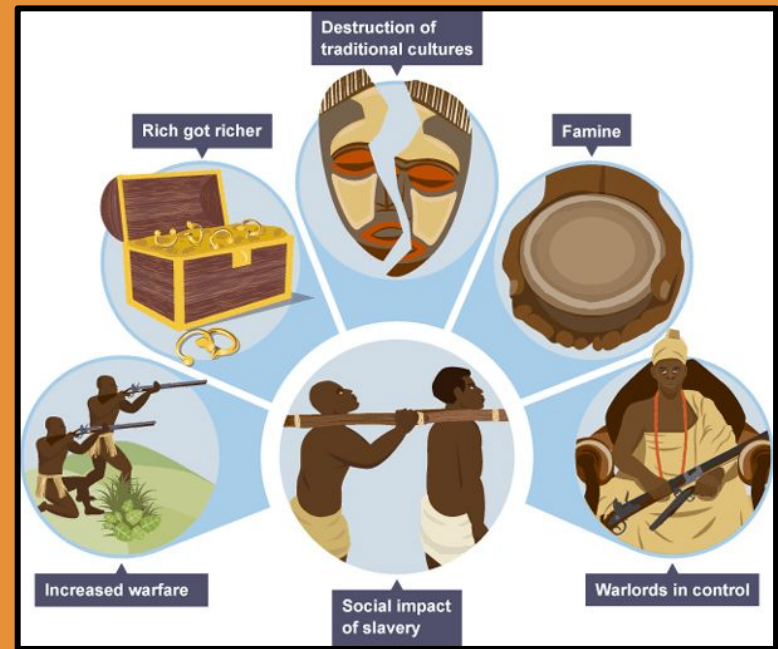
INTERPRETING MAPS

- 1. Location** From what region were most African slaves taken?
- 2. Movement** Which colony received the most slaves?



Consequences of the Slave Trade

- More than 12 million Africans were enslaved and shipped to the Western Hemisphere
- African communities were weakened and families were torn apart (those forced into slavery were future leaders, scholars, healers, inventors, etc.)
- Millions of people in North America, South America, and the Caribbean are descendants of enslaved Africans.



History-Colonization to Independence

- European powers colonized and ruled large parts of Africa until Africans began independence movements in the mid-1900s
- What is imperialism?
- What is colonialism?



Government & Economics - Prized Mineral Resources

- Sub-Saharan Africa has large deposits of gold, diamonds, and other minerals that are exported to Europe, North America, and Asia but government corruption has taken much of the profits from mineral mining.
- Unstable governments, lack of infrastructure, smuggling, and political unrest have limited economic development in some areas (*i.e. the Central African Republic is one of the poorest countries in the world despite having significant diamond resources.*)



In the picture below, gold miners dig in the Chudja mine in northeastern Congo. What does the photo suggest about working conditions in the mines? Why do you think people work in these conditions?



SELECTED OIL AND DIAMOND EXPORTS SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, 2005–2006

Oil

Country	World Rank	Percentage of Country's Total Exports
Nigeria	6	91.9
Angola	12	96.6
Equatorial Guinea	21	92.7
Democratic Republic of the Congo	22	89.6
Sudan	29	88.0
Chad	37	94.6

Diamonds

Country	World Rank	Percentage of Country's Total Exports
South Africa	5	6.9
Botswana	9	83.5
Namibia	14	43.5
Angola	16	2.4
Democratic Republic of the Congo	17	41.5
Central African Republic	32	36.8

Source: The World Bank

Government & Economics - Nigeria & Oil

- Nigeria produces more oil than any other African country but the people have received little benefit from the country's oil wealth (due to conflict and corruption)
- British colonialism left Nigeria divided among 3 major ethnic groups, 250 smaller ethnic groups, and at least 2 major religions--various groups have fought to control the government over the years
- Pollution from oil spills and a decline in agricultural production have resulted from increased oil production



Fishermen unload their catch across from an oil plant located in the Niger Delta. Their village was relocated when oil storage tanks & liquefied natural gas plants were constructed in the 1990s.

Government & Economics: Agriculture and Food Supply

- Famines have occurred in Sudan, Ethiopia, Niger, and Somalia in recent years. Famine is a constant danger in Africa and threatens the health of millions of people.
- Food production has not grown as rapidly as the population. An estimated 214 million people in Africa are undernourished.
- European colonization affected food production/availability because the most fertile land was used to grow cash crops for exports

**Food Crops
Grown in
Africa**



Government & Economics: Improving Public Health

- National governments and international agencies are committed to improving health care in Africa by reducing the impact of diseases.
- In 2012, the average life expectancy for a person living in sub-Saharan was 52 years...that's almost 30 years shorter than the average in North America
- Malaria kills thousands each year. Numerous organizations, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Malaria No More, are working to eliminate the disease.

MALARIA BY THE NUMBERS

37

Percentage that malaria incidence fell globally between 2000 and 2015

60

Number of seconds between each death of an African child due to malaria

97

Countries worldwide reporting malaria cases in 2015

2,414

Estimated number of people worldwide who die every day from malaria

801,000

Estimated number of Africans who die every year from malaria

Source: World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund



Mosquito nets can greatly reduce a person's chances of contracting malaria.

Government & Economics - Sudan & Somalia

- For years, Sudan and Somalia have been plagued by war, famine, and disease.
- In **Sudan**, Nomadic Muslim herders of Arabic descent live in the north while farmers of African descent who practice Christianity or indigenous religions live in the South
- Christians have been oppressed by the government since the 1950s; millions of Sudanese people have fled the country as refugees
 - **Lost Boys of Sudan** - group orphaned during a civil war; stuck together to escape the violence; traveled to Ethiopia & Kenya seeking safety; more than 3,500 of these young men came to the U.S. to live





Government & Economics - Sudan & Somalia

● Somalia:

- Somalia has never united to form a single nation because of rival clans
- In 1991, clan-based groups overthrew the government and battles raged between clans
- Farming was disrupted (limited food supply)
- Some clans have turned to piracy (attacking & robbing foreign ships) which continues today
- Many consider Somalia to be a failed state



This is a modern-day pirate ship. The British soldiers who took over the vessel found a stash of guns, grenades, and rocket launchers there.

Government & Economics - Ending Apartheid

- In the 1800s, Dutch and British colonists laid claim to lands in South Africa
- Lands were seized from various African tribes and some were enslaved
- In 1902, Britain took over all of the lands and divided South Africa into white areas and black areas.
- In 1948, new laws created **apartheid**, or the legal separation of races
- **Nelson Mandela** was imprisoned after protesting the treatment of black Africans; he became a symbol for the protest movement in South Africa



Nelson Mandela was elected president in 1994 when voting rights were extended to all South Africans.

Cultural Geography

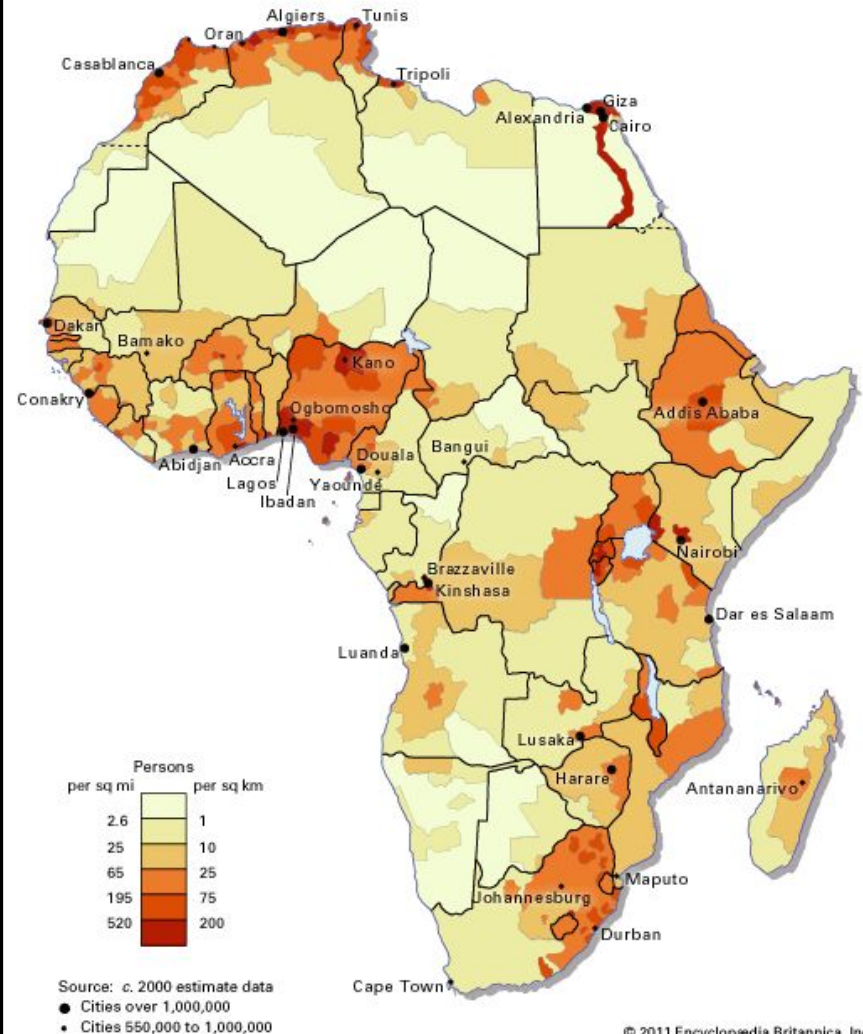
A variety of cultural traditions exist as a result of the diverse ethnic groups found throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

What is the difference between race and ethnicity?



Cultural Characteristics

- Uneven population distribution
- Many ethnic groups, languages, & customs
- Large numbers of refugees as a result of political, ethnic, & environmental crises



Cultural Characteristics - African Music & Griots

- Music has always been a way for Africans to celebrate their cultures. African music is linked to the development of jazz, blues, rock-and-roll, and gospel in the U.S.
- West African music was influenced by the stories and music of griots. **Griots** are traditional storytellers who have passed on the histories of West African cultures through oral tradition.



Music and Dance

- **Music** - music is an integral part of African culture
 - Many instruments used to create music in Africa are percussion instruments
- **Dance** - used in conjunction with music
 - African dance varies from place to place
- **Drumming** - drumming is used as a form of communication and to create music for many different occurrences and events



Art

- **Masks** - African tribal masks were used in religious and spiritual ceremonies or social events
- **Sculpture** - most African sculpture was in wood; the sculpture was a very important aspect of tribal cultures





Dress

- **Colorful traditional dress** - tribes used their dress as an identifier; clothing was hand-dyed and stitched to create vibrant colors and designs
- **Jewelry** - since ancient times, jewelry has been a sign of wealth and status among the people of Africa; it is oftentimes colorful and is fashioned from beads, seashells, gold, etc.



Cultural Landscape



We will discuss the next 5 slides as a class. After discussing each slide, I want you to practice taking your own notes. Make sure to record what you think is most important about each topic.

Markets



Churches

South Africa



Ethiopia



Madagascar



Mosques and Minarets



Villages



Schools



Modern City Centers

- Contrary to popular belief, Sub-Saharan Africa is home to many modern city centers.
- These cities are comparable to any other major cities worldwide.
- They contain shopping, tourist destinations, major ports/shipping centers, and other characteristics of major cities such as large populations and developed infrastructure.



Kenya Modernizes

- Kenya is modernizing its economy and improving its standard of living.
- Kenya is proof that multicultural societies can work toward common goals
- Education is an important factor in the modernization of Kenya. The adult literacy rate increased from 32% in 1970 to 85% in 2003.
- Kenya's national parks and reserves attracts tourists (brings jobs and money to the country)

