

Essential Question Preview

Are the challenges faced by Russia and the Caucasus countries in establishing and maintaining their democracies greater than those faced by the United States after it won the American Revolution?

Have the students consider the Essential Question and capture their initial responses.

Explore the Essential Question

- Discuss why Russia is divided into several cultural regions based on features, such as population, natural resources, and economic activity.
- Ask students what they know about the Caucasus countries. Tell them that political and cultural differences in the region sometimes lead to violence and war.

Encourage students to keep the Essential Question in mind as they work through the module. Help students plan inquiries and develop their own supporting questions such as:

In what ways are Russia and the Caucasus strengthened by the region's cultural and ethnic diversity? In what ways does this diversity lead to difficulties?

Why might it be difficult for people without a history of democratic government to learn how democracy works?

You may want to assign students to write a short essay in response to the Essential Question when they complete the module. Encourage student to use their notes and responses to inform their essays.

Explore the Online Video

ANALYZE VIDEOS

The Romanovs

Invite students to watch the video to learn about the mystery that once surrounded Russia's last royal family.

History Why did it take so long for the deaths of the Romanov family to come to light? *possible answers: The government had tried to keep the execution secret; those who found the bodies feared the government's reaction if they revealed what they found; once the government reopened the grave, they had to turn to foreign forensic and DNA experts.*



▶ PLAY VIDEO 4:00

The Romanovs



Module 17

Russia and the Caucasus

Essential Question

Are the challenges faced by Russia and the Caucasus countries in establishing and maintaining their democracies greater than those faced by the United States after it won the American Revolution?

In this module, you will learn about Russia's geography, history, and challenges. You will also learn about Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, the three countries located south of Russia in the Caucasus region.

What You Will Learn

Lesson 1: Physical Geography 555
The Big Idea Russia is big and cold with vast plains and forests, while the Caucasus features rugged mountains with seas to the east and west.

Lesson 2: Russia 561
The Big Idea Strict rule, unrest, and ethnic diversity have shaped Russia's history and culture. Today, it faces many challenges.

Lesson 3: The Caucasus 570
The Big Idea In an area long ruled by outside groups, the Caucasus republics are struggling to strengthen their economies and to deal with ethnic unrest.

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Lesson 1 Big Idea

Russia is big and cold with vast plains and forests, while the Caucasus features rugged mountains with seas to the east and west.

Main Ideas

- The physical features of Russia and the Caucasus include plains, mountains, and rivers.
- Russia's cold climate contrasts sharply with the warmer Caucasus.
- Russia has a wealth of natural resources, but many are hard to access.

Lesson 2 Big Idea

Strict rule, unrest, and ethnic diversity have shaped Russia's history and culture. Today, it faces many challenges.

Main Ideas

- The Russian Empire grew under powerful leaders, but unrest and war led to its end.
- The Soviet Union emerged as a Communist superpower, with rigid government control.
- Russia's history and diversity have influenced its culture.
- The Russian Federation is working to develop democracy and a market economy.
- Russia's physical geography, cities, and economy define its many culture regions.
- Russia faces a number of serious challenges.



Geography A volcano created Crater Bay in the Kuril Islands off the east coast of Russia. The islands have several active volcanoes.

Culture The Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, Russia, is famous throughout the world. Above, dancers perform *Swan Lake*.



History The Kremlin complex houses Russia's government as well as gold-domed churches and beautiful, historical palaces.

Lesson 3 Big Idea

In an area long ruled by outside groups, the Caucasus republics are struggling to strengthen their economies and to deal with ethnic unrest.

Main Ideas

- Many groups have ruled and influenced the Caucasus during its long history.
- Today, the Caucasus republics are working to improve their economies, but they struggle with ethnic unrest and conflict.

Explore the Map and Images

Russia and the Caucasus: Political Talk with students about how every country, no matter what size, has its own rich history and culture. Ask them to recall information about smaller countries they studied previously. Ask them to recall the other very large countries they have studied.

Geography As the world's largest country, Russia has a variety of landforms and bodies of water.

History Russia's government has changed drastically over time from a monarchy to a communist dictatorship to a democracy.

Culture *Swan Lake* was composed by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, a famous Russian composer.

Analyze Visuals

Have students examine the map and images and answer the following questions:

- What can you tell about Russia and the region by looking at the political map? *The locations and size of the countries; Russia dominates the region; the locations of rivers and other bodies of water; the locations of capital and major cities; Moscow is a long distance from much of Russia.*
- Based on the picture of the Kremlin and surrounding buildings, what is Russia's most characteristic architectural feature? *onion-domed churches*

► Online Module Flip Cards

Use the flip cards as a whole class activity or in student pairs to preview the module's Key Terms and Places. Students can guess the meaning of each word, then review its definition, or do the reverse, using the flip card's toggle button to switch from "Term" to "Definition" mode. Students can also use the flip cards at the end of the module as a review tool before taking the Module Assessment.

► Online Map Activity

Students can use this activity to review some of the locations discussed in this module. To complete, have students drag each label to the correct location on the map.



Reading Social Studies

Reading Social Studies

READING FOCUS

Use Context Clues

Organize the class into pairs. Then have each pair go through one of their textbooks. Ask students to look for sentences in which a word is explained in the context. Ask students to find five sentences that use vocabulary clues to define a term. Then have students make a list of the different ways the meaning of a word is given in the context of the text. Answers might include clue words or punctuation.

YOU TRY IT!

gulag: harsh Soviet labor camps often located in Siberia;
ethnic cleansing: an attempt to remove an ethnic group

Use Context Clues

READING FOCUS

One way to figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word or phrase is by finding clues in its context, the words or sentences surrounding it. A common context clue is a restatement. Restatements simply define the new word using ordinary words you already know. Notice how the following passage uses a restatement to define *Bolsheviks*.

Later that year the **Bolsheviks**, a radical Russian Communist group, seized power in the Russian Revolution. They then killed the czar and his family. In 1922 the Bolsheviks formed a new country, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), or the Soviet Union.

Restatement:

a radical Russian Communist group

YOU TRY IT!

Read the following sentences, and identify the restatement for each underlined term.

Stalin had anyone who spoke out against the government jailed, exiled, or killed. Millions of people were sent to **gulags**, harsh Soviet labor camps often located in Siberia.

During World War I (1914–1918), the Turks forced all Armenians to leave. Hundreds of thousands of Armenians died during this **ethnic cleansing**, or attempt to remove an ethnic group.

As you read this module, look for context clues that restate the meanings of words you may not have encountered before.



Physical Geography



► Online Lesson 1 Enrichment Activities

Woolly Mammoths in Siberia

Article Students read about woolly mammoth fossils in Siberia, then create a Pleistocene diorama.

The Volga Boatmen

Article Students read about the history of the Volga boatmen and then consider other strenuous occupations.

Physical Geography

The Big Idea

Russia is big and cold with vast plains and forests, while the Caucasus features rugged mountains with seas to the east and west.

Main Ideas

- The physical features of Russia and the Caucasus include plains, mountains, and rivers.
- Russia's cold climate contrasts sharply with the warmer Caucasus.
- Russia has a wealth of natural resources, but many are hard to access.

Key Terms and Places

Ural Mountains
Caspian Sea
Caucasus Mountains
Moscow
Siberia
Volga River
taiga



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Describe What is Siberia like? *It is an empty land of barren plains and flat marshy areas with high mountain ranges running through the southern and eastern parts.*

Explain What is a threat to Lake Baikal? *water pollution*

Identify Which body of water forms the western border of the Caucasus region? *the Black Sea*

Teach the Main Idea

The physical features of Russia and the Caucasus include plains, mountains, and rivers.

Identify Which river empties into the Caspian Sea? *Volga River*

Recall Which mountain range covers much of Georgia and extends into Armenia and Azerbaijan? *the Caucasus Mountains*

If YOU lived there ...

You are making a documentary about the Trans-Siberian Railway, a famous train that crosses the vast country of Russia. The train travels more than 5,700 miles across plains and mountains and through thick forests. As the train leaves the city of Moscow, you look out the window and see wheat fields and white birch trees.

What scenes might you include in your film?

Physical Features

Have you ever stood on two continents at once? In Russia's **Ural (YOOHR-uh) Mountains**, the continents of Europe and Asia meet. Europe lies to the west, Asia to the east. Together, Europe and Asia form the large landmass of Eurasia. On the map, you can see that a large chunk of Eurasia is the country of Russia. In fact, Russia is the world's largest country. Compared to the United States, Russia is almost twice as big.

Georgia, Armenia (ahr-MEE-nee-uh), and Azerbaijan (a-zuhr-by-JAHN) lie south of Russia in the Caucasus (KAW-kuh-suhs), the area between the Black Sea and the **Caspian Sea**. This area, which includes part of southern Russia, is named for the **Caucasus Mountains**.

Landforms Locate Russia on the physical map. As the map shows, Russia's landforms vary from west to east. The Northern European Plain stretches across western, or European, Russia. This fertile plain forms Russia's heartland, where most Russians live. **Moscow**, Russia's capital, is located there. To the east, the plain rises to form the Ural Mountains. These low mountains are worn down

The Caucasus includes both tiny villages and sprawling cities, such as Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, on the Caspian Sea.

Teach the Big Idea

1. Whole Class Open/Introduction

If **YOU** lived there ...

What scenes might you include in your film?

Review the scenario with students and lead a class discussion around responses to the question. Remind students that all responses are valid as long as they are supported with valid reasoning. You may wish to review the following points to frame your discussion.

Consider the PHYSICAL FEATURES:

- marshes of the West Siberian Plain, and the Ural Mountains
- Lake Baikal
- volcanoes in the Russian Far East

Consider the CLIMATE AND PLANT LIFE:

- snow-covered evergreen forests of the taiga
- grasslands of the steppe
- frozen rivers and permafrost of Siberia

2. Direct Teach Introduce the Big Idea: *Russia is big and cold with vast plains and forests, while the Caucasus features rugged mountains with seas to the east and west.* Ask students if they can name the world's largest country. Many will be able to identify Russia. Then ask how big they believe Russia is compared to the United States. *It is almost twice as big.* Have the class speculate on ways the physical features of Russia compare with those of the United States. Write their answers on the board, and refer to them as you work through this lesson.

3. Practice/Assess/Inquire Have each student choose a term or place that they want to learn more about from the "Key Terms and Places" list. Have students use the text to describe the term or place in a complete sentence. Then have students make posters illustrating the term or place they chose, and include their sentence on the poster.

4. Explore Ask students to share their posters with the class, reading their sentence aloud.

5. Whole Group Close/Reflect Have students write a short paragraph about the physical geography of Russia or the Caucasus, generalizing based on the posters that were shared in class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 28: Posters

ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

Russia and the Caucasus

Russia: Physical is the first of four document-based investigations that students will analyze in the Russia and the Caucasus module. Students will explore the interactive map to discover characteristics of the region.

ONLINE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

Physical Geography

As students read the lesson, have them use the graphic organizer to take notes. Students can review their graphic organizer notes at the end of the lesson to answer the following question:

Compare and Contrast How are Russia and the Caucasus similar? How are they different? *Both have mountains, plains, and bodies of water that are commercially important. Both make money from exports. Russia is much larger than the Caucasus, however, and the Caucasus has a milder climate.*

ONLINE LESSON FLIP CARDS

Review Key Terms and Places

Students can use the flip cards in the Lesson Review at any time to review the lesson's key terms and places: **Ural Mountains, Caspian Sea, Caucasus Mountains, Moscow, Siberia, Volga River, taiga.**

ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

Russia: Physical

Have students explore the map using the interactive features and answer the associated questions.

Analyze Sources What part of Russia is called Siberia? *Siberia is the large area between the Ural Mountains and the Pacific Ocean*

In print edition, see map of same title.

1. Location What part of Russia is called Siberia? *the large area between the Ural Mountains and the Pacific Ocean*

2. Human-Environment Interaction In what ways might mountains affect life in eastern Russia? *Possible response: Mountains make it difficult to farm and transport goods and people; make it difficult to build houses and other structures*



and rounded from erosion. The vast area between the Urals and the Pacific Ocean is **Siberia**. This area includes several landforms.

The West Siberian Plain lies between the Urals and the Yenisey River and between the shores of the Arctic Ocean and the foothills of the Altay Mountains. Because the plain tilts northward, its rivers flow toward the Arctic Ocean. The West Siberian Plain is a flat, marshy area. It is one of the largest plains in the world.

East of this plain lies the Central Siberian Plateau. Mountain ranges run through southern and eastern Siberia.

Eastern Siberia is called the Russian Far East. This area includes the Kamchatka (kuhm-CHAHT-kuh) Peninsula and several islands. The Russian Far East is part of the Ring of Fire, the area circling the Pacific.



The Kamchatka Peninsula on Russia's east coast has many old and active volcanoes.

STRUGGLING READERS

Study a Map

- To help struggling readers, read aloud the name of each label on the map and map legend. As you do, have students locate the label on the map.
- Remind students that this book has many illustrations, which they can connect with the text to help learn the material.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 21: Map Reading

The snow-capped peaks of the Caucasus Mountains rise above a mountain village and the remains of a fortress built in the 900s.



The Ring of Fire is known for its volcanoes and earthquakes, and the Russian Far East is no exception. The Kamchatka Peninsula alone contains 120 volcanoes, 20 of which are still active. In some areas, steam from within Earth breaks free to form geysers and hot springs. The Sakhalin and Kuril islands lie south of the peninsula. Russia seized the islands from Japan after World War II. Japan still claims ownership of the Kuril Islands.

The Caucasus countries consist largely of rugged uplands. The Caucasus Mountains cover much of Georgia and extend into Armenia and Azerbaijan. These soaring mountains include Mount Elbrus (el-BROOS). At 18,510 feet (5,642 m), it is the highest peak in Europe.

South of the Caucasus Mountains, a plateau covers much of Armenia. Gorges cut through this plateau, and earthquakes are common there.

Bodies of Water Some of the longest rivers in the world flow through the region. One of the most important is the **Volga (VAHL-guh) River** in western Russia. The longest river in Europe, the Volga winds southward to the Caspian Sea. The Volga has long formed the core of Russia's river network. Canals link the Volga to the nearby Don River and to the Baltic Sea.

Even longer rivers than the Volga flow through Siberia in the Asian part of Russia. The Ob (AWB), Yenisey (yi-ni-SAY), and Lena rivers flow northward to the Arctic Ocean. Like many of Russia's rivers, they are frozen for much of the year. The ice often hinders shipping and trade and closes some of Russia's ports for part of the year.

In addition to its rivers, Russia has some 200,000 lakes. Lake Baikal (by-KAHL), in south-central Siberia, is the world's deepest lake. Although not that large in surface area, Lake Baikal is deep enough to hold all the water in all five of the Great Lakes. Because of its beauty, Lake Baikal is called the Jewel of Siberia. Logging and factories have polluted the water, but Russians are now working to clean up the lake.

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MAKE GENERALIZATIONS

The Importance of the Volga River

1. Review with students the information in the text about the Volga River. Remind students that it is the longest river in Europe.
2. Have students make a generalization about why the Volga still serves as a valuable resource today. For example, the Volga is the core of Russia's river network.

3. Have students write a short essay describing ways in which the Volga might continue to be a valuable resource in the future. For example, have students predict whether the river will continue to be used as a transportation route or if they think it might be valuable in other ways.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 12: Drawing Conclusions; and 37: Writing Assignments

For additional instruction, go to end of lesson.

Teach the Main Idea

Russia's cold climate contrasts sharply with the warmer Caucasus.

Describe What is Russia's climate like? *short summers and long, snowy winters; milder west of the Urals, growing colder as one goes north and east*

Identify What is the taiga? *a forest of mainly evergreen trees covering about half of Russia*

Generalize Make a generalization about Russia's climate. *Russia's climate is generally cold and snowy.*

Recall Which body of water contributes to the humid subtropical climate of the Caucasus? *the Mediterranean Sea*

Compare How is plant life in Russia similar to that in the Caucasus? *Both regions have impressive forests.*

More About ...

CONNECT TO ECONOMICS Health Resorts in

Georgia During the Soviet era, people flocked to Georgia to enjoy the clean mountain air and water at the region's numerous health spas. The air in Abastumani, one of Georgia's oldest health resorts, is claimed to relieve asthma and tuberculosis; the waters near Tskaltubo in western Georgia are reputed to cure numerous ailments. Though many of Georgia's spas have fallen into disrepair, the nation is attempting to rebuild its resort industry with the help of the World Bank and private investors from Asia and the Middle East.

Reading Check

Summarize
What are the major landforms in Russia and the Caucasus?

In the Caucasus, lowlands lie along the Black and Caspian seas. The Black Sea forms the region's western border. This sea connects to the Mediterranean Sea and is important for trade.

To the east, the region is bordered by the Caspian Sea, which is actually a salt-water lake that stretches for nearly 750 miles (1,207 km) from north to south. It is the largest inland sea in the world.

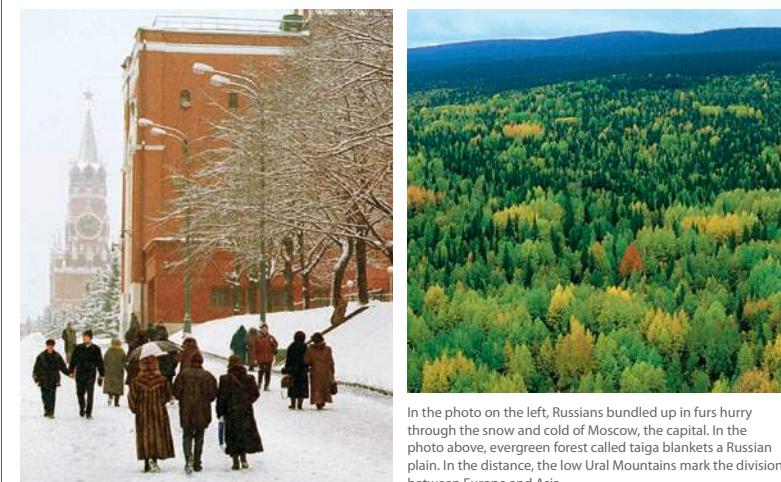
Climate and Plant Life

Russians sometimes joke that winter lasts for 12 months and then summer begins. Russia is a cold country. The reason is its northern location partly within the Arctic Circle. In general, Russia has short summers and long, snowy winters. The climate is milder west of the Urals and grows colder and harsher as one goes north and east. Because of the climate, the majority of Russia's population lives west of the Urals and is more concentrated in the south than the north.

Russia's northern coast is tundra. Winters are dark and bitterly cold, and the brief summers are cool. Much of the ground is permafrost, or permanently frozen soil. Only small plants such as mosses grow.

Distance from the sea affects the amount of precipitation the region gets, as well as its temperatures. Most of the region's moisture comes from the Atlantic Ocean. The air coming from the ocean loses its moisture as it travels farther and farther inland.

Russia's Climate and Plant Life



In the photo on the left, Russians bundled up in furs hurry through the snow and cold of Moscow, the capital. In the photo above, evergreen forest called taiga blankets a Russian plain. In the distance, the low Ural Mountains mark the division between Europe and Asia.

READING CHECK

Summarize What are the major landforms in Russia and the Caucasus? *Northern European Plain, Ural Mountains, West Siberian Plain, Kamchatka Peninsula, Caucasus Mountains*

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ADVANCED/GIFTED

Research and Write a News Story

1. Have students use the Internet or the library to learn about a current event in Russia or the Caucasus region. Students should obtain information from at least three different sources.

2. Based on their research, have students write their own news story to share with the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 42: Writing to Inform

South of the tundra is a vast forest of evergreen trees called **taiga** (TY-guh). This huge forest covers about half of Russia. In Siberia, snow covers the taiga much of the year. South of the taiga is a flat grassland called the steppe (STEP). With rich, black soil and a warmer climate, the steppe is Russia's most important farming area.

Climate in the Caucasus, on the other hand, ranges from warm and wet along the Black Sea, to cooler in the uplands, to hot and dry in much of Azerbaijan. Moist air from the Mediterranean Sea contributes to a humid subtropical climate zone. The region's health resorts were a favorite destination of tourists until ethnic conflict made traveling there dangerous.

Like Russia, the Caucasus boasts some impressive forests, including oak, beech, pine, birch, and aspen trees, at various elevations in the mountains. Wildflowers blanket the mountains. In fact, many experts consider the Caucasus to be one of the most biologically diverse regions on Earth. The climate and soil also make the region a good area for farming and commercial agriculture.

Natural Resources

Russia has a wealth of resources. The Northern European Plain and the steppe provide fertile soil for farming. The taiga provides wood for building and paper products. Metals such as copper and gold and precious gems such as diamonds provide useful raw materials.

Reading Check
Find Main Ideas
How does Russia's location affect its climate?



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Teach the Main Idea

Russia has a wealth of natural resources, but many are hard to access.

Recall What are Russia's main natural resources? *fertile soil, forests, coal, natural gas, oil, copper, gold, and diamonds*

Explain Why were resources not well managed in the Soviet Union? *The Soviet government put more importance on industry than resource management.*

ONLINE INTERACTIVE MAPS

The Caucasus: Climate

Have students explore the map using the interactive features and answer the associated questions.

Location Where are the region's Mediterranean climates located? *southwestern Azerbaijan and southeastern Armenia*

In print edition, see map of same title.

1. Location Where are the region's Mediterranean climates located? *southwestern Azerbaijan and southeastern Armenia*

2. Place What part of the Caucasus is probably the coldest in the winter months? *the area with a highland climate in the northern part of the region near the Caucasus Mountains*



COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Climate of the Caucasus

1. Organize the class into pairs. Remind students that a region's climate impacts how the people there live. Ask students what they can learn about the way people live in the Caucasus by studying the map.
2. Have students write four questions about the Caucasus—two that cannot be answered from the map and two that can be. Then have students exchange questions with their partners and ask each other their questions.

3. Ask for volunteers to share their questions and answers with the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 21: Map Reading

READING CHECK

Find Main Ideas How does Russia's location affect its climate? *Its location in the far north means it has long, cold winters and short summers.*

READING CHECK

Analyze Causes Why are some of Russia's natural resources difficult to obtain? *Many remaining resources are in remote Siberia.*

Reading Check
Analyze Causes
Why are some of
Russia's natural
resources difficult to
obtain?

Russia's main energy resources are coal, hydroelectricity, natural gas, and oil. Russia has large oil and gas fields. Oil also lies beneath the Caspian Sea. As a result, oil, natural gas, and coal are among Russia's largest exports.

Russia's natural resources have been poorly managed, however. Until the early 1990s this region was part of the Soviet Union. The Soviet government put more importance on industry than on managing its resources.

In Russia, many people chose to live in the south and west not only for the climate but because resources in this part of the country were easier to reach. However, many of the resources that were easy to access are gone. For example, most of the timber in western Russia has been cut down. Many remaining resources are in remote Siberia.

Summary and Preview Russia is big and cold, with vast plains, forests, and many natural resources. The Caucasus features rugged mountains and a varied climate. Next, you will read about Russia's history and culture.

Print Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and Places

1. a. **Describe** Why are the Ural Mountains significant? *They separate Asia from Europe.*
- b. **Draw Conclusions** Why might the Russian Far East be a dangerous place to live? *Earthquakes are frequent, and the region has many active volcanoes.*
2. a. **Describe** What are winters like in much of Russia? *long and cold*
- b. **Analyze** How does climate affect Russia's plant life? *In the colder climate, only mosses, wildflowers, and other small plants grow. In its warmer and wetter climate, forests and mixed trees grow. In its dry, warm climate, grasses grow and farming is possible.*
- c. **Contrast** How is the climate in the Caucasus different from the climate in much of Russia?
Possible answer: Russia has long, cold winters and cool summers. The Caucasus climate is varied but mostly warmer, moister, and more humid than Russia.
3. a. **Recall** What valuable resource is in the Caspian Sea? *oil deposits*
- b. **Make Inferences** Why might resources located in remote, cold areas, as they are in Russia, be difficult to use or trade? *Possible answer: These areas are difficult to get to, making transporting resources difficult and expensive.*

Critical Thinking

4. **Generalize** Draw a two-column, three-row chart for Russia. Label the rows *Physical Features*, *Climate and Plants*, and *Natural Resources*. Use your notes, and enter one general idea for each topic in the chart. *Possible answer: Physical Features—plains, mountains, lakes, rivers; Climate and Plants—short summers, long winters, taiga; Natural Resources—fertile soil, metals, gems, coal, hydroelectricity, natural gas, oil*

Lesson 1 Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and Places

1. a. **Describe** Why are the Ural Mountains significant?
- b. **Draw Conclusions** Why might the Russian Far East be a dangerous place to live?
2. a. **Describe** What are winters like in much of Russia?
- b. **Analyze** How does climate affect Russia's plant life?
- c. **Contrast** How is the climate in the Caucasus different from the climate in much of Russia?
3. a. **Recall** What valuable resource is in the Caspian Sea?
- b. **Make Inferences** Why might resources located in remote, cold areas, as they are in Russia, be difficult to use or trade?

Critical Thinking

4. **Generalize** Draw a chart for Russia, like the one here. Use your notes, and enter one general idea for each topic in the chart.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Physical Features | |
| Climate and Plants | |
| Natural Resources | |

► Online Assessment

1. Which of the following is true of Russia's geography?
 - Russia's longest river is the Volga.
 - Russia's deepest lake is the Caspian Sea.
 - Russia is nearly twice as large as the United States.
 - Russia spans the two continents of Europe and Africa.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

Russia is the world's largest country and is nearly **twice** the size of the United States.

2. Why do most Russians live west of the Ural Mountains?
 - There are few rivers east of the Ural Mountains.
 - The climate is milder southwest of the Ural Mountains.
 - There are few natural resources east of the Ural Mountains.
 - The land northwest of the Ural Mountains is free of permafrost.
3. Which statement is an accurate description of Russia's natural resources?
 - The Caspian Sea area supplies the Russian economy with coal.
 - The steppe region supplies the Russian economy with paper products.
 - The Northern European Plain supplies the Russian economy with gold.
 - The taiga region supplies the Russian economy with building materials.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

The **taiga** is a large, forested area that supplies Russia with building materials and paper products.

4. **Draw Conclusions** Why is travel difficult on Siberia's rivers for part of the year?

Many of Siberia's rivers flow north to the Arctic Ocean. The Lena, Ob, and Yenisey Rivers are frozen much of the year. The ice makes travel difficult on these rivers and causes many of Russia's northern ports to close during the winter months.

5. **Analyze Information** Why is the Russian steppe the country's most important farming area?

The steppe has rich, black soil and a warm climate. The area is relatively flat, making the region ideal for farming.

6. **Analyze Issues** Why have Russia's natural resources been poorly managed?

Until the early 1900s, Russia was part of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union placed more importance on developing industry than on properly managing natural resources. As a result, many natural resources are more difficult to access. For example, many forests close to population centers in the west have been cut down, limiting the supply of timber.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Plan a Trip

1. To help students describe the features of physical geography in Russia, review the conditional tense.
2. Remind students that the conditional tense can be used to talk about what they would do under certain conditions (i.e., situations). Explain that one type of sentence using the conditional tense includes two clauses: *If I (past tense verb), I would . . .*
3. Ask students to imagine they are planning a trip to Russia. Have them use the conditional tense to write five sentences about what they would do if they were visiting Russia and why (e.g., If I visited Russia, I would visit the Kamchatka Peninsula because I want to see volcanoes).

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 41: Writing to Express

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SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Compare and Contrast Physical Geography

1. Pair special needs students with high-ability students. Have each pair create a Venn diagram, labeling one circle *Russia*, the other circle *The Caucasus*, and the area where the two circles overlap *Both*.
2. Have partners work together to compare and contrast the physical geography of Russia and the Caucasus.
3. After partners have filled out their Venn diagrams, have them work together to write sentences that tell how the physical geography of Russia and the Caucasus are similar and different. Invite volunteers to share their sentences with the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 9: Comparing and Contrasting

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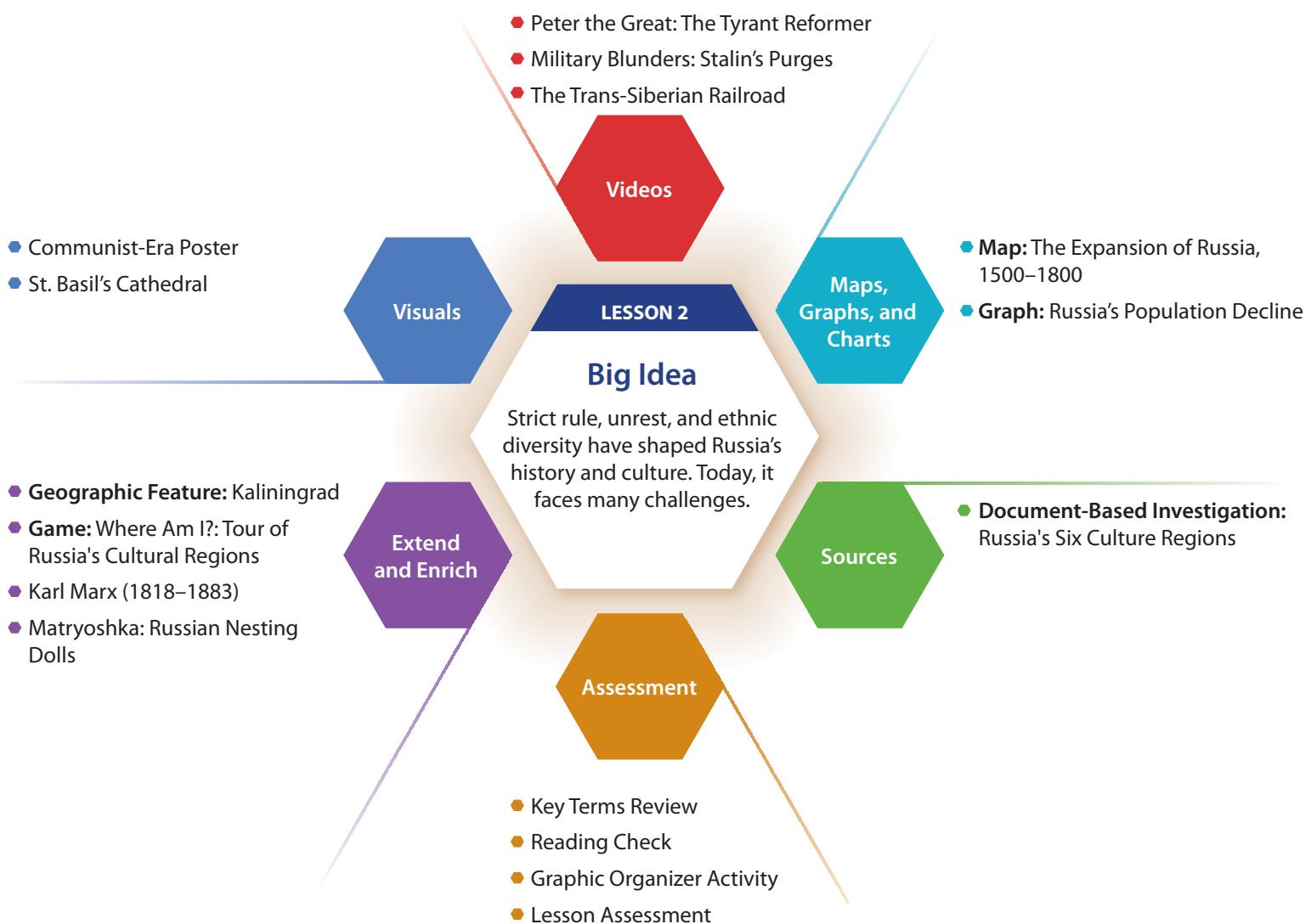
More About . . .

Kamchatka's Volcanoes The Kamchatka Peninsula has the highest density of volcanoes in the world. This peninsula is also home to many types of wildlife, including brown bears, snow rams, sea eagles, wild salmon, gray whales, seals, and sea lions.

Lake Baikal About 20 percent of the world's fresh surface water is contained in Lake Baikal. It is an estimated 25 million years old, making it one of the oldest lakes in the world. Over 330 rivers empty into Lake Baikal, but only one—the Angara—flows out. An ecological jewel, Lake Baikal supports more than 2,500 animal and plant species, two-thirds of which are found nowhere else in the world.



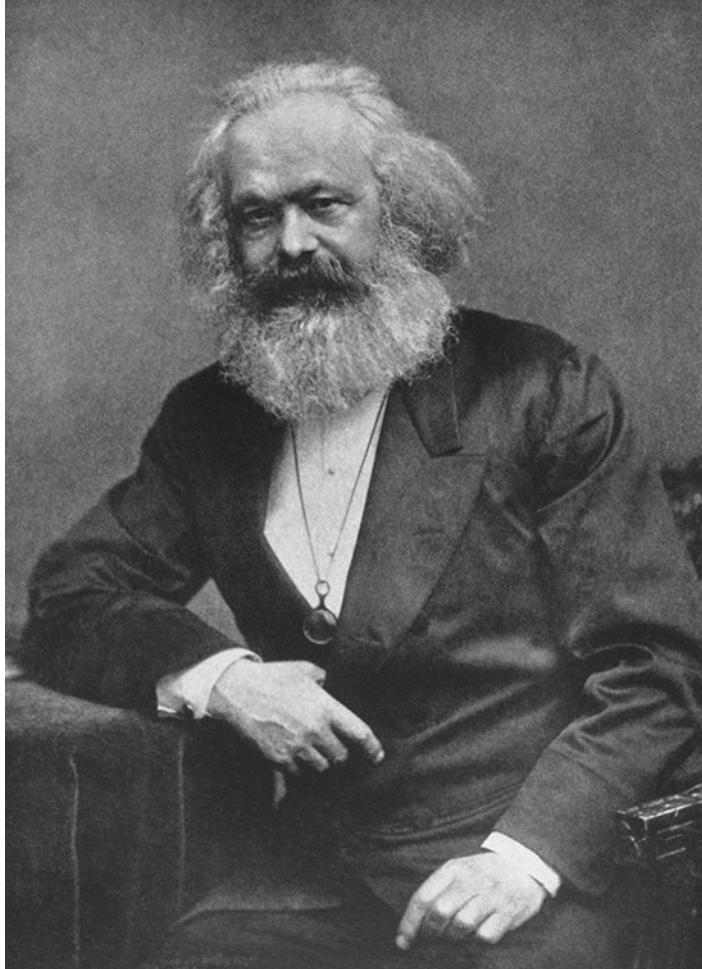
Russia



► Online Lesson 2 Enrichment Activities

Karl Marx (1818–1883)

Biography Students read a biography about Karl Marx, whose ideas inspired communism. Then they will write their own manifesto about an imaginary country.



Matryoshka: Russian Nesting Dolls

Article Students read an article about Russian nesting dolls, then design their own.





Russia

The Big Idea

Strict rule, unrest, and ethnic diversity have shaped Russia's history and culture. Today, it faces many challenges.

Main Ideas

- The Russian Empire grew under powerful leaders, but unrest and war led to its end.
- The Soviet Union emerged as a Communist superpower, with rigid government control.
- Russia's history and diversity have influenced its culture.
- The Russian Federation is working to develop democracy and a market economy.
- Russia's physical geography, cities, and economy define its many culture regions.
- Russia faces a number of serious challenges.

Key Terms and Places

Kiev
Cyrillic
czar
Bolsheviks
gulags
dachas
St. Petersburg
smelters
Trans-Siberian Railway
Chechnya

If YOU lived there ...

It is 1992, an exciting time in your hometown of Moscow. At the end of 1991 the Soviet Union fell apart. Russia became independent. You watched on TV as people pulled down the red Soviet flag and knocked down statues of former leaders. Everyone is talking about new freedoms and a new kind of government.

What new freedoms do you hope to have?**The Russian Empire**

Russia's roots lie in the grassy, windswept plains of the steppe. For thousands of years, people from Asia moved across the steppe. These groups of people included the Slavs. As you may have read, the Slavs settled in Eastern Europe, including what is now Ukraine and western Russia.

Early History and Empire The Slavs developed towns and began trading with people from other areas. In the AD 800s, Viking traders from Scandinavia invaded the Slavs. These Vikings were called Rus (ROOS), and the word *Russia* probably comes from their name. The Vikings shaped the first Russian state among the Slavs. This Russian state, called Kievan (KEE-e-fuhn) Rus, centered around the city of **Kiev**. This city is now the capital of Ukraine.

Over time, missionaries introduced the Orthodox Christian faith to Kiev. In addition, the missionaries introduced a form of the Greek alphabet called **Cyrillic** (suh-RI-lik). The Russians adopted this Cyrillic alphabet and still use it today.

The alphabet is one of several factors that separate Russian, a Slavic language, from languages spoken in Europe such as French and Italian, which came from Latin. The Slavs came from Asia and moved to Europe by AD 1000. They founded a number of small kingdoms in the area now known as the Czech Republic and Slovakia. In the 1200s fierce Mongol invaders called Tatars (TAH-ters) swept out of Central Asia and conquered Kiev. The Mongols let Russian princes rule over local states. In time, Muscovy became the strongest state. Its main city was Moscow.

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Teach the Main Idea

The Russian Empire grew under powerful leaders, but unrest and war led to its end.

Recall Who were the Rus? *Viking traders from Scandinavia who helped shape the first Russian state among the Slavs*

Define What is Cyrillic? *a form of the Greek alphabet used to write Russian; What does czar mean? emperor*

Explain Why was Ivan IV called "Ivan the Terrible"? *because he was a cruel and savage ruler*

Identify Who were the Bolsheviks? *a radical Russian Communist group who seized power during the Russian Revolution*

**ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION****Russia and the Caucasus**

Russia's Six Culture Regions is the second of four document-based investigations that students will analyze in Russia and the Caucasus. Students can click on the hotspots to explore the differences among the regions.

Teach the Big Idea**1. Whole Class Open/Introduction**

If **YOU** lived there ...

What new freedoms do you hope to have?

Review the scenario with students and lead a class discussion around responses to the question. Remind students that all responses are valid as long as they are supported with valid reasoning. You may wish to review the following points to frame your discussion.

Consider PERSONAL freedoms:

- free speech
- free to travel
- free to practice your religion of choice

Consider POLITICAL and ECONOMIC freedoms:

- can vote in elections and join any political party
- can choose any career
- can start own business

2. Direct Teach

Introduce the Big Idea: *Strict rule, unrest, and ethnic diversity have shaped Russia's history and culture.*

Today, it faces many challenges. Ask students what they have heard about Russia in the news recently. As you record their responses on the board, tell students that Russia has experienced many changes over the centuries. For centuries, Russia was part of a great empire, then the Soviet Union was born out of the Communist revolution of 1917. Today, that too is gone.

3. Practice/Assess/Inquire

Tell students that together you will be creating a word web. Write *History* and *Culture* where students can see, spacing the words out so that more words and phrases can be added. Ask students to suggest words and phrases that they associate with the two terms. For example, for *History*, students might come up with *wars, rulers, and major events*, and for *Culture*, students might come up with *religion, traditions, and holidays*.

4. Explore

Ask students what details they might attach to the words that have been added to the word web, such as specific dates and names of rulers. Discuss how using word webs could help them organize important information.

5. Whole Group Close/Reflect

Have students create a similar word web on another topic and add ten items to it. Ask volunteers to share their word webs with the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 1: Acquiring Information; and 13: Graphic Organizers

► ONLINE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

Russia

As students read the lesson, have them use the graphic organizer to take notes. Students can review their graphic organizer notes at the end of the lesson to answer the following question:

Contrast What is one significant difference between the Russian Empire becoming the Soviet Union and the Soviet Union becoming the Russian Federation? *Possible answers: The Russian Empire became the Soviet Union as part of a violent overthrow of the government; the Soviet Union became the Russian Federation under less violent circumstances. OR When the Russian Empire became the Soviet Union, the country continued non-democratic rule. When the Soviet Union became the Russian Federation, the country moved toward becoming a democracy.*



Interpret Maps

1. Location What city is located in territory gained by 1725?
2. Movement When was the period of greatest expansion?

► ONLINE LESSON FLIP CARDS

Review Key Terms and Places

Students can use the flip cards in the Lesson Review at any time to review the lesson's key terms and places: **Kiev, Cyrillic, czar, Bolsheviks, gulags, dachas, St. Petersburg, smelters, Trans-Siberian Railway, Chechnya.**

► ONLINE ANALYZE VIDEOS

Peter the Great: The Tyrant Reformer

Have students watch the video individually or as a class. You may wish to use the associated question as a discussion prompt.

Analyze Videos What did Peter do to westernize Russia? *Peter visited Europe, where he worked as a shipbuilder, and he modeled reforms on what he saw in Europe (except for his style of rule).*

After about 200 years, Muscovy's prince, Ivan III, seized control from the Mongols. In the 1540s his grandson, Ivan IV, crowned himself **czar** (ZAHR). Czar is Russian for "caesar." As czar, Ivan IV had total power. A cruel and savage ruler, he became known as Ivan the Terrible.

Muscovy developed into Russia. Strong czars such as Peter the Great (1682–1725) and Catherine the Great (1762–1796) built Russia into a huge empire and a world power. This empire included many conquered peoples.

At this time, Russia built a series of fortresses across the steppe called the Orenburg Line. These fortresses served to support trade that came in from the Indian Ocean and traveled the Silk Roads from east to west. They protected caravans from steppe tribes, letting merchants as far away as India and the Ottoman Empire send spices, teas, cotton, silk, and many other commodities to Moscow, St. Petersburg, and European cities.

Along with these welcome trade goods came an unwelcome traveler: disease. Illnesses such as the Black Death found their way into Russia via these trade routes as early as 1351. The spread of other contagious illnesses and parasites have also been traced to these trade routes.

Still, by the 19th century, a north-south trans-Eurasian "Cotton Road" arose. With the spread of the Industrial Revolution, technologies such as textile mills demanded cotton. Cotton could not be produced in Russia due to the climate. Still, Russian industrialists could keep their textile mills humming thanks to merchants who transported it both overland and across the ocean from India, Egypt, and the United States. Many Central Asian farmers grew cotton as a cash crop to export to Russia.

But Russia remained a country of poor farmers. The czars and nobles had most of the wealth. In the early 1900s Russians demanded improvements. The czar agreed to some changes, but unrest continued to grow.

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► ONLINE INTERACTIVE MAPS

The Expansion of Russia, 1500–1800

Have students explore the map using the interactive features and answer the associated questions.

Movement What was the period of greatest expansion? *by 1689*

In print edition, see map titled History of Russian Expansion

1. **Location** What city is located in territory gained by 1725? *St. Petersburg*
2. **Movement** What was the period of greatest expansion? *by 1689*

For additional instruction, go to end of lesson.

War and Revolution In 1914 Russia entered World War I. The country suffered huge losses in the war. In addition, the Russian people experienced severe food shortages. When the czar seemed to ignore the people's hardship, they rose up against him. He was forced to give up his throne in 1917.

Later that year, the **Bolsheviks**, a radical Russian Communist group, seized power in the Russian Revolution. They then killed the czar and his family. In 1922 the Bolsheviks formed a new country, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), or the Soviet Union. It soon included 15 republics, the strongest of which was Russia. The first leader was Vladimir Lenin.

The Soviet Union

The Soviet Union adopted communism. In this political system, the government owns all property and controls all aspects of life. In 1924 Lenin died. Joseph Stalin took power, ruling as a brutal and paranoid dictator.

The Soviet Union under Stalin Under Stalin, the Soviet Union set up a command economy. In this system, the government owns all businesses and farms and makes all decisions. People were told what to make and how much to charge. Without competition, though, efficiency and the quality of goods fell over time.

The Soviet Union strictly controlled its people as well as its economy. Stalin had anyone who spoke out against the government jailed, exiled, or killed. Millions of people were sent to **gulags**, harsh Soviet labor camps often located in Siberia.

Cold War and Collapse During World War II, the Soviet Union fought with the Allies against Germany. Millions of Soviet citizens died in the war. Stalin's **reaction** to the war was to build a buffer around the

Reading Check
Sequence
What series of events led to the creation of the Soviet Union?

Academic Vocabulary
reaction a response to something

Communist-Era Poster

The Soviet Union used posters as propaganda. Propaganda is information designed to promote a specific cause or idea by influencing people's thoughts and beliefs. For example, Soviet posters often promoted the greatness and power of the Soviet state, its leaders, and their Communist policies.

The message of this 1924 poster reads, "Long live the Young Communist League! The young are taking over the older generation's torch!"

The color red in this poster symbolizes communism and the Russian Revolution.



Analyze Sources

How do you think the poster's images and message influenced Soviet teens at the time?

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LINK TO LANGUAGE ARTS

Writing an Autobiography

- Review with students two of the leaders noted on this page—Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin.
- Ask students to imagine that they are one of these leaders and have been asked to write an autobiography. Give students time to research their subject. Encourage students to determine how people lived when Vladimir Lenin or Joseph Stalin were in power.

- In their autobiographies, have students explain why, from the point of view of the leader they've chosen, they think communism or a command economy is good for the USSR. The autobiographies should also compare and contrast limited and unlimited government.
- Ask volunteers to share their autobiographies with the class. Afterward, discuss with students their own views of communism and command economies.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 4: Biographies; and 43: Writing to Persuade

Teach the Main Idea

The Soviet Union emerged as a Communist superpower, with rigid government control.

Identify Who was the leader of Russia when it became a Communist country? *Vladimir Lenin*

Explain What is a command economy? *an economic system in which the government owns all businesses and farms and makes all economic decisions*

Describe What was the Cold War? *a period of tense rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States, marked by an arms race between the two countries*

ONLINE ANALYZE VIDEOS

Military Blunders: Stalin's Purges

Have students watch the video individually or as a class. You may wish to use the associated question as a discussion prompt.

Analyze Videos Why did Stalin send so many people to labor camps? *He was trying to remove anything he saw as a threat to his position.*

ONLINE INTERACTIVE VISUALS

Image with Hotspots: Communist-Era Poster

Have students explore the image using the interactive hotspots and answer the associated question.

Analyze Visuals How do you think the poster's images and message influenced Soviet teens at the time? *Possible answer: They might have felt they were helping to build an industry vital to the USSR.*

READING CHECK

Sequence What series of events led to the creation of the Soviet Union? *During World War I, Russia experienced severe shortages and unrest, which led the czar to lose support and give up the throne in 1917. That same year, the Bolsheviks seized power, starting the Russian Revolution. In 1922 Bolshevik leaders formed the Soviet Union, or Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).*

Teach the Main Idea

Russia's history and diversity have influenced its culture.

Recall What ethnic groups besides ethnic Russians, or Slavs, live in Russia? *Tatars and Ukrainians*

Identify What is the most common religion practiced in Russia? *Russian Orthodox Christianity*

Explain What was Sputnik? *the first artificial satellite in space*

More About . . .

A War Commemorative St. Basil's Cathedral was built to commemorate Ivan the Terrible's capture of the strongholds of Kazan and Astrakhan. He named the cathedral *The Cathedral of the Intercession of the Virgin*. But the name St. Basil comes from Basil the Blessed, who is said to have foretold a great fire in Moscow in 1547. He was also known to have opposed Ivan the Terrible's cruelty. After Ivan's death, a chapel was built for St. Basil and added to the cathedral.



ONLINE INTERACTIVE VISUALS

Image with Hotspots: St. Basil's Cathedral

Have students explore the image using the interactive hotspots. You may wish to use the associated question as a discussion prompt.

Analyze Visuals Besides onion domes, what other shapes and patterns are visible on the cathedral? *triangles, rectangles, half circles or arches, octagons, squares, stripes, domes arranged in a star shape around the main spire*

Reading Check
Analyze Causes
How did the Cold War help lead to the Soviet Union's collapse?

Soviet Union to protect it from invasion. To do so, he set up Communist governments in Eastern Europe.

The United States opposed communism and saw its spread as a threat to democracy. This opposition led to the Cold War, a period of tense rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States. The two rival countries became superpowers as they competed to have superior weapons.

Partly because of the high costs of weapons, the Soviet economy neared collapse by the 1980s. Mikhail Gorbachev (GAWR-buh-chawf), the Soviet leader, reduced government control and introduced some democracy.

Still, the Soviet republics pushed for independence. In 1991 the Soviet Union broke into 15 independent countries, including Russia.

Russia's Culture Today

In the Soviet Union, the government had controlled culture just like everything else. Today, Russian culture is once again alive and vibrant.

People and Religion Russia is big and diverse, with more than 140 million people. About 80 percent are ethnic Russians, or Slavs, but Russia also has many other ethnic groups. The largest are the Tatars and Ukrainians. Russia's many ethnic groups once again take great pride in their cultures.

Like ethnic culture, religious worship has revived. The Soviet government opposed religion and closed many houses of worship. Today, many have reopened, including historic Russian cathedrals with their onion-shaped domes. The main faith is Russian Orthodox Christian. Other religions include other forms of Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Buddhism.

Customs Russian history has shaped its customs, such as holidays. Religious holidays, like Easter, Christmas, and the Islamic holiday Eid al-Adha, are popular. The main family holiday is New Year's Eve. To celebrate this holiday, families decorate a tree where, according to Russian folklore, Grandfather Frost and his helper the Snow Maiden leave gifts. Russian Independence Day marks the end of the Soviet Union on June 12.

The Arts and Sciences Russia has made great contributions in the arts and sciences. Russia's ballet companies are world famous for their skill. Peter Tchaikovsky (chy-KAWF-skee) is Russia's most famous composer. His many works include *The Nutcracker* ballet and the *1812 Overture*.

In the material arts, Russia's Fabergé eggs are priceless. Gifts for the czars, these eggs are made of precious metals and covered with gems such as emeralds and rubies. Each egg opens to reveal a tiny surprise.

In the sciences, Russia has contributed to space research. In 1957 the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first artificial satellite in space. Russian scientists now help work on the International Space Station.

The Russian Federation Today

For decades, the Soviet Union reigned as a superpower, with Russia as its strongest republic. In 1991 the Soviet Union broke apart. Russia's leaders struggled to change its government from communism to democracy.

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READING CHECK

Analyze Causes How did the Cold War help lead to the Soviet Union's collapse? *The Cold War helped cause the Soviet Union's fall because it cost too much money when the Soviet economy was already near collapse.*

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

The Making of a Cathedral

- Divide the class into three groups.
- Have each group research one of three aspects that makes St. Basil's Cathedral unique—the onion-shaped domes, the bright colors, and the nine separate chapels.
- Have students work together in their groups to research the significance of their assigned aspect.
- Have students create a presentation describing what they learned. Encourage students to use illustrations, diagrams, and graphs to help present their information.

- Have each group choose two speakers to present their findings to the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 24: Oral Presentations; and 30: Research

READING CHECK

Generalize How did the end of the Soviet Union affect Russian culture? *The culture was revived.*

Government The Russian Federation is a federal republic, a system in which power is divided between national and local governments. The voters elect a president to serve as the country's chief executive, Russia's most powerful official. The president appoints a prime minister to serve as the head of the government. A legislature, called the Federal Assembly, makes the country's laws.

Increased democracy led to more freedom for Russians. Voters can choose from several political parties. Information flows more freely. The government no longer controls every aspect of life. The move toward democracy improved relations between Russia and Western nations.

Russia's current government system is similar in some ways to both the parliamentary system of the UK and the federal system of Germany. In all three systems, a parliament or legislature is elected by the citizens. In Germany and the UK, the prime minister is chosen by the parliament rather than by the president, unlike in Russia, where the president chooses.

Changing to a democracy has been difficult. Problems such as government corruption, or dishonesty, have slowed the development of a free society. Time will tell whether Russia will continue to grow as a democracy.

Economy With the move to democracy, Russia began shifting to a market economy. This type of economy is based on free trade and competition. The Russian government greatly reduced its control of the economy. Most businesses and farms are now privately owned. These changes brought economic growth, improving daily life for many of Russia's citizens. Still, most of Russia's wealth remains in the hands of a small number of people.

Today, Russia produces and exports oil, natural gas, timber, metals, and chemicals. Heavy industry, such as machinery, is still important. But light industry, such as clothing and electronics, has grown, and service industries now make up the largest part of Russia's economy.

In agriculture, Russia is now a major grower and exporter of grains. Other major crops are fruits, potatoes, and sugar beets.

Kaliningrad

The small region of Kaliningrad—only slightly bigger than Connecticut—is more than 200 miles (322 km) from the rest of Russia. So why would Russia want this area? The reason has to do with the country's cold climate. Kaliningrad is Russia's only Baltic seaport that is free of ice all year. This important port provides Russia with year-round access to profitable European markets and trade. Railroads connect the port to Russia's major cities, as the map to the right shows.

Draw Conclusions

How do you think Russia's economy benefits from a Baltic seaport that is free of ice all year?



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TIERED ACTIVITY

Government in the Russian Federation

Below Level—Have students research information about the government of the Russian Federation. Specifically, ask students to prepare a report describing (a) the names of the upper and lower houses of Russia's Federal Assembly; (b) the number of representatives in each; (c) the major political parties of Russia; (d) their representation in the Federal Assembly; and (e) a summary of the powers of each legislative house.

At Level—Going beyond the Below Level activity, students should:

- Conduct research on United Russia, the largest political party in Russia, with

an eye toward describing the party's political goals.

- Discuss allegation of crime and corruption associated with the party and what these allegations mean for the future of democracy in Russia.

Above Level—Going beyond the Below and At Level activities, students should:

- Express their views on how democratic Russia is, given the strong hold of United Russia on the country's politics.
- Discuss the work of pro-democracy groups in Russia and what they are doing to make the country's political process more open.

Teach the Main Idea

The Russian Federation is working to develop democracy and a market economy.

Explain What type of government does Russia have today? *The Russian Federation—Russia—is a federal republic. An elected president appoints the prime minister, and a legislature called the Federal Assembly makes the Federation's laws.*

Describe How has the Russian economy changed in the Russian Federation? *The economy is shifting away from a command economy toward a market economy; there is much less government control of the economy, and businesses and farms are now privately owned, spurring economic growth.*

Define What is a dacha? *a Russian country house*

More About . . .

Russia's Costly Delicacy The Caspian Sea once produced 90 percent of the world's caviar. Caviar is salted sturgeon eggs. Russian caviar from the Caspian Sea is such a popular delicacy that it is in great demand. Many researchers worried that the Caspian Sea's sturgeon may become extinct because of over-fishing—and because of increasing pollution of the sea. Caviar production in the region was halted for a time to allow fish stocks to recover. However, some researchers feel that fish stocks need even more time to recover to make caviar production in the Caspian Sea sustainable.

GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE

Kaliningrad

Have students study the image and answer the associated question.

Analyze Visuals How do you think Russia's economy benefits from a Baltic seaport that is free of ice all year? *It provides Russia with year-round access to European markets, allowing imports and exports which is good for Russia's economy.*

In print edition, see feature of same title.

Draw Conclusions How do you think Russia's economy benefits from a Baltic seaport that is free of ice all year? *It provides Russia with year-round access to European markets, allowing imports and exports which is good for Russia's economy.*

Teach the Main Idea

Russia's physical geography, cities, and economy define its many culture regions.

Recall What Russian delicacy comes from a fishery on the Caspian Sea? *black caviar*

Contrast What are the differences between the economies of the Volga Region and the Urals Region? *The Volga Region is known as a major shipping route, for oil and gas refineries, and for black caviar. The Urals Region is known for its mining and smelters.*

Identify What is the most important industry in the Urals Region? *mining*

Make Inferences Why do you think the Tatars called Siberia "Sleeping Land"? *Possible answer: because it has been considered a vast, frozen wasteland, and has long, severe winters*

More About . . .

Misconception Alert Contrary to popular belief, Moscow's Red Square is named neither for the color of the nearby buildings nor in honor of the Communist Party that ruled the former Soviet Union. Originally, the area was called Trinity Square in honor of Trinity Cathedral, which stood on the southern end of the square during the reign of Ivan III. Beginning in the 17th century, Russians began calling the square by its current name, "Krasnaya Ploschad." The name is related to the word *krasnyi*, which meant "beautiful" in Old Russian and later came to mean "red."

History Humor What do you call it when a computer system keeps freezing? *Cyberia*

Reading Check

Summarize
How has Russia changed since it became independent?

Academic Vocabulary features characteristics

City and Rural Life Cities show the changes sweeping Russia, with more restaurants and shopping centers available. Stores offer a wider range of consumer goods, such as TVs. Some wealthy Russians can afford luxuries. However, the average Russian's standard of living remains low.

About 75 percent of all Russians live in cities. Most live in small apartments in high-rise buildings. In rural areas, more people live in houses.

Russians living in cities can enjoy nature. Cities often have large parks and wooded areas in and around them. Many richer Russians own **dachas**, or Russian country houses, where they can garden and enjoy the fresh air.

Culture Regions

Russia is vast and diverse. Therefore, we divide it into several culture regions, as the map on the next page shows. These regions differ in **features** such as population, natural resources, and economic activity.

The four western culture regions make up Russia's heartland. Most of Russia's people live here, where the country's capital and largest cities are. The fertile plains here are the country's most productive farming area.

The Moscow Region Moscow is Russia's capital and largest city. The modern city has wide boulevards and large public squares. Its many cultural attractions include the world-famous Bolshoi Ballet and Moscow Circus.

At Moscow's heart is the Kremlin, the center of Russia's government. In Russian, *kremlin* means "fortress." The Kremlin consists of several buildings surrounded by a wall and towers. The buildings include not only government offices but also palaces, museums, and gold-domed churches.

Next to the Kremlin is Red Square, an immense plaza. It is lined by many famous landmarks, such as St. Basil's Cathedral.

The Moscow region is Russia's most important economic area. Its factories produce a wide range of goods. The city is also a transportation center and links by road, rail, and plane to all parts of Russia.

The St. Petersburg Region **St. Petersburg**, founded by Peter the Great, was styled after cities in Western Europe. For 200 years, it served as Russia's capital and home to the czars. It has wide avenues, grand palaces, and numerous canals. Theaters and museums enrich the city's cultural life.

St. Petersburg's location on the Gulf of Finland has made the city a major port and trade center. This northern location produces "White Nights," a period during summer when it never gets totally dark.

The Volga and Urals Regions The Volga River and Ural Mountains are the third and fourth regions. The Volga is a major shipping route. Dams along its course form lakes and give hydroelectric power. Factories here process oil and gas. A site on the Caspian Sea gives sturgeon, a fish that lays eggs called black caviar. The eggs are a costly delicacy, or rare and valued food.

The Ural Mountains are an important mining region and produce nearly every major mineral. **Smelters**, factories that process metal ores, process copper and iron. The Urals region is also known for gems and semiprecious stones.

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READING CHECK

Summarize How has Russia changed since it became independent? *The shift to a more democratic government and a market economy has caused economic growth, with more consumer goods available.*

SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Build a Model

1. Have students discuss the importance of Moscow's Red Square and the buildings that surround it.
2. Pair special needs students with high-achieving students. Have each pair use the library or Internet to find images of Moscow's Red Square.

3. Then have each pair use their findings to make a model of the Red Square and at least one building found on the square.
4. Have students present their models to the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 3:
Artwork

Siberia East of the Urals lies Siberia. In the Tatar language, *Siberia* means "Sleeping Land." Long, severe Siberian winters mean that much of the land lies frozen or buried under snow for most or all of the year. Its harsh climate makes its many valuable resources difficult to access.

Siberia's main industries are lumber, mining, and oil production. Large coal deposits are mined in southwest Siberia. Rivers produce hydroelectric power. The warmer southern steppes are Siberia's main farmlands.

Because of Siberia's harsh climate, jobs there pay high wages. Even so, few people choose to live in Siberia. Most towns and cities are in the western and southern parts of the region. These cities tend to follow the

Russia: Culture Regions

Russia's culture regions show tremendous diversity. They include, among others, the Western-looking St. Petersburg region (1), the politically focused Moscow region (2), and the harsh but resource-rich Siberia region (3).



Interpret Maps

- Regions What are the six culture regions?
- Place Which geographic feature separates the Urals culture region from regions farther west?

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Charts of Russia's Culture Regions

- To help students gain a greater understanding of Russia's culture regions, have them create a six-column chart titled *Russia's Culture Regions*.
- At the top of each column, have students write the name of one of the six regions. As students read the section, have them take notes about each region under the heading.
- Organize the students into pairs, and have them compare notes with their partners, filling in any details they missed.

- Ask students to turn their paper over and recreate the same six columns. This time, have students write three questions about the region based on their notes.
- Have students return to their partners, and have them take turns asking their questions and writing the answers on their papers in complete sentences.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 7: Charts

For additional instruction, go to end of lesson.

ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

Russia's Six Culture Regions

Have students explore the image using the interactive hotspots. You may wish to use the associated question as a discussion prompt.

Analyze Sources Which of these three cultural regions likely has the smallest population? *Siberia* In print edition, see map of same title.

- Regions** What are the six culture regions?
Moscow, St. Petersburg, Volga, Urals, Siberia, Far East
- Place** Which geographic feature separates the Ural culture region from regions farther west?
Ural Mountains

DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION MAP SOURCE

Russia's Six Culture Regions

Russia's six culture regions are very different in character. They vary in size, climate, population density, economy, and other factors. For example, the Moscow and St. Petersburg regions tend to be more densely populated and urban in character than Siberia. Physical geography plays a role in these differences, as does climate; the west experiences a somewhat milder climate than the east.

GAME

Where Am I?: Tour of Russia's Cultural Regions

Have students play the game to test their knowledge of Russia's cultural regions by answering the questions.

WHERE AM I?

Tour of Russia's Cultural zones

Your friend is traveling the globe and has sent you clues at each location along the way.

Grab your passport and trace your friend's journey.

Read each clue and select the correct spot on the map.



Teach the Main Idea

Russia faces a number of serious challenges.

Summarize What are some of Russia's challenges as it moves forward? *Moving to a market economy has not prevented unemployment and a rising crime rate. Population is declining as well, and the gap between rich and poor has widened. Russia also faces ethnic conflicts, tension between Russia and Ukraine over the status of Crimea, and problems with industrial pollution.*

Recall Name one area where conflict has led to fighting. *the Russian republic of Chechnya*

► ONLINE ANALYZE VIDEOS

The Trans-Siberian Railroad

Have students watch the video individually or as a class. You may wish to use the associated question as a discussion prompt.

Analyze Videos What were some of the challenges involved in building the Trans-Siberian Railroad? *Possible answers—Russia had little experience building railroads; the tracks had to go through mountains, huge forests, and large bodies of water; it had to be built in and survive a harsh climate; it was longer than any railroad built before.*

Reading Check
Find Main Ideas
What areas make up Russia's culture regions?

Trans-Siberian Railway. This rail line runs from Moscow to Vladivostok on the east coast and is the longest single rail line in the world.

The Russian Far East Russia's long coastline on the Pacific Ocean is the Russian Far East. Much land remains heavily forested. In the few cities, factories process forest and mineral resources. Farming occurs in the Amur River valley. The city of Vladivostok is a naval base and the area's main seaport. Islands off the coast provide oil, minerals, and commercial fishing.

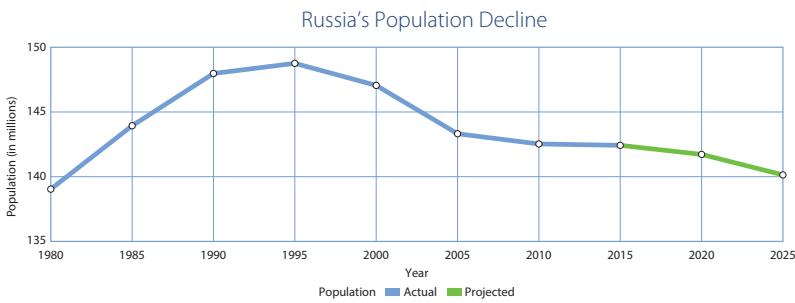
Russia's Challenges

Russia has made great progress since 1991, but challenges remain. First, Russia's shift to a market economy has brought problems. Prices and unemployment have risen. The gap between rich and poor has widened.

Second, Russia's population is falling. More Russians are dying than are being born, in part because many Russians cannot afford good health care.

Third, the Soviet government did not prevent environmental problems. Pollution, such as industrial chemicals, has seriously harmed Russia's environment. The government must now repair the damage. Yet, because much of Russia's wealth comes from selling natural resources such as fossil fuels, many in both Russia's government and private sectors hesitate. They may fear that tackling these problems will weaken the country's economy.

Also, deforestation due to illegal logging in Russia's northwest and far east regions caused higher levels of both erosion and carbon dioxide, and harmed the plants and animals that live in those forests. In late 2013, Russia's president Vladimir Putin stated that environmental conditions in a significant percentage of the country were unsatisfactory and that the country must change its policies.



Interpret Graphs

Approximately how much did Russia's population decline between 2000 and 2010?

► ONLINE INTERACTIVE GRAPHS

Russia's Population Decline

Have students explore the graph using the interactive features and answer the associated questions.

Interpret Graphs Approximately how much did Russia's population decline between 2000 and 2010? *about 5 million*

READING CHECK

Find Main Ideas What areas make up Russia's culture regions? *Moscow, St. Petersburg, Volga, Urals, Siberia, Far East*

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SOLVE PROBLEMS

Starting a Business in Siberia

1. Review with students the information they've read about Siberia so far, including what they know about the region's climate and natural resources. Remind students that many of Siberia's rich resources are in remote, cold areas far from cities, markets, and ports.
2. Ask students to imagine they are entrepreneurs moving to Siberia to make their fortune. Have students work in pairs to write a proposal explaining which resource they would like to pursue, how they would obtain it and bring it to market, and how they could make their business profitable. Remind students that the main source of transportation is the rail line.

3. Ask students to read their proposals to the class. Encourage them to illustrate their proposals.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 35: Solving Problems; and 43: Writing to Persuade

Fourth, there is tension between Russia and Ukraine over the status of Crimea. In 2013 the Ukrainian president said that he would be abandoning an agreement with Europe in order to seek closer ties to Russia. Many in Ukraine protested this move, and the president was forced to flee.

Crimea, however, is ethnically 60 percent Russian. Protesters in this region sought to secede from Ukraine. Violent protests included assault troops taking over the Crimean parliament. A referendum was held in which Crimean citizens supposedly voted overwhelmingly to leave Ukraine and join the Russian Federation. Russia annexed Crimea in an aggressive act that Ukraine and most other countries insist was a violation of international law.

Last, Russia faces ethnic conflicts, such as those in the Russian republic of **Chechnya** (CHECH-nyah) in the Caucasus Mountains. Some in this Muslim area want independence. Fighting and terrorism there have caused many deaths.

Summary and Preview In this lesson you learned that Russia had a long, contentious history and is now a federal republic with a market economy. In the next lesson, you will read about the Caucasus, three republics that were part of the Soviet Union until gaining their independence in 1991.

Reading Check
Categorize
What social, economic, and political challenges face Russia?

Lesson 2 Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and Places

1. a. **Define** Who were the czars?
b. **Analyze** What role did the city of Kiev play in Russian history?
c. **Elaborate** What problems and events caused the Russian Empire to decline?
2. a. **Identify** Why are Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin significant in Russian history?
b. **Evaluate** Do you think life in the Soviet Union was an improvement over life in the Russian Empire? Why or why not?
3. a. **Recall** What is the main religion in Russia?
b. **Summarize** How has Russian culture changed since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991?
4. a. **Recall** What type of government does Russia now have?
b. **Explain** How is Russia's economy changing?
c. **Analyze** What are the roles of the president, prime minister, and Federal Assembly in Russia?
5. a. **Recall** From west to east, what are Russia's major culture regions?

- b. **Draw Conclusions** Why do you think most Siberian towns and cities are located along the Trans-Siberian Railway?

- c. **Rate** Which of Russia's culture regions would you most want to live in, and why?

6. a. **Identify** What are the main challenges that face Russia today?

- b. **Elaborate** What difficulties does Chechnya pose for Russia's leaders?

Critical Thinking

7. Use what you have learned about Russia, and what you know of the United Kingdom, to fill out the following chart. Then answer the question below.

| | Russia | United Kingdom |
|-------------------|--------|----------------|
| Location | | |
| Climate | | |
| Natural Resources | | |

Compare How do the location, climate, and natural resources of the UK and Russia affect where people live and how they trade?

Russia and the Caucasus 569

- c. **Rate** Which of Russia's culture regions would you most want to live in and why?

Students' answers should include reasons why they would want to live in a certain Russian culture region.

6. a. **Identify** What are the main challenges that face Russia today? *weak economy, high unemployment, declining population, ethnic conflicts*

- b. **Elaborate** What difficulties does Chechnya pose for Russia's leaders? *Fighting and terrorism there have caused many deaths.*

READING CHECK

Categorize What social, economic, and political challenges face Russia? *social—falling population and poor health care; economic—rising prices and unemployment, growing gap between rich and poor; political—ethnic conflicts, environmental damage, tension with Ukraine*

Print Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and Places

1. a. **Define** Who were the czars? *emperors of Russia*
b. **Analyze** What role did the city of Kiev play in Russian history? *It was the central city in Kievan Rus, the first Russian state among the Slavs.*
- c. **Elaborate** What problems and events caused the Russian Empire to decline? *slow-growing industry, poor and uneducated population, wealthy rulers who were out of touch with the people, World War I, civil unrest*
2. a. **Identify** Why are Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin significant in Russian history? *They were the key leaders in the formation and building up of the Soviet Union.*
- b. **Evaluate** Do you think life in the Soviet Union was an improvement over life in the Russian Empire? Why or why not? *Possible answer: No. The government controlled how people lived, and jailed, exiled, or killed those who spoke out against it.*
3. a. **Recall** What is the main religion in Russia? *Russian Orthodox Christianity*
b. **Summarize** How has Russian culture changed since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991? *Possible answer: People have freedom to practice religion and celebrate religious and cultural holidays.*
4. a. **Recall** What type of government does Russia now have? *federal republic*
b. **Explain** How is Russia's economy changing? *moving from a command economy to a free market economy*
c. **Analyze** What are the roles of the president, prime minister, and Federal Assembly in Russia? *Possible answer: president—most powerful official, chief executive, appoints prime minister; prime minister—head of government; Federal Assembly—makes country's laws*
5. a. **Recall** From west to east, what are Russia's major culture regions? *Moscow, St. Petersburg, Volga, Urals, Siberia, Russian Far East*
b. **Draw Conclusions** Why do you think most Siberian towns and cities are located along the Trans-Siberian Railway? *because it is the main way to transport goods and people in and out of the region*

continued

Print Assessment (continued)

Critical Thinking

7. Make a chart that compares the locations, climates, and natural resources of Russia and the United Kingdom. Then answer the question below. **Location:** Russia—straddling the continents of Europe and Asia; United Kingdom—west of Europe's mainland; southern part of Northern Europe **Climate:** Russia—typically long, cold winters, with short summers United Kingdom—mild summers, frequent rainfall, mild climate due to the North Atlantic drift **Natural Resources:** Russia—oil, minerals, lumber, coal United Kingdom—oil, natural gas, lumber

Compare How does the location, climate, and natural resources of the UK and Russia affect where people live and how they trade? In Russia, people mostly live in the west and south because the climate is not as harsh and natural resources are easier to get to. Goods travel over land by rail and by sea often go through Kaliningrad, a port that is free of ice all year. In the United Kingdom, fewer people live in the north because the climate of the southern part of the country is warmer. People have also settled where there are natural resources. Ports are free of ice year-round, and the United Kingdom's location on the Atlantic enables it to trade globally, including with the United States.

► Online Assessment

1. Why did Russia remain a country of poor farmers well into the 20th century?
- The Tatars continued to invade and disrupt Russia.
 - There was no industrial development in the country.
 - There were few trading networks throughout Russia.
 - The czar and many nobles controlled the wealth of the nation.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

Most Russians remained poor farmers because the czar and nobles controlled the wealth of the nation.

2. Why did Joseph Stalin encourage the establishment of Eastern European Communist governments after World War II?
- to spread democracy
 - to promote free trade
 - to protect his country from future invasions
 - to ensure that individual rights were respected

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

Because the Soviet Union had been invaded during World War II, Joseph Stalin helped set up a buffer zone against future invasions by establishing Communist governments in Eastern Europe.

3. How has life in Russia changed since the fall of the Soviet Union?
- Scientific research in space has ended.
 - Russian Independence Day is no longer celebrated.
 - Ethnic groups have less freedom to express their cultures.
 - Participation in Russian Orthodox Church services has increased.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

Since the fall of the Soviet Union, participation in religious services has increased and Russia's main faith, Orthodox Christianity, has enjoyed a revival.

4. How are the governments of Russia and Germany different?
- In Germany the citizens choose the legislature, while in Russia the prime minister chooses the legislature.
 - In Russia the citizens choose the legislature, while in Germany the prime minister chooses the legislature.
 - In Germany the president chooses the prime minister, while in Russia the legislature chooses the prime minister.
 - In Russia the president chooses the prime minister, while in Germany the legislature chooses the prime minister.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

In Russia, the president chooses the prime minister, unlike in Germany and in the UK, where the legislature chooses the prime minister.

5. How are Russia's culture regions divided?

Select the three correct answers.

- by population
- by political groups
- by economic activity
- by educational level
- by natural resources
- by age of inhabitants

Alternate Question How are Russia's culture regions divided?

- by age
- by politics
- by income
- by population

6. Why did Russia believe that the claiming of Crimea was justified?

- The Crimean parliament was invaded by force.
- The majority of Crimean citizens are ethnic Russians.
- The Ukrainian president was forced to leave his country over Crimea.
- The Russian takeover of Crimea may have been against international law.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

The majority of Crimea's citizens are ethnic Russians who voted in a referendum to join the Russian Federation.

7. **Draw Conclusions** How did Viking invasions and religious missionaries affect the Slavs? Name one political and one cultural change.

Viking traders invaded Russia during the 800s and established the first Russian state, Kievan Rus, in what is now the modern state of Ukraine. These Vikings were called the Rus, and the name Russia probably came from their name. Missionaries brought Orthodox Christianity and the Cyrillic alphabet to Kievan Rus, and the Slavs adopted these to form their national religion and Russian language.

- 8. Cause and Effect** How did the Cold War help cause the Soviet Union's collapse?

The Cold War was a conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States in which each country competed against each other by building superior weapons and trying to limit the political influence of the other. The construction of these weapons was expensive and helped cause economic problems for the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union could not compete with the United States, and this economic difficulty helped cause the Soviet Union's collapse by 1991.

- 9. Summarize** How has Russia's history shaped its citizens' holiday celebrations?

The Russian Orthodox Church has influenced Russians' celebration of Easter and other religious holidays. Russian folklore has shaped the celebration of New Year's Eve, when family members decorate a tree under which Grandfather Frost and his helper, the Snow Maiden, leave presents. The end of the Soviet Union is celebrated during Russia's Independence Day.

- 10. Analyze Issues** Why has the change from a Communist to a democratic nation been difficult for Russia?

The change from the Communist Soviet Union to a democratic Russia has been difficult because of government corruption and dishonesty. The economy has shifted from a government-controlled one to a market economy, where more consumer products are created. However, most of the nation's wealth is controlled by a small number of people.

- 11. Compare and Contrast** How are Moscow and St. Petersburg similar? Explain two characteristics.

Moscow and St. Petersburg have been capitals throughout Russia's history. St. Petersburg was founded by Peter the Great and served as the nation's capital for 200 years. Moscow is the current capital of Russia. Both cities are important centers of economic activity and culture. St. Petersburg is a major port and home to the Hermitage Museum. Moscow is in the most important economic zone of the nation and is home to the Bolshoi Ballet and beautiful buildings.

- 12. Analyze Issues** Why has Russia's population declined from 1995 to the present? Explain two reasons.

Russia's population has declined in recent years for a number of reasons. The majority of Russians do not have access to good health care. This is in part explained by the widening gap between the rich and the poor and the increase in poverty rates. Pollution has been a problem since the Soviet era and has caused many people to become sick.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

continued from page 562

STRUGGLING READERS

Timeline of Russian History

1. Have students work in pairs to draw a timeline that shows the history of Russia.
2. Have students start the timeline with the establishment of the first Russian state among the Slavs in the AD 800s and end with the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.
3. Make sure that students include the year of each event and a brief description of what happened.
4. Ask students: If you could go back in time to live in Russia, which time period would you choose?
5. Have each student write a two-paragraph essay explaining his or her choice.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 36: Timelines; and 37: Writing Assignments

continued from page 563

More About . . .

Connect to History: "Tear down this wall!" On June 12, 1987, President Ronald Reagan stood in front of the Berlin Wall (between democratic West Germany and Communist East Germany). There, he delivered a speech that many historians say helped end the Cold War. Reagan said, "General Secretary Gorbachev, if you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, if you seek liberalization: Come here to this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

continued from page 567

ADVANCED/GIFTED

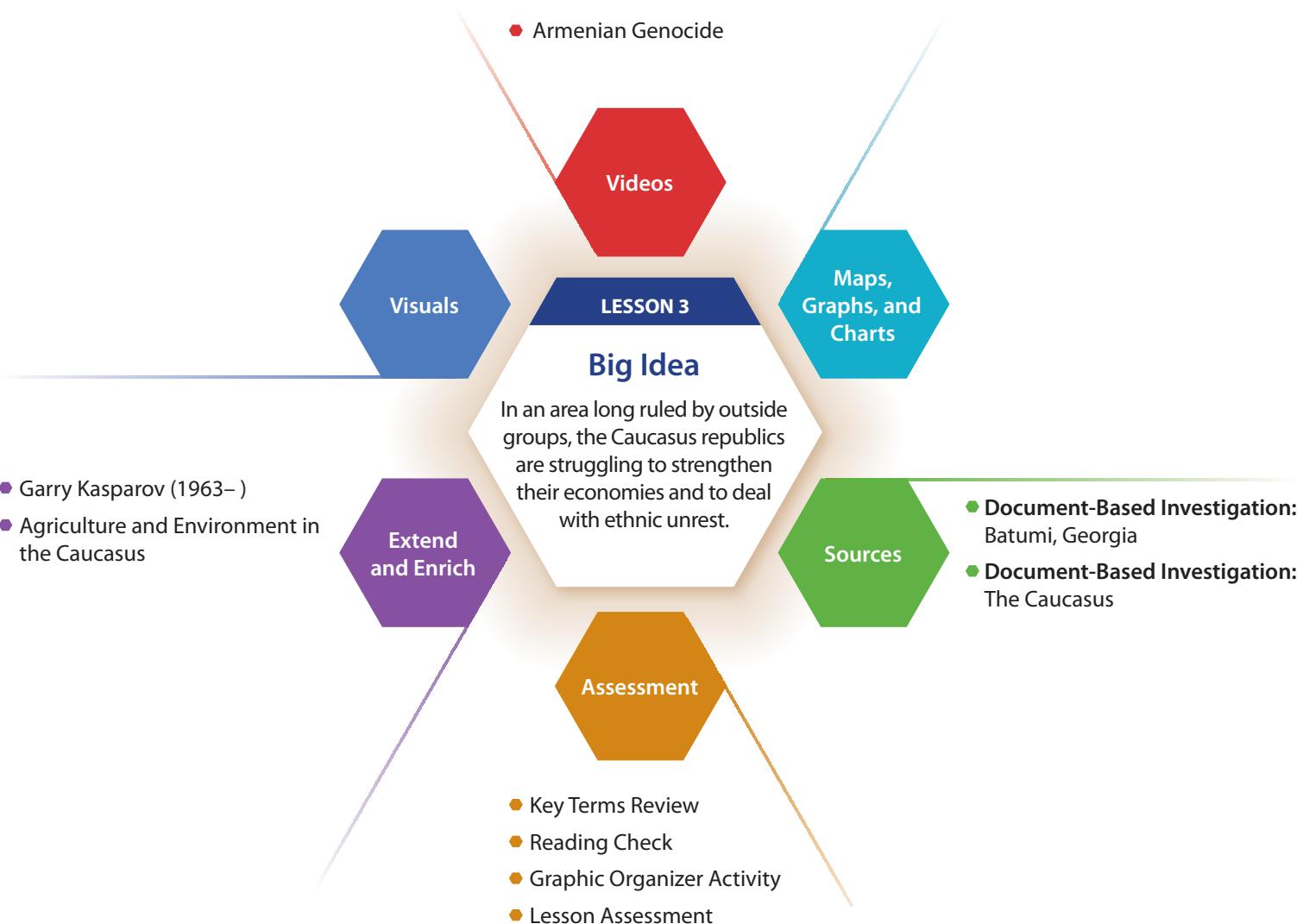
Russia's Culture Regions

1. Have students do further research on Russia's culture regions. Then ask each student to select one region and write a poem or song that uses vivid details to describe life in that region.
2. Invite volunteers to share their poems or songs with the class.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 26: Poems and Songs; and 30: Research



The Caucasus



► Online Lesson 3 Enrichment Activities

Garry Kasparov (1963–)

Biography Students read a biography of Azerbaijani chess champion Garry Kasparov, then research an aspect of chess before playing a game.

Agriculture and Environment in the Caucasus

Article Students read about how the mountains and plains affect agriculture in the Caucasus, then consider how the environment impacts agriculture in their own area.

Teach the Big Idea

1. Whole Class Open/Introduction

If YOU lived there . . .

What kind of government do you want?

Review the scenario with students and lead a class discussion around responses to the question. Remind students that all responses are valid as long as they are supported with valid reasoning. You may wish to review the following points to frame your discussion.

Consider HONEST ELECTIONS AND LEADERS:

- want fair and free elections
- want leaders to be honest
- want stricter laws to prevent future corruption

Consider ROLE OF CITIZENS:

- want everyone to register to vote
- want everyone to vote—in every election
- want more people to communicate with leaders, to make their views known

2. Direct Teach Introduce the Big Idea: *In an area long ruled by outside groups, the Caucasus republics are struggling to strengthen their economies and to deal with ethnic unrest.* Explain to students that the Caucasus republics were ruled by the Soviet Union for decades. Ask them to brainstorm ideas about the ways life might have changed for the people in these countries when they gained independence. Tell students they will learn about some of these changes in this lesson.

3. Practice/Assess/Inquire Have students work in groups to make posters highlighting information about the three countries that make up the Caucasus—Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. Posters should include facts about each country, as well as illustrations and maps to help inform others about the countries and the region.

4. Explore (Collaborative Exploration) Have each group present their posters to the class.

5. Whole Group Close/Reflect Have students create five quiz questions based on the facts listed on the posters. Collect the questions, read them aloud, and have volunteers answer them.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 14: Group Activity; and 28: Posters

Lesson 3

The Caucasus

If YOU lived there . . .

You live in Tbilisi, the capital of the country of Georgia. Several years ago, your sister and her college friends joined the Rose Revolution, a political protest that forced a corrupt president to resign. The protesters' symbol was a red rose. Since the protest, you have become more interested in politics.

What kind of government do you want?

History

The Caucasus lies in the rugged Caucasus Mountains between the Black and Caspian seas. Located where Europe blends into Asia, it reflects a range of cultural influences. Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Turks, and Mongols have all ruled or invaded the area. The Russians took control in the early 1800s.

Russian control in the Caucasus did not include what is now western Armenia. The Ottoman Turks held this area. Over time, the Turks grew to distrust the Armenians, however, and in the late 1800s began abusing and killing them. During World War I (1914–1918), the Turks forced all Armenians to leave. Hundreds of thousands of Armenians died during this ethnic cleansing, or attempt to remove an ethnic group. The Turks lost World War I, though, and had to give up western Armenia.

After World War I, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia gained independence—but not for long. By the early 1920s they were part of the vast Soviet Union. Finally, in 1991, when the Soviet Union fell, the Caucasus republics achieved true independence.

The Caucasus Today

The Caucasus may have a long history, but the Caucasus countries do not. Like other former Soviet republics, these young countries have had to create new governments and economies. Meanwhile, ethnic unrest and conflicts have slowed progress.

The Caucasus republics have similar governments. An elected president governs each nation, and an appointed prime minister runs each government. An elected parliament, or legislature, makes the laws.

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Teach the Main Idea

Many groups have ruled and influenced the Caucasus during its long history.

Recall Who controlled the Caucasus countries during the 1800s? *Russia controlled eastern Armenia, much of Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The Ottoman Turks ruled western Armenia.*

Identify What group of people were subject to ethnic cleansing during World War I? *The Armenians*

Explain What event allowed the countries of the Caucasus to gain full independence? *the break up of the Soviet Union in 1991*

READING CHECK

Find Main Ideas Why do the countries in the Caucasus reflect a range of cultural influences? *Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Turks, and Mongols have all ruled or invaded the area.*



ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

Russia and the Caucasus

Batum, Georgia and The Caucasus: Political are the third and fourth of four document-based investigations that students will analyze in the Russia and the Caucasus module. Students will explore physical features and climate of the region.



Georgia The country of Georgia lies in the Caucasus Mountains east of the Black Sea. **Tbilisi** is the capital. About 70 percent of the people are ethnic Georgians, and most belong to the Georgian Orthodox Church. The official language is Georgian, a unique language with its own alphabet. However, many other languages are also spoken.

Since 1991 Georgia has struggled with unrest and civil war. In 2003 Georgians forced out their president in the peaceful Rose Revolution. Meanwhile, ethnic groups in northern Georgia were fighting for independence. Because these groups now hold parts of northern Georgia, division and unrest continue.

There is hope for the future, however. In 2012 and 2016 the country saw democratic elections and a peaceful government transition of power. The government, and the people, tend to look to the West. Two major foreign policy goals involve joining the European Union and NATO.



Palm trees thrive in Batumi, Georgia, a seaside city on the Black Sea. Located in a humid subtropical climate zone, Batumi is the wettest city in the Caucasus.

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ONLINE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

The Caucasus

As students read the lesson, have them use the graphic organizer to take notes. Students can review their graphic organizer notes at the end of the lesson to answer the following question:

Analyze Effects How have historical and modern conflicts affected the Caucasus republics? *They have led to a range of cultural influences in the area, injured their economies, and caused much loss of life and many refugees.*

ONLINE LESSON FLIP CARDS

Review Key Terms and Places

Students can use the flip cards in the Lesson Review at any time to review the lesson's key terms and places: **Tbilisi, Yerevan, Baku.**

Teach the Main Idea

Today, the Caucasus republics are working to improve their economies, but they struggle with ethnic unrest and conflict.

Recall Which Caucasus country has an economy based on oil? **Azerbaijan**

Define What is a refugee? *a person who has been forced from home by war or natural disaster*

Identify What problems and challenges has Georgia faced since independence? *ethnic unrest, with armed groups fighting for independence from Georgia holding sections of the northern part of the country*

ONLINE ANALYZE VIDEOS

Armenian Genocide

Have students watch the video individually or as a class. You may wish to use the associated question as a discussion prompt.

Analyze Videos What is Pope Francis suggesting by calling the Armenian deaths "the first genocide of the 20th century"? *possible answers: he believes the Ottoman Empire committed genocide; there were other genocides committed in the 20th century*

ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

Batum, Georgia

Have students study the image and caption and answer the associated question.

Analyze Sources From this photograph and the information in the caption, how do you think Georgia's climate affects its economy? *Possible answers: Georgia has a long growing season and can grow a wide variety of crops. Georgia's climate may encourage tourism. With a seaside city in a warm climate, Georgia should have access to trade all year.*

ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

The Caucasus

Have students explore the map using the interactive features and answer the associated questions.

Analyze Sources Based on this map, how does Armenia differ from Azerbaijan and Georgia? *Armenia is landlocked; it has a large lake; it is smaller than the other two countries*

In print edition, see map titled Caucasus: Political.

1. Location What two seas border the Caucasus? *Black Sea and Caspian Sea*

2. Place Based on the map, how does Armenia differ from Azerbaijan and Georgia? *Armenia is landlocked.*

For additional instruction, go to end of lesson.

READING CHECK

Summarize What challenges do the Caucasus republics face? *ethnic conflict, government corruption, slow economic growth, civil war, war between countries*

Although unrest has hurt Georgia's economy, international aid is helping it improve. Georgia's economy is based on services and farming. Major crops include citrus fruits, grapes, and tea. In addition, Georgia produces steel and mines copper and manganese. Georgia is also famous for its wines. The Black Sea is a resort area, and tourism contributes to the economy, too.

Armenia South of Georgia is the small, landlocked country of Armenia. The tiny country is slightly larger than the state of Maryland. **Yerevan** (yer-uh-VAHN) is the capital. Almost all the people are ethnic Armenian. Armenia prides itself as being the first country to adopt Christianity, and most people belong to the Armenian Orthodox Church.

In the early 1990s Armenia fought a bitter war with its neighbor Azerbaijan. The war involved an area of Azerbaijan where most people are ethnic Armenian. Armenia wanted this area to become part of its country. Although a cease-fire stopped the fighting in 1994, Armenian armed forces remained in control of the area for years afterward.

This conflict has greatly hurt Armenia's economy. However, international aid is helping Armenia's economy recover and expand. For example, diamond processing is now a growing industry in Armenia.

Azerbaijan East of Armenia is Azerbaijan. In contrast to the other Caucasus republics, Azerbaijan is largely Muslim. The Azeri (uh-ZE-ree) make up 90 percent of the population.

Azerbaijan's economy is based on oil, which is found along and under the Caspian Sea. **Baku**, the capital, is the center of a large oil-refining industry. This industry has led to strong economic growth. Corruption is high, though, and many of the country's people are poor. In addition, Azerbaijan has many Azeri refugees who were forced to leave homes in Armenia.

Summary In this lesson you learned about the geography and culture of the Caucasus.

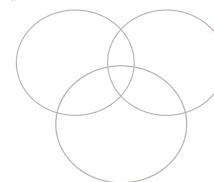
Lesson 3 Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and Places

1. a. **Identify** Which country controlled much of the Caucasus for most of the 1800s?
- b. **Identify Cause and Effect** How did Turkish rule affect Armenians in the Ottoman Empire?
- c. **Elaborate** How has location affected the history and culture of the Caucasus area?
2. a. **Recall** How does Baku contribute to the economy of Azerbaijan?
- b. **Compare and Contrast** How is religion in Georgia and Armenia similar? How does religion in these countries differ from that in Azerbaijan?
- c. **Elaborate** How did the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan affect each country?

Critical Thinking

3. **Compare and Contrast** Draw a Venn diagram like the one here. Use your notes to identify the ways in which Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan are similar and different.



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ADVANCED/GIFTED

Economies of the Caucasus Republics

1. Organize the class into three groups and assign each group one of the Caucasus republics. Have each group use the library or the Internet to research its assigned country's economy.
2. Ask students to create an infographic with information on the following topics: the country's top five resources and/or products; the amount of money the country has earned from those resources and/or products since 2010; the country's top five imports; the amount of money citizens have spent on imported resources and goods each year since 2010.
3. Have each group share its infographic with the other groups.

- *Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 30: Research

Print Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and Places

1. a. **Identify** Which country controlled much of the Caucasus for most of the 1800s? *Russia*
- b. **Identify Cause and Effect** How did Turkish rule affect Armenians in the Ottoman Empire? *Armenians were abused and killed.*
- c. **Elaborate** How has location affected the history and culture of the Caucasus area? *Many countries have ruled or invaded the region.*
2. a. **Recall** How does Baku contribute to the economy of Azerbaijan? *It is the country's chief port.*
- b. **Compare and Contrast** How is religion in Georgia and Armenia similar? How does religion in these countries differ from that in Azerbaijan? *Most people in both countries are Orthodox Christians. However, most Georgians belong to the Georgian Orthodox Church, while most Armenians belong to the Armenian Orthodox Church. In contrast, Azerbaijan is mostly Muslim.*
- c. **Elaborate** How did the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan affect each country? *Armenia—economy has been hurt, occupies part of Azerbaijan; Azerbaijan—has many refugees*

Critical Thinking

3. **Compare and Contrast** Draw a Venn diagram with three overlapping circles. Use your notes to identify the ways in which Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan are similar and different. *Possible answers: Georgia—Black Sea, civil war; Azerbaijan—Muslims, refugees; Armenia—killed by Turks; Georgia and Azerbaijan—Caucasus Mountains; Georgia and Armenia—Orthodox Christian, mining; Azerbaijan and Armenia—at war, Armenians live there; All—ethnic conflict, democratic government, were controlled by Soviet Union*

► Online Assessment

1. Which of the following groups have controlled the Caucasus region?

Select the **three** correct answers.

- British
- Egyptians
- Germans
- Persians
- Russians
- Turks

Alternate Question Which nation controlled the Caucasus region from the early 1800s to the end of World War I?

- Germany
- Iran
- Russia
- Turkey

2. Which problem affects Azerbaijan's economy?

- There is much corruption in the country.
- There are few natural resources in the country.
- The government has to combat Azeri terrorism.
- The military has been fighting a war with Georgia for many years.

Alternate Question Select the answer choice from the drop-down list to complete the sentence correctly.

Most Azerbaijan citizens do not benefit from the oil industry's profits, and **corruption** remains a problem in the country.

3. **Summarize** Why did the Turks treat the Armenians poorly during World War I?

The Turks mistrusted the Armenians who were living in Turkish-controlled western Armenia. The Turks began killing many Armenians in the late 1800s. This poor treatment increased during World War I, when thousands of Armenians were killed in an attempt to "ethnically cleanse" the region.

4. **Draw Conclusions** What was the cause of Georgia's civil war?

Ethnic groups in northern Georgia have fought for independence. These groups now control parts of northern Georgia, causing division within the country.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

continued from page 571

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Drawing Pictures

1. To help students further comprehend the reading, draw their attention to the image of Batumi, Georgia. Read the caption aloud, and ask them to describe what they see in the picture.
2. Ask students to work in pairs to find places in the text or on the map that correspond with what they see in the image or read in the caption.
3. Have students draw a picture of one of the other capital cities in the Caucasus. Have them find information from the text or map and imagine how the city may look. Ask students to write a two- or three-sentence caption that describes the picture and informs the viewer about the city.
4. Now, combine the pair groups into groups of four. Have students share and discuss their pictures in the small groups.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 3: Artwork

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Black Sea Travel Brochure

1. Have students work in small groups to create a travel brochure that will attract tourists to the Black Sea resort area in Georgia. Provide the class with examples of travel brochures or have them look online at some examples.
2. Groups will research Black Sea resort areas in Georgia and select one to focus on. They will need to determine an audience for their brochure (e.g., single people, families with children, retirees) and design their brochure for that audience.
3. Guide students in what they should include in their brochures (e.g., brief summary with highlights of important places, location, geography, recreation and entertainment activities, pictures and graphics, and so forth).

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubrics 2: Advertisements; and 14: Group Activity

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STRUGGLING READERS

Compare the Caucasus Republics

1. Help students create a Venn diagram with three circles, labeling one circle *Georgia*, the second circle *Armenia*, and the third circle *Azerbaijan*.
2. Have students fill in the graphic organizer with information including key vocabulary from the lesson that shows how the countries are alike and how they are different.
3. Review the similarities and differences among the countries to conclude the activity.

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 13: Graphic Organizers

SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Read a Map

1. Read aloud the name of each label on the map. As you do, have students locate the label on the map and say it aloud. If necessary, repeat the name if students have difficulty pronouncing it.
2. Then have students create sentences about the map, such as "Georgia is the westernmost Caucasus republic" or "The Aras River runs along the borders of Armenia and Azerbaijan."

*Alternative Assessment Handbook, Rubric 21: Map Reading

Social Studies Skills

Interpret a Population Map

Define the Skill

Population maps give you a snapshot of the distribution of people in a region or country. Each color on a population map represents an average number of people living within a square mile or square kilometer. Sometimes, symbols identify the cities with populations of a certain size. The map's legend identifies what the colors and symbols mean.

Learn the Skill

1. Based on the map below, in which region of Russia do most of the country's people live?
2. Which two cities in Russia have the largest populations?
3. How many Russian cities have more than 1 million people?



Russia and the Caucasus 573

Practice the Skill

Use an atlas to locate a current population map of the United States. Using the map, identify where the most and the least populated regions of the United States are. Then identify the number of U.S. cities or metropolitan areas with more than 2 million people.

Social Studies Skills

Interpret a Population Map

Have students examine the population map and explain to them that population maps give an overview of how many people live in a region. Guide them in a discussion of the meaning of the different colors in the map legend. Have students tell which color represents the greater population density: red or yellow. *red* Then have them find the city of Vladivostok on the map and have them identify the city's population based on the map key. *under 1 million* Ask students how they determined this. *The size of the symbol on the map for Vladivostok is the same as that in the "Under 1 million" symbol in the map key.*

Answers

Learn the Skill

1. Based on the map below, in which region of Russia do most of the country's people live? *western Russia*
2. Which two cities in Russia have the largest populations? *Moscow and St. Petersburg*
3. How many Russian cities have more than 1 million people? *six*

Practice the Skill

Use an atlas to locate a current population map of the United States. Using the map, identify where the most and the least populated regions of the United States are. Then identify the number of U.S. cities or metropolitan areas with more than 2 million people. *Answers may vary, depending on the age of the map used. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2010 U.S. cities with a population of more than 2 million were New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Houston. Note that this information refers to cities proper, not metropolitan areas.*

Module 17 Assessment

Print Assessment

Review Vocabulary, Terms, and Places

For each statement below, write T if it is true and F if it is false. If the statement is false, replace the boldfaced term with one that makes the sentence a true statement.

1. The **Caucasus Mountains** separate European Russia from Asian Russia. *F; Ural Mountains*
2. Russia's capital and largest city is **St. Petersburg**. *F; Moscow*
3. Under the rule of the **Bolsheviks**, the Russian Empire expanded in size and power. *F; czars*
4. Many wealthier Russians have country houses, which are called **gulags**. *F; dachas*
5. Russia's main government buildings are located in the **Kremlin** in Moscow. *T*
6. Russia's culture regions differ in **features** such as cities, natural resources, and economic activity. *T*
7. **Moscow** is a major port and was once home to Russia's czars. *F; St. Petersburg*
8. Armenia is the only one of the three countries in the Caucasus that is **landlocked**. *T*

Comprehension and Critical Thinking

LESSON 1

9. a. **Recall** What is Russia's most important river, and to what major bodies of water does it link? *the Volga; the Caspian Sea, the Don River, and the Baltic Sea*
- b. **Identify Cause and Effect** How does Russia's location affect its climate? *Because Russia is located far north, it has a mostly cold climate.*
- c. **Elaborate** Why might developing the many natural resources in Siberia be difficult? *They are in remote, cold areas far from cities.*

LESSON 2

10. a. **Identify** Who was Joseph Stalin? *a brutal dictator of the Soviet Union*
- b. **Summarize** How has Russia contributed to world culture? *Possible answer: Russia has world-famous ballet companies and composers.*
- c. **Elaborate** How was the end of the Soviet Union similar to the end of the Russian Empire? *Economic problems and unpopular leaders contributed to the end of both regimes.*
- d. **Identify** What four culture regions make up the Russian heartland? *the Moscow, St. Petersburg, Volga, and Urals regions*
- e. **Compare and Contrast** How are Moscow and St. Petersburg similar and different? *Both are large urban, economic, and political centers. While Moscow reflects Russia's old values and traditions, St. Petersburg represents the country's desire for Western ideas and practices.*

Review Vocabulary, Terms, and Places

For each statement below, write T if it is true and F if it is false. If the statement is false, replace the boldfaced term with one that makes the sentence a true statement.

1. The **Caucasus Mountains** separate European Russia from Asian Russia.
2. Russia's capital and largest city is **St. Petersburg**.
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4. Many wealthier Russians have country houses, which are called **gulags**.
5. Russia's main government buildings are located in the **Kremlin** in Moscow.
6. Russia's culture regions differ in **features** such as cities, natural resources, and economic activity.
7. **Moscow** is a major port and was once home to Russia's czars.
8. Armenia is the only one of the three countries in the Caucasus that is **landlocked**.

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- d. **Identify** What four culture regions make up the Russian heartland?
- e. **Compare and Contrast** How are Moscow and St. Petersburg similar and different?
- f. **Elaborate** How might Siberia help make Russia an economic success?

Lesson 3

11. a. **Recall** What is the capital of each of the Caucasus republics?
- b. **Compare** What do the three Caucasus countries have in common?
- c. **Elaborate** What issues and challenges do the Caucasus countries need to address to improve their economies?

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ONLINE DOCUMENT-BASED INVESTIGATION

Russia and the Caucasus

Have students complete and review all the DBI activities in Part 1.

Use this Argument Rubric to score students' work in Part 2.

RUBRIC

- Students' essays should:
- express a firm standpoint about the topic
 - support their arguments logically, clearly, and accurately
 - cite at least three sources of relevant text evidence from Part 1 in support of their argument

- be organized into a distinct introduction, a main body consisting of several paragraphs, and a conclusion that sums up the main points

Write an Opinion Essay Using the exhibits in Part 1 and your knowledge of the physical geography and cultures of Russia and the Caucasus, write an opinion essay that answers the following question: How does the physical geography of Russia and the Caucasus shape culture there? Be sure to discuss the physical features, climate, and culture in this part of the world. Cite specific evidence from at least three sources in your response.

Module 17 Assessment, continued

Reading Skills

Use Context Clues Use the Reading Skills taught in this module to answer a question about the reading selection below.

Russia's northern coast is tundra. Winters are dark and bitterly cold, and the brief summers are cool. Most of the ground is permafrost, or permanently frozen soil. Only small plants such as mosses grow.

12. What is permafrost?

Social Studies Skills

Interpret a Population Map Use the Social Studies Skills taught in this module to answer the questions below. Use a good atlas to find a population density map of Europe. The map does not need to include Russia. Use the map to answer the following questions. Do not include the country of Russia when answering the questions.

13. Not including the cities of Russia, how many cities or metropolitan areas in Europe have more than 2 million people?
14. Not including Russia, which regions of Europe are the most populated? Which regions of Europe are the least populated?

Map Activity

15. **Using Physical and Population Density Maps**

Examine the physical map of Russia in Lesson 1 of this module, and compare it with the population density map of Russia in the Social Studies Skills section of this module.

- Do you see a pattern to human settlement on this map? If so, what?
- Using what you have learned in this module, what are some reasons people have chosen to settle where they did in Russia?

Focus on Writing

16. Using what you have learned about locations in Russia, pretend you are a real estate agent. Choose one location for a piece of real estate you will sell. What are its best features? How would you describe the land and climate? What are the benefits of living there? If it is a building, what does it look like? What is nearby? Gather information from both print and online sources about the area to bolster your information. Remember to include details that will make the property attractive to possible buyers.

- f. **Elaborate** How might Siberia help make Russia an economic success? *Siberia has many valuable mineral resources, including timber, mining, and oil production, which could improve Russia's economy.*

LESSON 3

11. a. **Recall** What is the capital of each of the Caucasus republics? *Tbilisi, Georgia; Yerevan, Armenia; Baku, Azerbaijan*
- b. **Compare** What do the three Caucasus countries have in common? *They share similar histories, governments, and challenges.*
- c. **Elaborate** What issues and challenges do the Caucasus countries need to address to improve their economies? *They need to improve trade with other countries, maintain peace, and make better use of their natural resources.*

Reading Skills

Use Context Clues Use the Reading Skills taught in this module to answer a question about the reading selection below.

Russia's northern coast is tundra. Winters are dark and bitterly cold, and the brief summers are cool. Most of the ground is permafrost, or permanently frozen soil. Only small plants such as mosses grow.

12. What is permafrost? *permanently frozen soil*

Social Studies Skills

Interpret a Population Map Use the Social Studies Skills taught in this module to answer the questions below. Use a good atlas to find a population density map of Europe. The map does not need to include Russia. Use the map to answer the following questions. Do not include the country of Russia when answering the questions.

13. Not including the cities of Russia, how many cities or metropolitan areas in Europe have more than 2 million people? *Depending on the atlas used, cities in Europe with over 2 million people include London, Berlin, Madrid, Rome, Paris, Istanbul, Kiev, and Minsk.*
14. Not including Russia, which regions of Europe are the most populated? Which regions of Europe are the least populated? *Depending on the atlas used, central Europe, especially Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, and parts of France and Italy are most populated. Spain, Portugal, Austria, and the countries along the eastern shore of the Adriatic are the least populated.*

Essential Question ESSAY

Are the challenges faced by Russia and the Caucasus countries in establishing and maintaining their democracies greater than those faced by the United States after it won the American Revolution?

RUBRIC Students' essays should:

- respond to the Essential Question with a specific position
 - illustrate valid reasoning supporting their position
 - cite persuasive evidence supporting their position
 - identify key people, events, and/or turning points that demonstrate understanding of the module content
 - be organized into a distinct introduction, main body, and conclusion
- Write an argument answering this question. Your essay should include specific details about Russia and the Caucasus countries' history, recent events, geography, and modern challenges. Be sure to cite evidence to support your point and organize your essay into an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Alternative Activity** Instead of writing essays, address the Essential Question through activities such as holding debates, creating multimedia presentations, or writing journal entries. See the Alternative Assessment Handbook for a selection of project rubrics.

(continued)

Print Assessment (*continued*)

Map Activity

15. **Using Physical and Population Density Maps** Examine the physical map of Russia in Lesson 1 of this module, and compare it with the population density map of Russia in the Social Studies Skills section of this module.

- a. Do you see a pattern to human settlement on this map? If so, what?

Possible answer: Population density is higher west of the Ural Mountains, along Russia's southern border, and close to rivers. It is lowest to the north.

- b. Using what you have learned in this module, what are some reasons

people have chosen to settle where they did in Russia? *Possible answers: The climate is warmer in those areas; resources are more easily accessible and less scarce in those areas; regions are more open to transportation and trade.*

Focus on Writing

16. Using what you have learned about locations in Russia, pretend you are a real estate agent. Choose one location for a piece of real estate you will sell. What are its best features? How would you describe the land and climate? What are the benefits of living there? If it is a building, what does it look like? What is nearby? Gather information from both print and online sources about the area to bolster your information. Remember to include details that will make the property attractive to possible buyers.

RUBRIC: Students' writing should

- be based on facts and not be misleading
- give details about the best features of the location chosen
- include details appealing to potential buyers
- use descriptive wording to help buyers form a clear image of the property
- use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation

► Online Assessment

1. Drag the name of the Russian region into the box next to its description.

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| separates Europe from Asia | Ural Mountains |
| covers most of eastern Russia | Siberia |
| contains Russia's national capital, Moscow | Northern European Plain |
| lies along the Ring of Fire and contains many volcanoes | Kamchatka Peninsula |

2. Why is the Black Sea important for Russian trade?

- It connects Russia with the Far East.
- It connects Russia with northern Europe.
- It connects Russia with the Arctic Ocean.
- It connects Russia with the Mediterranean Sea.

3. Drag the name of the country into the space provided.



4. Place the rulers of Russia/Soviet Union into chronological order.

| |
|---------------------|
| Ivan III |
| Ivan the Terrible |
| Peter the Great |
| Catherine the Great |
| Vladimir Lenin |

5. Drag the name of the Russian individual into the box next to his description.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| creator of gem-covered metal eggs as gifts for the Russian czars | Peter Carl Faberge |
| Russian czar who ordered the construction of St. Basil's Cathedral | Ivan IV |
| Soviet leader who introduced democratic reforms and reduced government control | Mikhail Gorbachev |
| Russian composer whose works include The Nutcracker ballet and the 1812 Overture | Peter Tchaikovsky |

6. Why is terrorism a problem in Russia?

- Poverty rates have increased.
- Proper health care has decreased.
- Chechen Muslims want independence.
- Ukrainians want Crimea returned to their country.

7. Why was the independence of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia short-lived following World War I?

- They were taken over by Turkey.
- They were invaded by the Mongols.
- They were taken over by the Persian Empire.
- They were made republics of the Soviet Union.

8. Drag the name of the nation into the box next to its capital city.

| | |
|---------|------------|
| Baku | Azerbaijan |
| Tbilisi | Georgia |
| Yerevan | Armenia |

9. Which country was the first to adopt Christianity?

- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Georgia
- Iran