Chapter 24 Critical Thinking Questions

DIrections: Please write in complete sentences.

**Use Handout A Land Area of Oil Countries of Southwest Asia**

Examine the map. It shows the locations of 10 oil countries in Southwest Asia.

Then, answer these questions in your group:

1. Name 10 oil countries in Southwest Asia. Which is the largest? Which is the smallest? 10 oil countries are Syria, Iran, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia. The largest country is Saudi Arabia. The smallest country is Bahrain.
2. What might be the relationship between a country’s size and the amount of its oil reserves? The relationship between a country’s size and the amount of its oil reserves is that the bigger the country the more oil it has and if it is closer to water.

**Use Handout A Population of Oil Countries of Southwest Asia**

Study the graph. It reflects the size of the population of each of 10 oil countries in Southwest Asia. Then, answer these questions:

1. Which oil country has the largest population in Southwest Asia? Which has the smallest? The largest oil country that has the largest population in Southwest Asia is Iran and the smallest is Baharin.
2. What might be the relationship between a country’s population and the amount of its oil reserves? It might be that since the country is close to water the amount of oil reserves are more easier to find. Also it has a more mire population so there is more oil.

**Use Handout A Critical Thinking Question A**

Think about what you have discovered about the size and population of oil countries in Southwest Asia.

Based on that information, which set of countries below do you think has the largest oil reserves? Why? I think it is Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait because if you add them all together you will have the largest oil reserve and also Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait are the highest oil reserves.

Set 1: Iran, Qatar, United Arab Emirates

Set 2: Oman, Yemen, Syria

Set 3: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait

**Use Handout B Investigating Oil Wealth and People's Well-Being**

1. What is GDP? GDP is the value of all the goods and services produced in a country

in a year.

1. Which oil countries have the highest GDP? Which has the lowest? Saudi Arabia has the highest GDP and Syria has the lowest GDP.
2. What might be the relationship between a country’s GDP and the well-being of its people? The relationship between a country's GDP and the well-being of its people is that the GDP is telling how the country is the wealthiest and has the most population.
3. What is per capita GDP? Per capita GDP is a country’s total GDP divided by its population.
4. Which oil countries have the highest per capita GDP? Which has the lowest? The oil country that has the highest per capita GDP is Qatar and the lowest is Yemen.
5. Are the rankings on this table the same as on the GDP table above? Why or why not? No because the GDP per capita shows how much per capita in U.S dollars for a country and the rank. While the GDP shows GDP in U.S dollars so technically no the rankings are not the same. Except for the United States Arab, those two are the same ranking.
6. Which type of information—GDP or per capita GDP—do you think might give better information about the well-being of a country’s people? Why? I think it is the per capita GDP because it shows how much each country is making each year while the GPD just shows about the Ten Southwest Asian Oil Countries.

**Critical Thinking Question B**

One way to measure people’s well-being is through the Human Development Index, or HDI. This index is used by the United Nations. It combines a variety of information, including per capita GDP, life expectancy, literacy, and level of education.

Think about what you’ve discovered about the GDP and per capita GDP of these 10 oil countries. Based on that information, which set of countries below do you think would rank the highest in the Human Development Index? Why? I think it is Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar because when you add up you get more per capita GDP then the rest of them.

Set 1: Syria, Yemen, Iran

Set 2: Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar

Set 3: Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait

**Use Handout C Investigating the Price and Flow of Oil**

World Oil Reserves

1. Which countries have the largest oil reserves? Venezuela and Saudi Arabia.
2. Why might countries with large oil reserves be interested in controlling the price and supply of oil? It is because they could have way more money.

**Use Handout C Critical Thinking Question C**

In 1960, several oil-producing countries around the world decided to join together to better control the price and supply of oil. These countries founded the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC. The majority of oil countries in Southwest Asia are members of OPEC. Some OPEC members are countries outside of Southwest Asia, such as Venezuela, Indonesia, Libya, Nigeria, and Algeria.

Based on what you have investigated, which set of countries below do you think are not OPEC members? Why? It is because they are not on the chart.

Set 1: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait

Set 2: Oman, Syria, Yemen

Set 3: Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

World Oil Consumption

1. Which countries consume the most oil? What is similar about them? United States and China. They are similar because they have a big population and have a big country.
2. Why might countries that consume a lot of oil be interested in controlling the price and supply of oil? It is because if they control the price they can get more money and if they control the supply they can give the people oil but not too much of it because they need more of it so they can have a lot of money.
3. Analyze the two graphs. What generalization can you form from the two sets of data? They both talk about countries and the population of stuff.

**Use Handout C Critical Thinking Question D**

In 1990, Iraq invaded the neighboring country of Kuwait. This invasion threatened the flow of oil from this part of Southwest Asia. In response, the United States and many other countries worked together to drive Iraq out of Kuwait. This became the 1991 Persian Gulf War. Some countries contributed soldiers, equipment, and money to the war. Top contributors included the United States, Germany, and Japan. Many oil countries in Southwest Asia were also big contributors.

Based on what you have learned, which set of countries below do you think contributed the most toward the costs of the Persian Gulf War? Why? I think Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates contributed most to the costs of the war because they are the only ones that did.

Set 1: Iran, Oman, Qatar

Set 2: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates

Set 3: Yemen, Bahrain, Syria