

## 9th Grade World Geography Test

### AFRICA

What desert covers the northern 1/3 of Africa and is the home of the ancient city of Timbuktu?

- a. The Taklimakan Desert
- b. The Arabian Desert
- c. The Sahara Desert
- d. The Rub al Khali
- e. The Tasmanian Desert



What river that flows north into the Mediterranean Sea sustained ancient Egyptian civilization?

- a. The Amazon
- b. The Congo
- c. The Yangtze
- d. The Niger
- e. The Nile



Which country is on the Horn of Africa?

- a. Somalia
- b. South Africa
- c. Nigeria
- d. Algeria
- e. Cameroon



Which of these is a country in the Maghreb, the northern section of Africa adjacent to the Mediterranean Sea?

- a. Algeria
- b. Nigeria
- c. Liberia
- d. Kenya
- e. Zimbabwe



Which mountain near the border between Kenya and Tanzania is the tallest mountain in Africa?

- a. Mount McKinley
- b. Mount Kilimanjaro
- c. Mount

Which African country has the highest population?

- a. Sudan
- b. Egypt
- c. Nigeria
- d. South Africa
- e. Kenya



Which most accurately compares the size of Africa to the size of the United States?

- a. Africa is three times as large
- b. Africa is 5 times as large
- c. Africa is 9 times as large
- d. Africa is 20 times as large



A language commonly spoken in East Africa that was the basis for an ancient civilization is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. French
- b. Afrikaans
- c. Tagalog
- d. Swahili
- e. Egyptian



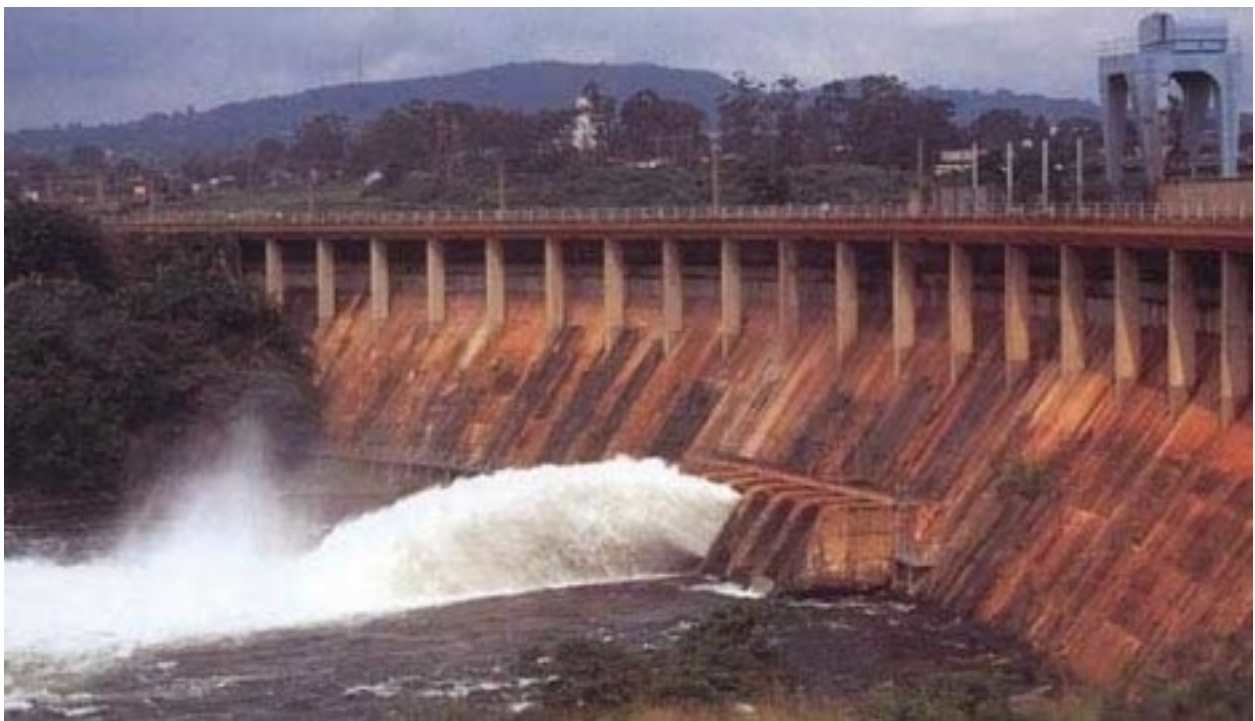
The largest country in Africa is . . .

- a. South Africa
- b. Kenya
- c. Tanzania
- d. Algeria
- e. Rwanda



Which of these countries was the site of a horrific genocide in 1994 and is located in the “Lakes Region” of East Africa?

- a. Rwanda
- b. Libya
- c. Ghana
- d. Eritrea
- e. Senegal



The Dam that blocks the Nile River and provides hydroelectric power to parts of North Africa is . . .

- a. The Three Gorges Dam
- b. The Aswan High Dam
- c. Hoover Dam
- d. Three Mile Island
- e. The Ruwenzori

In which African country did a street vendor spark a protest that led to the Arab Spring?

- a. Somalia
- b. Tunisia
- c. Algeria
- d. Angola
- e. Zambia



What is the most common religion of people in North Africa?

- a. Islam
- b. Christianity
- c. Judaism
- d. Hinduism
- e. Buddhism



What system of racial segregation did Nelson Mandela struggle to end in South Africa?

- a. Apartheid
- b. the Cast System
- c. Feudalism
- d. Jim Crow laws
- e. Sharia Law



The narrow band of land south of the Sahara but north of the Savannah that is vulnerable to drought and desertification is \_\_\_\_\_

- a. the Savanna
- b. the Sahel
- c. the Great Lakes Region
- d. the Ethiopian Highlands
- e. the Rain Forests



The river that cuts through the heart of the tropical rainforest in central Africa is the \_\_\_\_\_ River

- a. Congo
- b. Niger
- c. Nile
- d. Zambezi
- e. Amazon



Which geographic region would be characterized by short days in the winter and long days in the summer?

- a. tropical regions
- b. places near the equator
- c. arctic regions
- d. the western hemisphere
- e. the eastern hemisphere

The water that separates the Horn of Africa from the Arabian Peninsula is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Mediterranean Sea
- b. Persian Gulf
- c. Red Sea
- d. Indian Ocean
- e. Caspian Sea





Which is true of the Equator's location in Africa?

- a. it cuts through the Mediterranean Sea and does not touch Africa
- b. it cuts through South Africa
- c. it cuts through central Africa and approximately half of Africa is to the North and half to the south
- d. it divides Africa between east and west
- e. it does not go through that part of the world

## **SOUTH AMERICA**

What mountain range runs North-South along the western coast of South America and was home to the ancient Inca civilization?

- a. The Rocky Mountains
- b. The Himalayas
- c. The Andes
- d. The Tian Shan
- e. The Urals

What is the name of the canal that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and dramatically shortens the water route from the east coast of the United States to the west coast of the U.S and Asia?

- a. The Suez Canal
- b. The Erie Canal
- c. The Panama Canal
- d. The Tacony Canal
- e. The Grand Canal

## **SOUTH AMERICA**

The mountains on the western edge of South America that were home to the Inca empire are the \_\_\_\_\_ mountains.

- a. Rocky
- b. Andes
- c. Himalayan
- d. Sierra Nevadas
- e. Urals

The most oil-rich country of South America that was formerly led by the socialist president Hugo Chavez is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Argentina
- b. Cuba
- c. Brazil
- d. Venezuela
- e. Chile

The world's river with the heaviest water flow that travels through Brazil and the tropical rain forests of South America is the \_\_\_\_\_ River.

- a. Amazon
- b. Mississippi
- c. Rhine
- d. Yangtze
- e. Orinoco

The strait at the southern tip of South America that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. the Strait of Magellan
- b. the Dardanelles
- c. the Strait of Gibraltar
- d. the Bering Strait
- e. the Bosphorus

When the world was one giant land mass known as Pangea, the eastern side of South America was tucked under the giant bulge in the western side of which continent?

- a. Africa
- b. Europe
- c. Asia
- d. Australia
- e. Antarctica

The language most commonly spoken by people of South America is

- a. Dutch
- b. German
- c. Spanish
- d. Incan
- e. Quichua

What is the most common religion of people in South America?

- a. Christianity
- b. Islam
- c. Judaism
- d. Hinduism
- e. Buddhism

The country on the east coast of South America that was colonized by Portugal and where Portuguese is the most commonly spoken language is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Peru
- b. Ecuador
- c. Uruguay
- d. Brazil
- e. Colombia

The country on the North Coast of South America that the country of Panama was created from is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Peru
- b. Ecuador
- c. Uruguay
- d. Brazil
- e. Colombia

The country that the equator passes through in South America is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Argentina
- b. Ecuador
- c. Paraguay
- d. Chile
- e. Venezuela

The largest city in South America and the ninth largest city in the world is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Sao Paulo
- b. Caracas
- c. Bogota
- d. Buenos Aires
- e. Lima

The long, thin country on the west coast of South America whose capital, Santiago, was struck by a major earthquake in 2012 is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Argentina
- b. Ecuador
- c. Paraguay
- d. Chile
- e. Venezuela

The largest country in South America that occupies almost half of the landmass of South America is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Peru



- b. Ecuador
- c. Uruguay
- d. Brazil
- e. Colombia

Machu Picchu in Peru is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. an ancient Incan mountain city
- b. the largest lake in South America
- c. the tallest mountain in South America
- d. a tropical river that flows through Venezuela
- e. an indigenous tribe in the Pampas of Argentina

## EAST ASIA

This southwestern region of China with a strong Buddhist culture is known as the “rooftop of the world” because it has the highest elevation of any region on earth.

- a. Mongolia
- b. Taiwan
- c. Xinjiang
- d. Tibet
- e. Manchuria

This island nation is east of China and has Tokyo as its capital city.

- a. Korea
- b. Vietnam
- c. Japan
- d. Taiwan
- e. Indonesia

This country was hit the hardest by the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami in which over 230,000 people were killed. It has the largest Muslim population of any country in the world.

- a. Korea
- b. Vietnam
- c. Japan
- d. Taiwan
- e. Indonesia

Mount Everest is in this mountain range that separates India from China.

- a. the Andes
- b. the Himalayas
- c. the Urals
- d. the Atlas
- e. the Appalachian

The mountain range that forms the dividing line between Europe and Asia in Russia is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. the Andes
- b. the Himalayas
- c. the Urals
- d. the Atlas
- e. the Appalachians

The peninsula that extends southeast from the northern China was divided into two separate nations after World War II.

- a. Japan
- b. Korea
- c. Manchuria
- d. Taiwan
- e. Indonesia

This nation's west of Vietnam is formed by over 7,000 islands. After the Spanish-American war in 1898 it was governed by the United States until it became independent after World War II.

- a. Japan
- b. Indonesia
- c. Vietnam
- d. the Philippines
- e. Thailand

The manmade structure that divided the settled farmers of China from the nomadic groups of Mongolia was the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Terracotta Army
- b. Three Gorges Dam
- c. the Grand Canal
- d. the Great Wall of China
- e. the Forbidden City

The diamond-shaped subcontinent in South Asia that is the second most populous country in the world and has the largest Hindu population is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. China
- b. India
- c. Bangladesh
- d. Korea
- e. Nepal

The political capital of China is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Beijing
- b. Shanghai
- c. Tokyo
- d. Hong Kong
- e. Sinagpore

Angkor Wat was first a Hindu then a Buddhist temple that is the largest religious monument in the world. It was built in the 12th century and is located in the modern country of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Laoa
- b. Vietnam
- c. Cambodia
- d. India
- e. China

The third largest Ocean in the world is ringed by Africa, the Arabian peninsula, the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia and Australia. It is the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean.

- a. Indian
- b. Atlantic
- c. Pacific
- d. Arctic
- e. Mediterranean

The Taj Mahal is a white marble mausoleum built by emperor Mumtaz Mahal for his wife. It is considered by some to be the crown jewel of Muslim art in the world. It is located in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. China
- b. India
- c. Bangladesh
- d. Korea
- e. Nepal

The Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur were the tallest buildings in the world from 1998-2004. They are located in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. China
- b. India
- c. Japan
- d. Malaysia
- e. Indonesia

This third-longest river in the world flows across southern China and waters China's rice growing region is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Yellow River

- b. Mekong River
- c. Yangtze River
- d. Indus River
- e. Brahmaputra River

In the 1960s and 1970s the United States fought a war to protect the southern half of this country from invasion by the communist northern half of this country in southeast Asia.

- a. China
- b. Japan
- c. Vietnam
- d. Laos
- e. Cambodia

This country directly to the east of India is the eighth most populous country and one of the most densely populated countries on the planet. It separated from India in 1947 and was known as West Pakistan until it became independent in 1971.

- a. Thailand
- b. Vietnam
- c. Nepal
- d. Bangladesh
- e. Indonesia

The seasonal wind that brings heavy rain to India when it blows from the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea is known as a \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. El Nino
- b. Hurricane
- c. Tsunami
- d. Monsoon
- e. Typhoon

This island off the coast of the People's Republic of China (mainland China) is where the nationalist government of China fled in 1949 after its defeat in the Chinese Civil War. The independence of this island nation, known as the Republic of China is disputed by the government of mainland China.

- a. Bangladesh
- b. Japan
- c. Taiwan
- d. the Philippines
- e. Hong Kong

This city of seven million in southern China was a British colony until it was returned to China in 1997. It is one of the most densely populated parts of the world.

- a. Beijing

- b. Shanghai
- c. the Forbidden City
- d. Tokyo
- e. Hong Kong

Tiananmen Square?  
Three Gorges Dam

## EUROPE

The Scandinavian Peninsula in northern Europe is the location of Norway and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Sweden
- b. Finland
- c. Spain
- d. Iceland
- e. France

The Iberian Peninsula on the western end of the Mediterranean Sea is the location of Portugal and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Sweden
- b. Finland
- c. Spain
- d. Iceland
- e. France

The nations of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland comprise the nation-state known today as \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. the Irish Republic
- b. Australia
- c. Great Britain
- d. the European Union
- e. Vatican City

The sea between Greece and Turkey that was known as the “wine-dark sea” in Homer’s ancient Greek epic poems is today called the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea.

- a. Black
- b. Caspian
- c. Mediterranean
- d. Aegean
- e. Adriatic

The sea that divides Europe from Africa and that was so completely dominated by the Roman empire two thousand years ago that it was known as the “Roman Lake” is today known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea.

- a. Black
- b. Caspian
- c. Mediterranean
- d. Adegean
- e. Adriatic

The narrow band of water at the western end of Europe that connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean and separates Europe from Africa is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Strait of Hormuz
- b. Strait of Malacca
- c. Bering Strait
- d. Strait of Gibraltar
- e. Dardanelles

This largest city in Turkey and fifth largest city in the world was the capital of the Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman Empires. It straddles the Bosphorus, one of the busiest waterways in the world and is partially in Europe and partially in Asia. It was formerly known as Constantinople.

- a. Rome
- b. Moscow
- c. Mecca
- d. Gibraltar
- e. istanbul

This river starts in the Black Forest of Germany and flows east to the Black Sea. It is the second longest river in Europe and is the only river to flow through four national capitals (Vienna, Austria; Bratislava, Slovakia; Budapest, Hungary; and Belgrade, Serbia).

- a. the Rhine
- b. the Danube
- c. the Mediterranean
- d. the Tigris
- e. the Volga

The second largest country in Europe and the site of the Allied beach landing at Normandy in World War II is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Great Britain
- b. Italy
- c. Germany
- d. France

- e. Spain

The largest country in Europe and the site of conflict with Russia over possession of the Crimean Peninsula in 2014 is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Germany
- b. Romania
- c. Poland
- d. Ukraine
- e. Belarus

The long peninsula that sticks in to the Mediterranean Sea and that looks like a high-heeled boot with its toe kicking the island of Sicily is the location of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Italy
- b. Greece
- c. Spain
- d. Cyprus
- e. Crimea

The Crimean Peninsula has been historically important to Russia because it has been the location of Russia's only year-round port cities. The Crimean Peninsula sticks out into the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea.

- a. Adriatic
- b. Aegean
- c. Black
- d. Mediterranean
- e. Caspian

This great European mountain range stretches from Austria in the east to France and Switzerland in the west. It contains the Matterhorn and Mont Blanc.

- a. the Alps
- b. the Urals
- c. the Atlas
- d. the Himalayas
- e. the Andes

#### NORTH AMERICA (14)

The largest river system in North America has its source in Minnesota and flows south to New Orleans. It drains parts of 31 states between the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains. It roughly divides the United States into an eastern and western half. It is the \_\_\_\_\_.



- a. Rio Grande
- b. Snake River
- c. Saint Lawrence River
- d. Colorado River
- e. Mississippi River

This mountain range contains the tallest peaks in North America. It is the location of the Continental Divide of the Americas. Water west of the Continental Divide flows into the Pacific Ocean and water east of the Continental Divide flows into the Atlantic Ocean.

- a. Rocky Mountains
- b. Appalachian Mountains
- c. Sierra Nevadas
- d. Columbian Range
- e. Pacific Coast Mountains

The Gulf Coast is sometimes known as the “third coast” in the United States. It is the northern shore of the Gulf of Mexico. It contains the states of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Arizona
- b. New Mexico
- c. California
- d. Texas
- e. South Carolina

The body of water that is surrounded by the Yukatan peninsula, Central America, and a string of island including Cuba, Hispaniola, and the Bahamas is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Gulf of Mexico
- b. Caribbean Sea
- c. Sea of Cortez
- d. Hudson Bay
- e. Bermuda Triangle

The bodies of water along the northeastern border of the United States and Canada named Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, and Superior are \_\_\_\_\_. They form the world’s largest system of freshwater lakes.

- a. Hudson Bay
- b. the Saint Lawrence Seaway
- c. the Great Lakes
- d. the Boundary Waters
- e. Chain of Lakes

The spectacular natural formation carved by the Colorado river into Arizona is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Devil’s Tower

- b. the Snake Canyon
- c. White Sands
- d. the Grand Canyon
- e. Death Valley

The three states that form the west coast of the United States are Washington, Oregon and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Arizona
- b. Montana
- c. New Mexico
- d. Texas
- e. California

The predominantly French -speaking province of Canada that contains Montreal is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Quebec
- b. Nova Scotia
- c. Newfoundland
- d. Ontario
- e. New Brunswick

The North American Free Trade Agreement signed in 1994 created the largest trading bloc in the world. It is an agreement among the countries of Canada, the United States and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Costa Rica
- b. Mexico
- c. Australia
- d. Great Britain
- e. Panama

This country is one of the seven countries of Central America, the subcontinent that connects Mexico to South America.

- a. Guatemala
- b. Colombia
- c. Peru
- d. Cuba
- e. Jamaica

The island of Hispaniola was encountered by Christopher Columbus in 1492. At the time it was home to the Taino people. Today it is the location of the countries \_\_\_\_\_ and the Dominican Republic.

- a. Cuba
- b. Jamaica
- c. Haiti

- d. Belize
- e. the Bahamas

This great river flows through the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec. It forms part of the border between New York state and Canada and ultimately empties into the Atlantic Ocean.

- a. Rio Grande
- b. Snake River
- c. Saint Lawrence River
- d. Colorado River
- e. Mississippi River

The largest city in North America is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Mexico City
- b. New York City
- c. Los Angeles
- d. Toronto
- e. Chicago

Tenochtitlan, the ancient city located where Mexico City is today was the capital of this ancient North America civilization of Nahuatl speakers.

- a. the Incas
- b. the Mayas
- c. the Aztecs
- d. the Otomies
- e. the Iroquois

## THE MIDDLE EAST

The city in Saudi Arabia that Muslim pilgrims travel to visit the Grand Mosque and fulfill the fifth pillar of Islam is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Mecca
- c. Medina
- d. Istanbul
- e. Baghdad

The land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in what is now Iraq was the site of some of the world's first cities. It is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Mesopotamia
- b. Egypt
- c. Israel
- d. Persia
- e. Sinai Peninsula

The peninsula surrounded by the Red Sea, Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea that was the birthplace of Islam and is the location of Saudi Arabia is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. The Sinai Peninsula
- b. The Arabian Peninsula
- c. the Fertile Crescent
- d. Mesopotamia
- e. Ebypt

The modern day country across the Persian Gulf from Saudi Arabia in the location that was formerly the heart of the Persian Empire is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Iraq
- b. Israel
- c. Iran
- d. Ebypt
- e. Pakistan

The nation to the east of India that was formed in 1947 as a mostly Muslim nation when Indian split apart is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Pakistan
- b. Bangladesh
- c. Iran
- d. Iraq
- e. Syria

The major river that flows from the highlands of Tibet through the heart of Pakistan and empties into the Arabian Sea at the port city of Karachi is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Nile River
- b. Tigris River
- c. Brahmaputra River
- d. Ganges River
- e. Indus River

The sacred river to Hindus that starts in the Himalayas and flows through India and Bangladesh is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Nile River
- b. Tigris River
- c. Brahmaputra River
- d. Ganges River
- e. Indus River

The middle eastern city that is sacred to Christians, Jews and Muslims because it was the site of Jesus's death, Muhammad's Night Journey to Heaven and the Temple of Solomon is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Mecca
- c. Medina
- d. Istanbul
- e. Baghdad

The monument built by Muslims at the site of Muhammad's ascension into heaven is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Dome of the Rock
- b. Western Wall
- c. Ka'aba
- d. Zamzam Well
- e. Mount Hijra

The religion followed by a majority of people in the Middle East is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Christianity
- b. Judaism
- c. Islam
- d. Buddhism
- e. Hinduism

The nation founded in 1947 as a homeland for the Jewish people on the site of an ancient Jewish kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Israel
- b. Tibet
- c. Egypt
- d. Syria
- e. Lebanon

The people who were living in the area that became the modern Jewish homeland and who are fighting to for the recognition of an independent country of their own are the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Israelis
- b. Lebanese
- c. Persians
- d. Palestinians
- e. Kurds

An ethnic minority in norther and western Turkey that is currently advocating for their own independent state are the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Israelis
- b. Lebanese
- c. Persians

- d. Palestinians
- e. Kurds

The language of the Qur'an and the most widely spoken language of the middle east is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Hebrew
- b. Egyptian
- c. Arabic
- d. Farsi
- e. Aramaic

This city is located between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, It is The modern capital of Iraq and was the capital of the Abbasid Caliphate in the 8th century.

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Mecca
- c. Medina
- d. Istanbul
- e. Baghdad

The language most commonly spoken in Iran is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Hebrew
- b. Egyptian
- c. Arabic
- d. Farsi
- e. Aramaic

This canal shortens the water route from Europe to India by over 10,000 miles. It was constructed in 1867. It cuts through the Sinai Peninsula and connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. It is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Suez Canal
- b. Panama Canal
- c. Grand Canal
- d. Strait of Gibraltar
- e. Strait of Hormuz

The mountainous country between Pakistan and Iran that was thought to harbor the Al Qaeda bases where the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against New York and Washington, D.C. were launched is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Afghanistan
- b. Iraq
- c. Israel
- d. Syria
- e. Egypt

The people of this north African country erupted in protest against their president Hosni Mubarek and ultimately overthrew him in 2011.

- a. Iraq
- b. Syria
- c. Egypt
- d. Israel
- e. Iran

This country west of Iraq and north of Israel has been involved in a months-long civil war between its long-time president Bashar al-Assad and a group of rebels.

- a. Iraq
- b. Syria
- c. Egypt
- d. Israel
- e. Iran

This Jewish sacred site located in Israel is all that remains of the Temple of Solomon.

- a. the Dome of the Rock
- b. the Western Wall
- c. the Hagia Sophia
- d. the Kaaba
- e. the black stone

The Burj Khalifa is the tallest building in the world. It is located in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. London, England
- b. Moscow, Russia
- c. Jakarta, Indonesia
- d. Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- e. Shanghai, China

The Arab states of the Persian Gulf (Kuwait, Bahrain, Iraq, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates) are known for an abundance of rich natural resources.

- a. gold
- b. oil
- c. plutonium
- d. coltan
- e. diamonds



Mississippi River  
Gold Coast  
hemispheres  
Middle East  
Gulf Stream  
Horn of Africa  
Mediterranean Rim/Basin  
Ring of Fire  
Panama Canal  
Balkans  
Persian Gulf  
Sahara Desert  
Nile  
Amazon  
Baku (Russian Oil Fields)  
Pampas (Argentina)  
Savanna  
Indian Subcontinent  
Fertile Crescent  
Warziristan