Land Shape Journey

Read about regions of the United States.

SS24.2.9a "Describe regions of the state and nation, using vocabulary associated with geographical features of Earth, including bay, hill, island, mountain range, peninsula, plateau, and valley."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each land or water feature word in the passage. Circle words that tell what each feature looks like or where it is.

From Coast to Valley

1. Along the coast of Maine, ocean water reaches into the land at a bay. A peninsula sticks out into the water, but it stays joined to the land. An island sits apart, with water all around it.

2. In the eastern United States, the Appalachian Mountains form a mountain range, a long line of mountains. Nearby, a hill rises less high than a mountain. A valley is low land between hills or mountains, and a river may flow through it.

3. Farther west, the Colorado Plateau spreads across parts of four states. A plateau is high land with a broad, fairly flat top. In California, the Central Valley is a wide, low region between mountain ranges where many farms grow food.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Describe a bay, a peninsula, and an island along Maine's coast.

2. Describe two land features in the eastern United States.

3. How is the Colorado Plateau different from California's Central Valley?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a region in a made-up state. In two sentences, name the state and describe where at least two features from the passage are in your region.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 2 · SS24.2.9a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each land or water feature word in the passage. Circle words that tell what each feature looks like or where it is. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Describe a bay, a peninsula, and an island along Maine's coast.	**A bay is where ocean water reaches into the land. A peninsula sticks out into the water but stays joined to land. An island has water all around it.**
2	Describe two land features in the eastern United States.	**The Appalachian Mountains form a long mountain range. A nearby hill rises less high than a mountain. Also accept a valley as low land between hills or mountains.**
3	How is the Colorado Plateau different from California's Central Valley?	**The Colorado Plateau is high land with a broad, fairly flat top. The Central Valley is a wide, low region between mountain ranges.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In my made-up state of Pinewood, a mountain range rises beside a wide valley. A river runs through the valley toward a bay on the coast.

Accept accurate descriptions in students' own words. For Your Turn, look for two correctly used feature words and a clear description of where the features are.