

Europe Location Clues

Use nearby places and direction words to locate European features.

SS6G7.a "Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: the Danube River, Rhine River, English Channel, Mediterranean Sea, European Plain, the Alps, Pyrenees, Ural Mountains, and Iberian Peninsula."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first appearance of each of the nine European features named in the passage. Circle the words that tell where each feature is, so you can use nearby places and directions to locate it on a map.

Finding Europe's Features

- ① Europe's waterways and seas help map readers divide the continent into regions. The English Channel lies between southern Great Britain and northern France. South of much of Europe, the Mediterranean Sea borders countries such as Spain, France, Italy, and Greece. The Danube River begins in southern Germany and flows generally eastward to the Black Sea. The Rhine River begins in the Alps and flows generally northward, reaching the North Sea through the Netherlands. These water features connect many European places.
- ② The European Plain is a broad area of low, mostly flat land that stretches across northern Europe. It reaches from northern France eastward through countries including Germany and Poland toward western Russia. In contrast, the Alps are high mountains in south-central Europe, north of Italy. The Pyrenees form a mountain border between Spain and France. West of the Pyrenees is the Iberian Peninsula, the land area that includes Spain and Portugal. It extends southwest from the rest of Europe.
- ③ Far to the east, the Ural Mountains run generally north to south through Russia. They are often used as part of the boundary between Europe and Asia. When locating features, first find a nearby country, coast, or body of water. Then use direction words and neighboring features to check your place. For example, a reader can locate the Pyrenees by finding Spain and France, then looking along their shared border. This method works on political maps and physical maps.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which water feature lies between southern Great Britain and northern France?

2 Where does the Danube River begin, and in what general direction does it flow?

3 Which landform stretches from northern France eastward toward western Russia?

4 Which mountain range is used as part of the boundary between Europe and Asia, and what country does it run through?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write three complete map-location clues: one for the Mediterranean Sea, one for the Alps, and one for the Iberian Peninsula. In each clue, name a nearby country or feature and include a direction or location relationship.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the first appearance of each of the nine European features named in the passage. Circle the words that tell where each feature is, so you can use nearby places and directions to locate it on a map. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which water feature lies between southern Great Britain and northern France?	The English Channel.
2	Where does the Danube River begin, and in what general direction does it flow?	It begins in southern Germany and flows generally eastward to the Black Sea.
3	Which landform stretches from northern France eastward toward western Russia?	The European Plain.
4	Which mountain range is used as part of the boundary between Europe and Asia, and what country does it run through?	The Ural Mountains, which run through Russia.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Mediterranean Sea is south of much of Europe and borders Spain, France, Italy, and Greece. Find Italy, then look north to locate the Alps in south-central Europe. Find Spain and Portugal to locate the Iberian Peninsula west of the Pyrenees.

Accept location statements that accurately use the passage's nearby places and direction words. For Part 3, each of the three required features should have an accurate clue with both a nearby reference and a location relationship.