

Region Detectives

Use shared characteristics to sort places in the Eastern Hemisphere.

6.1b "The Eastern Hemisphere can be divided into regions. Regions are areas that share common identifiable characteristics, such as physical, political, economic, or cultural features..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each main regional name and underline words or phrases that name a physical, political, economic, or cultural characteristic. Number the eight main regions in the order they appear.

How Geographers Group Places

- ① This passage uses the regional groupings in New York's social studies framework. A region is an area whose places share identifiable characteristics. These may be physical, such as mountains or climate, or political, economic, or cultural, such as borders, trade, languages, or traditions. Regional boundaries can differ between sources. The lists below name places emphasized in this curriculum; they are not complete country lists or statements of political membership.
- ② In this framework, one region is the Middle East, which includes North Africa and Southwest Asia. South of the Sahara Desert is Sub-Saharan Africa. Europe is often described in West, North, South, Central, and Southeast parts. Russia and the Independent States includes Russia, Caucasasia, Central Asia, and the area of Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine. These names group nearby places, but geographers can also compare their physical features, political histories, economic links, and cultural practices to explain why a regional pattern matters.
- ③ East Asia includes the People's Republic of China, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan. Southeast Asia includes Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, and the Philippines. South Asia includes Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan. Oceania includes Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific islands. When you sort a place into a region, use evidence. Its location can be useful, and you can add a physical, political, economic, or cultural characteristic that connects places in that region.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is a region?

2 Name two types of characteristics geographers can use to describe a region.

3 What five parts are used to describe Europe in the passage?

4 Which region includes Japan? What evidence from the passage supports your answer?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Complete the chart with two countries from two different regions named in the passage. For each country, name its region and write one physical, political, economic, or cultural characteristic that helps describe the region.

COUNTRY	EASTERN HEMISPHERE REGION	CHARACTERISTIC THAT HELPS DESCRIBE THE REGION

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each main regional name and underline words or phrases that name a physical, political, economic, or cultural characteristic. Number the eight main regions in the order they appear. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is a region?	An area whose places share identifiable characteristics.
2	Name two types of characteristics geographers can use to describe a region.	Any two: physical, political, economic, or cultural.
3	What five parts are used to describe Europe in the passage?	West, North, South, Central, and Southeast.
4	Which region includes Japan? What evidence from the passage supports your answer?	East Asia. The passage lists Japan as one of the places in East Asia.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

COUNTRY	EASTERN HEMISPHERE REGION	CHARACTERISTIC THAT HELPS DESCRIBE THE REGION
Pakistan	South Asia	Physical: The Himalayas extend through part of South Asia.
Thailand	Southeast Asia	Cultural: Buddhism is practiced by many people in Southeast Asia.

Accept the listed region names and any two valid characteristic types for Questions 1 and 2. For the chart, accept countries placed in correct named regions and accurate, relevant physical, political, economic, or cultural characteristics.