

City or Region?

Use location clues to tell a major city from a geographic region.

WG.11.a "identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CITY

A city is one named place where many people live and work. On a map, it is usually shown as one point or small area.

Lisbon is a city in Portugal.

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

A geographic region is a broad area that shares physical features or location. It covers more land than one city.

The Great Plains is a region in central North America.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle CITY or REGION for each clue, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain which words helped you classify them.

1. Cairo sits beside the Nile River in northeastern Africa.

CITY

REGION

2. Tokyo lies on Japan's Pacific coast.

CITY

REGION

3. The Sahara spreads across much of northern Africa.

CITY

REGION

4. Mexico City is in central Mexico.

CITY

REGION

5. The Amazon Basin covers land around the Amazon River in South America.

CITY

REGION

6. The Himalayas form a mountain region between India and the Tibetan Plateau.

CITY

REGION

7. Sydney is on Australia's southeastern coast.

CITY

REGION

8. Nairobi is in south-central Kenya.

CITY

REGION

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM #

HOW I KNEW

ITEM #

HOW I KNEW

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

For Part 3, write one new example of a major CITY and one new example of a geographic REGION.

CITY

REGION

CHALLENGE

Write one location clue for a major city and one location clue for a geographic region. Use a nearby country, continent, ocean, sea, river, or landform in each clue. Then use an Australia map from your teacher: locate and label Sydney on a copy or overlay. On separate paper, name the map and describe Sydney's position within Australia and relative to a labeled sea or landform. Ask your teacher to check your located places and evidence.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Cairo sits beside the Nile River in northeastern Africa.	CITY	Cairo is a major city in Egypt.
2	Tokyo lies on Japan's Pacific coast.	CITY	Tokyo is a major city in Japan.
3	The Sahara spreads across much of northern Africa.	REGION	The Sahara is a large desert region.
4	Mexico City is in central Mexico.	CITY	Mexico City is a major city.
5	The Amazon Basin covers land around the Amazon River in South America.	REGION	The Amazon Basin is a broad geographic region.
6	The Himalayas form a mountain region between India and the Tibetan Plateau.	REGION	The Himalayas are a large mountain region.
7	Sydney is on Australia's southeastern coast.	CITY	Sydney is a major city in Australia.
8	Nairobi is in south-central Kenya.	CITY	Nairobi is a major city and the capital of Kenya.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CITY:** Seoul is a city on the Korean Peninsula.
- **REGION:** The Andes is a mountain region along western South America.

Challenge: Buenos Aires is a city in eastern Argentina near the Atlantic Ocean. The Arabian Peninsula is a region between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. Map check: Sydney is located on Australia's southeastern coast; accept an accurate named mapped water/land reference.

Answers for Part 1 are 1 CITY, 2 CITY, 3 REGION, 4 CITY, 5 REGION, 6 REGION, 7 CITY, 8 CITY. For Parts 2 and 3, accept accurate examples and explanations that distinguish one named city from a broad geographic area. Required: supply a readable map of Australia, showing Sydney and nearby labeled physical features, with direction reference and a copy/overlay. Observe actual location and marking, and check each written relationship against that map. Original written classification alone is incomplete; support access and retry.