

Pins and Places

Sort map labels by whether they name a city or a region.

WG.3.a "identifying and analyzing the location of major geographic regions and major cities on maps and globes;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

MAJOR CITY

A major city is a named settlement where many people live. On a map, a city is often shown with a point or dot and a label.

Wellington, New Zealand

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

A geographic region is a broad area with shared physical features or location. On a map, it covers space instead of one exact point.

Amazon Basin, South America

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Part 1: Circle CITY or REGION for each item. Part 2: Choose two items and explain whether each would be shown as a point location or an area on a map.

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Tokyo, Japan | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 2. Lagos, Nigeria | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 3. Great Plains, central North America | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 4. São Paulo, Brazil | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 5. Himalayas, Asia | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 6. Sahara Desert, North Africa | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 7. Cairo, Egypt | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |
| 8. Mexico City, Mexico | ☐ CITY | ☐ REGION |
| <hr/> | | |

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

Write one new example of a CITY and one new example of a REGION. Do not use an item from this page.

CITY

REGION

CHALLENGE

Choose one CITY and one REGION from Part 1. In two sentences, name each item's continent and explain why one is a point location and one covers an area. Then use a United States/Canada map from your teacher: locate and label Toronto and the Great Plains on a copy or overlay. On separate paper, name the map and describe Toronto's country/location and the Great Plains' position relative to a labeled physical feature. Ask your teacher to check your located places and evidence.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Tokyo, Japan	CITY	Major city in Japan; map point.
2	Lagos, Nigeria	CITY	Major city in Nigeria; map point.
3	Great Plains, central North America	REGION	Broad physical region in North America.
4	São Paulo, Brazil	CITY	Major city in Brazil; map point.
5	Himalayas, Asia	REGION	Mountain region across part of Asia.
6	Sahara Desert, North Africa	REGION	Desert region across northern Africa.
7	Cairo, Egypt	CITY	Major city in Egypt; map point.
8	Mexico City, Mexico	CITY	Major city in Mexico; map point.

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:** Sydney, Australia.
- **REGION:** Tibetan Plateau, central Asia.

Challenge: Tokyo is in Asia and is a city, so a map can mark it with a point and label. The Sahara Desert is in Africa and is a region that covers a large area. Map check: Toronto is a city in Canada; the Great Plains are a broad central North American region. Verify the learner's particular mapped relationship.

For Part 2, accept explanations that connect cities to labeled point locations and regions to broad areas on a map. Part 3 answers may vary if the city and region are geographically accurate and are not copied from the page. Required: supply a readable map of United States/Canada, showing Toronto and the Great Plains plus 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.