

Texas Land Clues

Read regional clues to locate and describe Texas land.

4.6.A "identify, locate, and describe the physical regions of Texas (Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, North Central Plains, Coastal Plains), including their characteristics such as landforms, climate, vegetation, and economic activities; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the four region names, number them 1 to 4 from west to east, and underline one characteristic for each region.

A Trip Across Texas

- ① Texas has four large physical regions. Each region has a place, landforms, weather patterns, plants, and jobs that fit its land. In far western Texas, the Mountains and Basins region has rugged mountains separated by desert basins. It has a dry climate and sparse desert plants, such as cacti and shrubs. Ranching, mining, and tourism are important activities in this region.
- ② East of the Mountains and Basins lies the Great Plains. This region includes the Panhandle and other west-central areas. Much of its land is high and flat, but canyons cut through some places. The climate is dry and windy, and grasses and shrubs grow there. Cattle ranching, wheat farming, oil production, and wind energy support the economy.
- ③ Farther east, the North Central Plains have rolling hills, prairies, and wooded areas called the Cross Timbers. This region is generally wetter than the Great Plains. Farmers grow crops, and ranchers raise cattle. Oil and natural gas also provide jobs. The Coastal Plains cover eastern and southeastern Texas along the Gulf of Mexico. They have flat to rolling land, a humid climate, forests, grasslands, and marshes. Farming, fishing, shipping, and energy industries are important there.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which region is in far western Texas? Name one landform and one climate clue for that region.

2 How is the climate of the North Central Plains different from the climate of the Great Plains?

3 Which region is along the Gulf of Mexico? Name two kinds of vegetation and two economic activities there.

4 List the four Texas physical regions in order from west to east.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one Texas physical region. Write a three-sentence visitor note that names its location, describes its landforms, climate, and vegetation, and connects one economic activity to the region.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the four region names, number them 1 to 4 from west to east, and underline one characteristic for each region. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which region is in far western Texas? Name one landform and one climate clue for that region.	Mountains and Basins. It has rugged mountains and desert basins, and it has a dry climate.
2	How is the climate of the North Central Plains different from the climate of the Great Plains?	The North Central Plains are generally wetter than the Great Plains. The Great Plains are dry and windy.
3	Which region is along the Gulf of Mexico? Name two kinds of vegetation and two economic activities there.	The Coastal Plains. Vegetation includes forests, grasslands, and marshes. Economic activities include farming, fishing, shipping, and energy industries.
4	List the four Texas physical regions in order from west to east.	Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, North Central Plains, Coastal Plains.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would visit the Coastal Plains in eastern and southeastern Texas, where flat to rolling land reaches the Gulf of Mexico. The humid climate supports forests, grasslands, and marshes. I could watch boats at a port because shipping is an important economic activity there.

Accept accurate equivalent descriptions from the passage. For the visitor note, check that the student names one region and accurately includes its location, physical characteristics, and an economic activity.