

City Sites Compared

Use location data to compare three East African cities.

6.20 "Social studies skills. The student uses geographic tools to collect, analyze, and interpret data. The student is expected to: answer geographic questions..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each latitude and longitude, circle each physical setting clue, and number the sentences that explain how a city connects to another place or environment.

Three Cities, Different Sites

- ① Geographers study location by asking more than "Where is it?" They also ask why a place developed there and how it connects to nearby environments. In East Africa, Nairobi, Mombasa, and Kisumu have different sites. Their latitude and longitude show each city's position north or south of the Equator and east of the Prime Meridian.

LOCATION DATA FOR THREE EAST AFRICAN CITIES

City	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
Nairobi	1.29° S	36.82° E	1,795 m
Mombasa	4.04° S	39.67° E	50 m
Kisumu	0.10° S	34.76° E	1,131 m

- ② Nairobi lies in Kenya's inland highlands, about 1,795 meters above sea level. Its cooler highland setting helped make it a center for government, business, and transportation. Mombasa is much lower, on Kenya's Indian Ocean coast. Its harbor links ships with inland Kenya and other countries. Kisumu sits on Lake Victoria, where water routes connect communities around the lake.
- ③ The data reveal a pattern: all three cities are east of the Prime Meridian, but their environments differ. Mombasa, farthest east, is also lowest and coastal. Nairobi is between the other cities in longitude and has the highest elevation. Kisumu is farthest west and near the Equator. A thematic sketch map could use different symbols for a port, highland city, and lake city.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

Using latitude and longitude, where is Nairobi located?

2

Why is Mombasa’s coastal location significant?

3

Compare Nairobi and Mombasa using the elevation data. What pattern do you notice about their environments?

4

Which city is farthest west? Use longitude data to support your answer.

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Create a location-and-connections chart for all three cities. In each row, give one location clue and one way the city’s location is significant or connected to another place.

CITY	LOCATION CLUE	SIGNIFICANCE OR CONNECTION

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each latitude and longitude, circle each physical setting clue, and number the sentences that explain how a city connects to another place or environment. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Using latitude and longitude, where is Nairobi located?	Nairobi is located at 1.29° S latitude and 36.82° E longitude.
2	Why is Mombasa's coastal location significant?	Mombasa has a harbor on the Indian Ocean coast. Its harbor links ships with inland Kenya and other countries.
3	Compare Nairobi and Mombasa using the elevation data. What pattern do you notice about their environments?	Nairobi is much higher, at 1,795 m, and is in inland highlands. Mombasa is only 50 m above sea level and is coastal.
4	Which city is farthest west? Use longitude data to support your answer.	Kisumu is farthest west because its longitude is 34.76° E, the smallest east longitude of the three cities.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

CITY	LOCATION CLUE	SIGNIFICANCE OR CONNECTION
Nairobi	Inland highlands, 1,795 m above sea level	Its highland setting helped it become a center for government, business, and transportation.
Mombasa	Indian Ocean coast, 50 m above sea level	Its harbor links ships with inland Kenya and other countries.
Kisumu	On Lake Victoria, near the Equator	Water routes connect communities around the lake.

Accept equivalent descriptions that accurately use the passage or table data. For the chart, each city needs a correct location clue and a supported significance or connection.