

Japan's Place Clues

Identify physical features and urban centers by using location clues in a regional description.

6.3.C “identify and locate major physical and human geographic features such as landforms, water bodies, and urban centers of various places and regions; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every physical geographic feature, circle every urban center, and number each phrase that tells where a feature is located to show how places relate.

Geographic Features of Japan

- ① Japan is an island country in East Asia. Four large islands make up most of its land: Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu. The Sea of Japan lies west of the islands, while the Pacific Ocean lies east. Japan's longest river, the Shinano River, flows across central Honshu to the Sea of Japan. Much of the country is mountainous. Mount Fuji, a volcanic mountain, rises on Honshu southwest of Tokyo, near the Pacific coast of Honshu.
- ② Tokyo, Japan's capital and largest urban center, stands on the eastern coast of Honshu beside Tokyo Bay. Yokohama is south of Tokyo on the same bay. Osaka is farther west, near Osaka Bay, and sits on the Osaka Plain. This flat plain is one of the country's important lowland areas. Kyoto lies inland, northeast of Osaka. These cities are linked by roads and railways, but their locations also reflect nearby coasts, bays, plains, and mountains.
- ③ Far to the north, Sapporo is the largest urban center on Hokkaido. It is inland from the island's western coast. On Kyushu, Fukuoka is a major city on the island's northern coast, beside Hakata Bay. The Seto Inland Sea separates Honshu from Shikoku and Kyushu. Knowing whether a place is a mountain, water body, plain, or city helps geographers describe a region. Location words, such as north, west, inland, and beside, show how features relate.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which water body lies west of Japan's main islands?

2 Where is Mount Fuji located in relation to Tokyo?

3 Which urban center is south of Tokyo on Tokyo Bay?

4 What water body separates Honshu from Shikoku and Kyushu?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a real region you have studied. Write exactly three sentences that name one urban center, one landform, and one water body, and give a location clue for each feature.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline every physical geographic feature, circle every urban center, and number each phrase that tells where a feature is located to show how places relate. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which water body lies west of Japan's main islands?	The Sea of Japan.
2	Where is Mount Fuji located in relation to Tokyo?	Mount Fuji is southwest of Tokyo.
3	Which urban center is south of Tokyo on Tokyo Bay?	Yokohama.
4	What water body separates Honshu from Shikoku and Kyushu?	The Seto Inland Sea.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Denver is an urban center in central Colorado, east of the Rocky Mountains. The Rocky Mountains are a landform west of Denver. The South Platte River, a water body, flows through Denver.

Accept accurate descriptions of any real region that include an urban center, a landform, and a water body. Each feature should have a clear location relationship, such as north of, beside, through, inland from, east of, or west of.