

Texas Regions Route

Read closely to locate and compare Texas physical regions.

7.8.A "locate and compare the Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, North Central Plains, and Coastal Plains regions;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each region name, write numbers 1 through 4 beside a phrase that tells where each region is, and circle one land feature for each region.

A Trip Across Texas

- ① Texas has four major physical regions. The Mountains and Basins region lies in far western Texas, mostly west of the Pecos River. It includes the state's highest mountains, dry basins, and desert land. East and northeast of it is the Great Plains region. This broad region covers the Panhandle and stretches south through west-central Texas. Its high, flat land is shaped by grasslands, canyons, and the Caprock Escarpment, a steep edge between higher and lower land.
- ② The North Central Plains region is east of the Great Plains and south of the Red River. It reaches across north-central Texas. Rolling hills, prairies, and wooded areas make this region less level than much of the Great Plains. The Cross Timbers, bands of trees and grasses, run through parts of it. Cities and farms share the landscape. Compared with the dry Mountains and Basins, the North Central Plains generally receives more rainfall and has more trees.
- ③ The Coastal Plains region spreads across eastern and southeastern Texas and meets the Gulf of Mexico. It is Texas's largest physical region. Its land ranges from forests and rivers in the east to broad coastal prairies near the Gulf. Unlike the high, dry Mountains and Basins, much of the Coastal Plains is lower and wetter. The four regions connect across Texas, but each has a different position, elevation, climate, and pattern of landforms and vegetation.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Where is the Mountains and Basins region located in Texas?

2 How is the Great Plains region located in relation to the Mountains and Basins region, and what is one land feature of the Great Plains?

3 Compare the North Central Plains with the Great Plains. Give one location difference and one landform difference.

4 What evidence from the passage shows that the Coastal Plains differs from the Mountains and Basins?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence travel route from far western Texas to the Gulf of Mexico. Name all four regions in order, include one location or land detail for each, and use a comparison word in at least two sentences.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each region name, write numbers 1 through 4 beside a phrase that tells where each region is, and circle one land feature for each region. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Where is the Mountains and Basins region located in Texas?	It is in far western Texas, mostly west of the Pecos River.
2	How is the Great Plains region located in relation to the Mountains and Basins region, and what is one land feature of the Great Plains?	The Great Plains is east and northeast of the Mountains and Basins. It has high, flat land, grasslands, canyons, and the Caprock Escarpment.
3	Compare the North Central Plains with the Great Plains. Give one location difference and one landform difference.	The North Central Plains is east of the Great Plains. It has rolling hills, prairies, and wooded areas, so it is less level than much of the Great Plains.
4	What evidence from the passage shows that the Coastal Plains differs from the Mountains and Basins?	The Coastal Plains is lower and wetter, with forests, rivers, and coastal prairies. The Mountains and Basins has high mountains, dry basins, and desert land.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In far western Texas, I would begin in the Mountains and Basins, where dry desert basins lie below high mountains. Next, I would travel east and northeast to the Great Plains, whose high, flat grasslands contrast with the desert. Then I would enter the North Central Plains, east of the Great Plains, where rolling hills and trees are unlike the flatter land. Finally, I would reach the lower, wetter Coastal Plains in eastern and southeastern Texas near the Gulf of Mexico.

Accept equivalent location descriptions and accurate comparisons stated in the passage. For Part 3, check that all four regions appear in a sensible west-to-east route, each has an accurate detail, and at least two sentences use comparison language.