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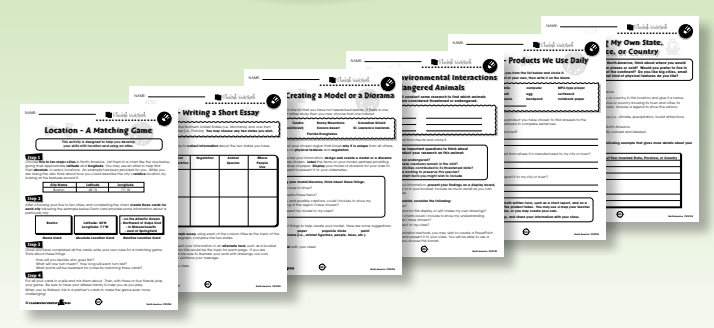
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North America - Place

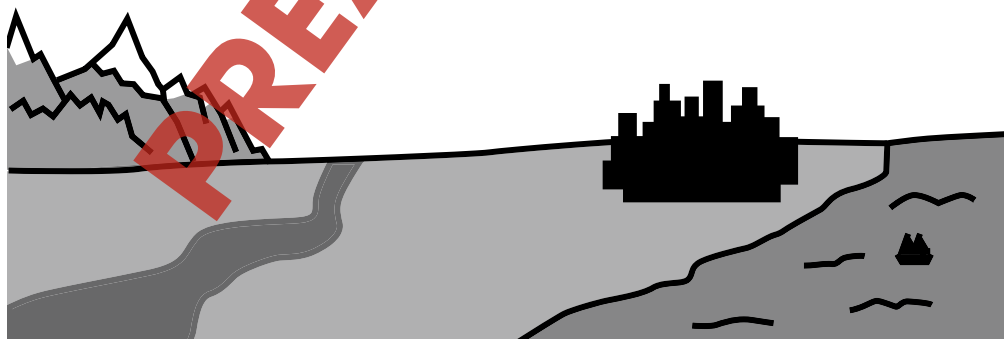
1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

river nation continent route transportation coast

- A _____ is one of the seven large land masses in the world, each characterized by unique features and human interactions.
- Trading goods between countries, and traveling by land, sea, or air, are all dependent upon different forms of _____.
- Another word for an independent country and its people is _____.
- A long, moving body of water, with banks on either side, which flows into another larger body of water, such as an ocean or a lake, is called a _____.
- A _____ is the place where a large body of water, such as an ocean or a sea, meets land. It is sometimes called the seashore.
- A _____ is the path taken from one place to another, whether on land, in the air, or on the water.

2. Label the diagram using the words in the list.

river mountain city plain coast



North America - Place

When we describe **place**, we look at those things that make a place **unique**. Sometimes we tell about the **physical characteristics** of a place, such as mountain **ranges** or valleys. Sometimes we describe the **wildlife** or **vegetation** of a place, while at other times we might identify where and why people live in a certain place.



North America is the world's third largest **continent**. It is a place made up of three very large **nations**, The United States, Canada, and Mexico, and several smaller countries found in the Caribbean and Central America. It has many unique physical characteristics.

The western part of North America is characterized by the Rocky **Mountains**. They are young mountains, and are tall, sharp, and snow-capped. The eastern part of the continent has the Appalachian mountain range. These mountains are old, rounded, and tree-covered. Between them, flat and wide are the Great **Plains** and prairies.

There are many great **rivers** in North America. The Mississippi and the Missouri flow through the Great Plains into the Gulf of Mexico. The Mackenzie flows into the Arctic Ocean. The St. Lawrence flows from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. They were all once important **routes** for exploration, but now serve as important passages for travel and shipping.

What are some of North America's major physical characteristics?



While most people in North America live in towns and **cities**, people can be found living in almost every **region**. Many people live along the eastern and western **coasts** and along the great rivers. Large North American cities, such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans, Chicago, Toronto, and Montreal, are located beside rivers, lakes, or oceans because they need water for **transportation**.



North America - Place

1. Circle **T** if the statement is true or **F** if it is false.

T = True
F = False

- T** **F** a) North America is the largest continent in the world.
- T** **F** b) A place may be described by its physical and human characteristics.
- T** **F** c) The great rivers of North America, such as the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence, have been important to people, both in the past and in the present, as routes for exploration, travel, and transportation.
- T** **F** d) Many large North American cities were established in their locations because they were close to large bodies of water necessary for transportation.
- T** **F** e) There are four Great Lakes.

2. Put a check mark (✓) next to the answer that is most correct.

- People can be found living throughout North America, but especially near which geographic feature?
 - A mountain ranges
 - B icy cold climates
 - C The Great Plains
 - D large bodies of water, such as oceans, lakes, and rivers
- The Rocky Mountains are relatively young mountains, and are tall, sharp, and snow-capped. The Appalachian Mountains are much older, and have been worn down by the passage of time. What are the features of the Appalachian Mountains?
 - A wide and flat
 - B still tall, yet rounded and tree-covered
 - C covered by jungle
 - D long, with banks on both sides
- Which area of North America has the largest collection of fresh water lakes in the world?
 - A The Great Plains
 - B the arctic
 - C The Great Lakes
 - D hot and humid jungles



North America - Place

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

- Why did many of North America's largest cities develop on large bodies of water?

- Which major bodies of water surround North America?

Research

- When we learn about place, we are trying to decide which characteristics show how one place is unique from others. One thing that makes a place unique is the wildlife we find in that place. Conduct some research to find out which animals are unique to North America. Try to find ten special animals. Collect your findings in a chart like the one below.

Animal Species Name	Where it lives in North America (i.e., mountains, swamp, forest, desert, etc.)

- Another unique feature of a place is the language, or languages, spoken there. Research the languages spoken in five North American countries. Record your findings in a chart like the one below.

Country Name	Languages Spoken (i.e., official language(s), and others spoken)
United States	
Canada	

- Learn more about the Mississippi River by conducting some simple research. Where does the Mississippi River begin? How long is it? Which states does it pass through? Into which large body of water does it flow? Which famous city is located at the Mississippi delta, near the mouth of the river? Record your findings on a separate piece of paper.



Crossword Puzzle!

Word List

- tundra
- population
- characteristics
- hemisphere
- continent
- relative
- coasts
- rivers
- route
- products
- absolute
- equator
- Atlantic
- western
- climate

Across

7. North America is the third largest _____ in the world.
8. A region in the most northerly parts of Alaska and Canada.
9. A path taken from one place to another.
11. A place can be described by physical and human _____.
13. _____ location describes exactly where a place is.
14. many people live along the _____ because they need water for transportation.

Down

1. North America is best described by its _____ location.
2. North America is north of this imaginary line.
3. North America is found in the _____ hemisphere.
4. One of the shapes made by cutting a sphere in half.
5. Things people use at home, work and school.
6. The _____ in North America is growing.
10. The Mississippi is one of North America's great _____.
11. The temperature, rain and/or snowfall found in a place.
12. The _____ Ocean lies to the east of North America.



Word Search

Find all of the words in the Word Search. Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal. A few may even be backwards! Look carefully!

hemisphere	country	products	continent
location	coast	language	highway
population	latitude	rainforest	region
communication	Equator	absolute	vegetation
feature	environment	longitude	relative
tundra	river	climate	characteristic
link	movement	interaction	

c	o	m	m	u	n	i	c	a	t	i	o	n	e	w	t	c	h	
m	o	r	a	i	n	f	o	r	e	s	t	e	g	e	g	h	t	
r	l	a	l	e	n	i	i	r	e	d	d	o	a	n				
b	a	o	s	e	l	o	n	g	t	u	d	e	o	s	r	e		
a	n	p	d	t	o	u	l	b	o	m	e	r	c	y	s	a	n	
n	g	i	u	m	s	i	r	t	e	o	o	y	n	m	a	c	i	
o	u	l	m	l	a	y	l	o	h	c	n	a	l	e	m	t	t	
i	a	o	c	e	v	i	t	a	l	e	r	h	h	a	t	e	n	
g	g	p	o	p	u	l	a	i	o	n	l	a	e	n	r	o		
e	e	e	u	x	u	o	v	n	e	f	g	a	e	e	e	i	c	
r	a	f	n	m	i	c	h	a	q	f	t	t	h	e	m	s	u	
e	b	s	t	m	g	a	f	r	u	s	t	i	e	e	e	t	r	
n	s	p	r	i	p	t	g	d	a	i	n	t	a	m	v	i	c	
v	o	e	y	n	u	l	o	n	t	g	n	u	h	i	o	c	s	
i	l	l	a	s	s	o	l	u	o	w	n	d	e	s	m	u	d	
r	u	l	a	b	b	n	r	t	r	i	v	e	r	p	o	u	e	
o	t	b	w	r	e	d	n	p	u	h	e	i	c	h	n	t	e	
n	e	o	w	y	a	w	h	g	i	h	d	v	n	e	r	h	r	
m	b	u	l	v	e	g	e	t	a	t	i	o	n	r	a	p	u	
e	r	n	k	t	e	c	l	i	m	a	t	e	l	e	s	o	t	
n	a	n	r	l	p	r	o	d	u	c	t	s	t	u	v	t	a	
t	i	u	n	n	c	a	s	p	r	d	l	r	a	g	e	e		
l	h	n	e	a	r	i	n	t	e	r	a	c	t	i	o	n	f	



Comprehension Quiz

Part C

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

1. What is the difference between **absolute** location and **relative** location? Give examples when answering. 4

2. How do we describe **place**? Give examples when answering. 3

3. Describe what is meant by **human and environment interactions**. Give examples when answering. 3

4. What do we mean by **movement** in geography? Give examples when answering. 3

5. What is a **region**? How can we describe one? Give examples when answering. 3

SUBTOTAL: /16

North America Outline Map





North America - Place

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

3. Why did many of North America's largest cities develop on large bodies of water?

4. Which major bodies of water surround North America?

Research

5. When we learn about place, we are trying to decide which characteristics show how one place is unique from others. One thing that makes a place unique is the wildlife we find in that place. Conduct some research to find out which animals are unique to North America. Try to find ten special animals. Collect your findings in a chart like the one below.

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7. Learn more about the Mississippi River by conducting some simple research. Where does the Mississippi River begin? How long is it? Which states does it pass through? Into which large body of water does it flow? Which famous city is located at the Mississippi delta, near the mouth of the river? Record your findings on a separate piece of paper.

3.
Because of their need for water for transportation

4.
Arctic Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean

5.
Answers will vary

6.
Answers will vary

7.
Begins in Minnesota; Approx. 3,740 miles long; Borders on, and flows through Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana; Flows into Gulf of Mexico; New Orleans located at Mississippi delta

Across:

- 7. continent
- 8. tundra
- 9. route
- 11. characteristics
- 13. absolute
- 14. coasts

Down:

- 1. relative
- 2. equator
- 3. western
- 4. hemisphere
- 5. products
- 6. population
- 10. rivers
- 11. climate
- 12. Atlantic



EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY