

Woodlin Elementary School, Silver Spring, MD  
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# *A Taste of Africa, Asia, and Europe*

***This program was developed at Woodlin Elementary School in Silver Spring, MD.  
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information.***

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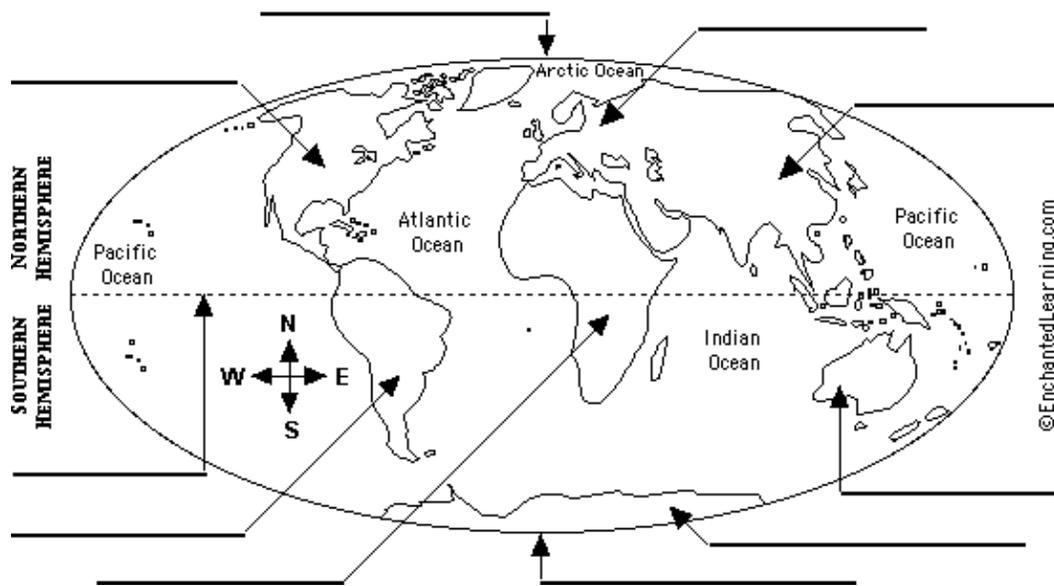
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## Label the Continents and Poles

Read the following descriptions, then label the map on the next page.

1. **Africa:** a continent that crosses the equator. It is south of Europe and is bordered by the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.
2. **Antarctica:** the continent that surrounds the South Pole of the Earth.
3. **Asia:** a continent mostly in the Northern Hemisphere that is connected to Europe (and east of it).
4. **Australia:** a continent, an island, and a country in the Southern Hemisphere.
5. **Europe:** a continent in the Northern Hemisphere, attached to Asia (and west of it).
6. **North America:** a continent in the Northern Hemisphere; it is north of South America. It is bordered by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
7. **South America:** a continent that is mostly in the Southern Hemisphere. It is bordered by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
8. **Geographic North Pole:** the point that is the farthest north on the Earth.
9. **Equator:** the imaginary line that divides the Earth into Northern and Southern Hemispheres.
10. **Geographic South Pole:** the point that is the farthest south on Earth.



# *A Taste of...AFRICA*

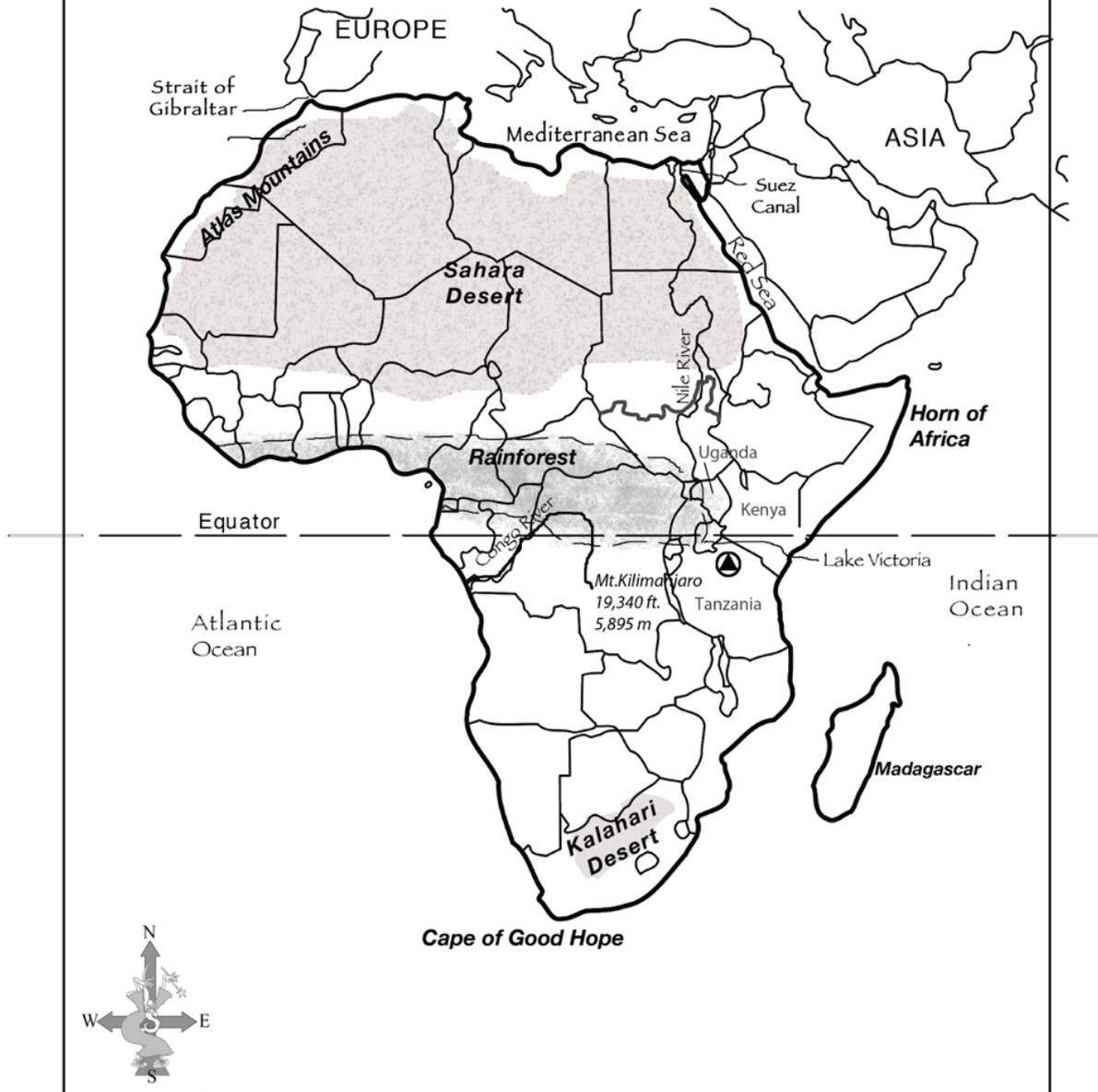
Some interesting facts about Africa:

- The African continent is the second largest in the world in terms of both land mass and population. Africa has approximately 1.1 billion people or 16% of the world's population, and covers over 30 million square kilometers.
- Africa is home to 54 independent countries that are recognized by the African Union.
- The Nile River is one of the world's longest rivers at 4,160 miles (slightly longer than the distance between Silver Spring and Berlin, Germany).
- At 3.5 million square miles, the Sahara Desert is the largest desert in the world and is slightly larger than the United States.



- Africa is the world's hottest continent with deserts and drylands covering 60% of land surface area.
- Most scientists consider Africa to be the origin of humankind, with fossils and evidence of humans living there as long as 7 million years ago.

# Africa



Use the map on the preceding page to answer these general questions about the African Continent.

1. What ocean lies on Africa's western border? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What ocean lies on Africa's eastern border? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What sea forms Africa's northern border? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What sea forms Africa's northeastern border? \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea are linked by what canal (human-made water passage)? \_\_\_\_\_. Trace it in red on the map.
6. What is the name of the southern tip of land of Africa that separates the Atlantic and Indian Oceans? \_\_\_\_\_. Before the Suez Canal was built in 1869, ships had to go around this cape when they traveled from Europe to Asia.
7. What is the name of the large island off the coast of southeastern Africa? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the name of the second largest fresh-water lake in the world (after Lake Superior in North America) - at 26,000 square miles? Lake \_\_\_\_\_. This lake lies on the Equator and between the borders of three countries: Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Locate the lake on the map and color it in blue.
9. Name the major river that flows north into the Mediterranean Sea: \_\_\_\_\_. Trace this river in green on the map.
10. What is the name of the huge desert in northern Africa? \_\_\_\_\_. Color it in brown. Over the last few centuries, this desert has increased in size, while the rainforest to its south has shrunk. This is attributed to deforestation, poor farming practices and climate change.
11. Find Africa's rainforest area on the map and color it orange.

12. Mt. Kilimanjaro, once an active volcano, is Africa’s highest point. Use the map to tell how high it is, in feet or meters. \_\_\_\_\_

This next section will focus on 15 of the most populous African countries. These are just a sample of the many countries in Africa. Use a highlighter to mark these countries on the map on the following page:

<b>West Africa</b>	<b>North Africa</b>	<b>East Africa</b>	<b>Central Africa</b>	<b>Southern Africa</b>
Ghana	Algeria	Ethiopia	Cameroon	Angola
Ivory Coast	Egypt	Kenya	Democratic Republic of Congo	South Africa
Nigeria	Morocco	Tanzania		Madagascar
		Uganda		

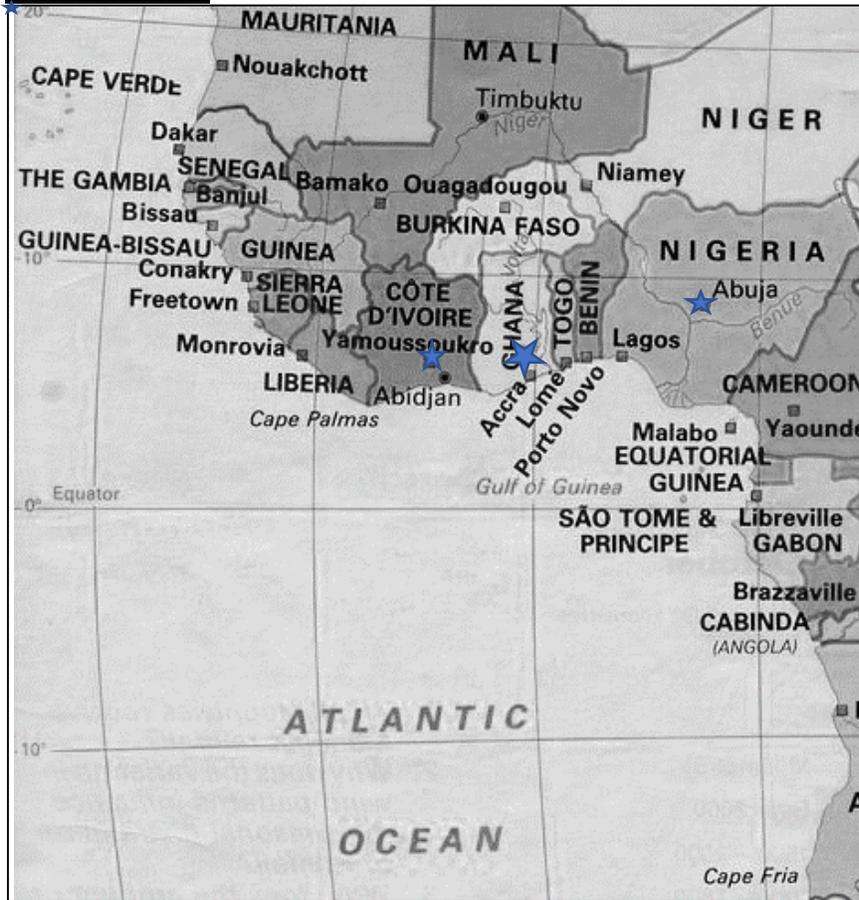


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# AFRICA



## West Africa



## Ghana

- Ghana, named the “gold coast” by Portuguese explorers, is located in West Africa and is sandwiched between these countries. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The northern border of Ghana is the country Burkina Faso and the southern border is the Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The large lake in Ghana is the world’s largest artificial lake by surface area. It was formed when the Volta River was dammed in 1964. Name the lake. \_\_\_\_\_.
- What is the capitol of Ghana? \_\_\_\_\_.

## Cote d’Ivoire

- The Cote d’Ivoire also known as Ivory Coast bordered by the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean and the countries of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. It was a French Colony until 1960.

- The Ivory Coast is known for its chocolate. The country produces more cocoa than any other place in the world.
- The capital city of Ivory Coast is \_\_\_\_\_.

## Nigeria

- Nigeria is often called the "Giant of Africa." This name comes from the vastness of its land, the diversity of its peoples and languages, and its large population. Nigeria is Africa's most populous country with an estimated 188 million residents.
- The most abundant natural resource in Nigeria is \_\_\_\_\_. Many of our cars need this to run.
- The capital of Nigeria is \_\_\_\_\_. However, the largest city in the country is \_\_\_\_\_, which is on the coast.
- Nigeria is named after this river. \_\_\_\_\_. It is the third largest river in Africa, after the Nile River and the Congo River.

## North Africa



## Algeria

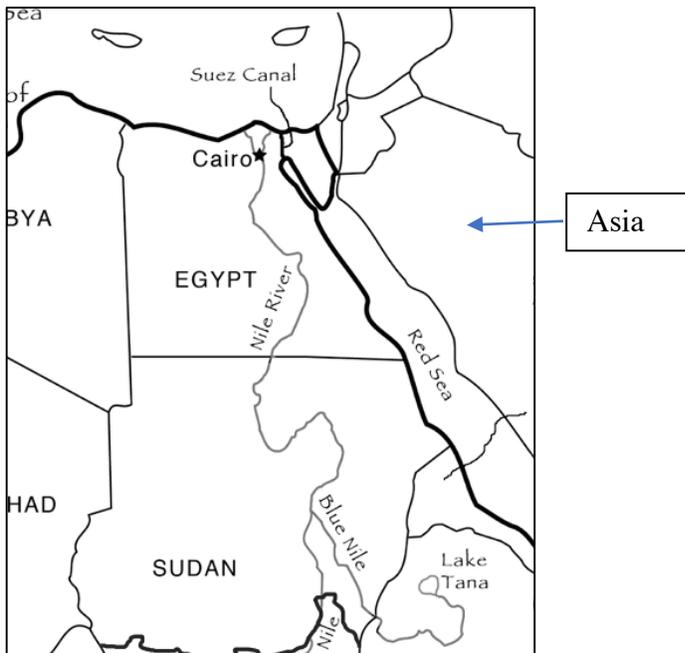
- Algeria is the largest country in Africa by area. Only about 12% of the land is inhabited by people. It is bordered by these seven countries:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_.

- Arabic is the official language of the country spoken by 80% of the population. They also speak French.
- 90% of this country is covered by this desert. \_\_\_\_\_
- The capital of Algeria is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Algeria has the \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains in the North and the \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains in the South.

### Morocco

- Morocco is only 9 miles south of Europe. You can even see across the water to Spain. What narrow body of water separates the two?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What other major body of water separates Morocco from Europe?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sea.
- The capital city of Morocco was a home base for pirates for nearly 200 years. Things are much quieter now though. Name the city.  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Egypt

- Egypt is a North African nation that slightly extends to this neighboring continent named \_\_\_\_\_. The nation has Africa's third largest population of more than 93 million residents.
- Egypt is probably most famous for its pyramids in the outskirts of the capital city. Name the city. \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the body of water that forms Egypt's eastern border, and separates it from Saudi Arabia? \_\_\_\_\_
- In 1869, a canal was opened to connect the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. What is it called? \_\_\_\_\_
- The longest river in the world flows north through Egypt to Cairo and into the Mediterranean Sea. Name the river. \_\_\_\_\_. Most Egyptians live along this river and the Mediterranean coast because other parts of the country are covered by the deserts.

## East Africa



## Ethiopia

- Ethiopia has the second largest population among African countries with approximately 102 million residents as of 2017. What is the capital of Ethiopia? \_\_\_\_\_

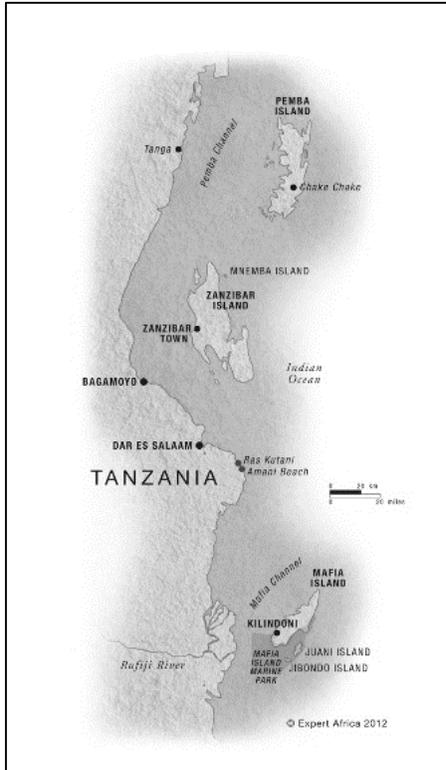
- One country to the east of Ethiopia is \_\_\_\_\_ and to the South is \_\_\_\_\_.
- This caffeinated beverage (that many adults really like) \_\_\_\_\_ was discovered in this country, in the Kaffa region. A shepherd discovered this famous beverage when his goats ate the leaves and became restless.
- Ethiopia is one of the very few countries in the world that has never been occupied by foreign powers. Italy tried twice but was defeated by the Ethiopians.

### **Uganda**

- Uganda is a landlocked country located in East Africa. Five countries- Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Rwanda, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ border it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the capital of Uganda.
- English and Swahili are the official languages in Uganda.

### **Kenya**

- Kenya is located in East Africa, on the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean.
- The capital and largest city is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The two official languages in Kenya are English and Swahili, although there are dozens of other languages spoken in various parts of the country.
- Kenya shares Lake \_\_\_\_\_, the world's second largest fresh water lake (after Lake Superior in the US), with Tanzania and Uganda.
- Kenya features many national parks and wildlife reserves, with safaris being a popular activity for visitors.



## Tanzania

- Tanzania includes the islands of Zanzibar, Pemba, and Mafia. The island of Zanzibar, once the commercial center of East Africa, was the last place to abolish the slave trade. It is 22 miles off the coast of Tanzania. In which ocean do you find Zanzibar?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Tanzania is bordered by eight countries: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Malawi, and Mozambique.
- Tanzania has three major lakes: Lake Victoria, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The name of Tanzania's capital city name means "Haven of Peace." Name the capital city. \_\_\_\_\_

## Central Africa



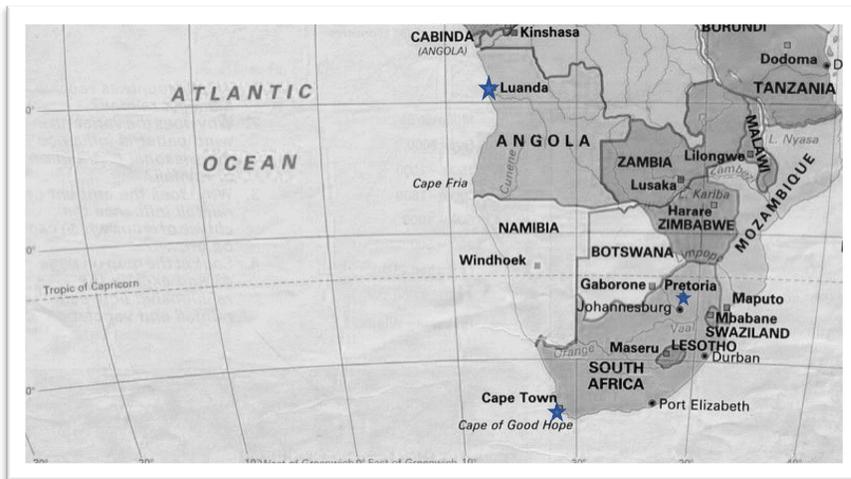
### Cameroon

- Cameroon was formed in 1961 from former British and French colonies. As a result, the two official languages are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The capital of Cameroon is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The country lies in Central Africa on the Atlantic Ocean. Its neighbors include \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Democratic Republic of Congo

- The Democratic Republic of Congo is a very new country. Until 1997, it was known as Zaire, and before that it was a Belgian colony. The capital city has only had its current name since 1966. Name the capital city.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- This large river flows through the D.R. Congo: \_\_\_\_\_ River.
- At first glance, D.R. Congo appears to be landlocked. Look carefully, and tell which ocean forms the country's tiny coastline:  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- The very long narrow lake that separates D.R. Congo from Tanzania is called \_\_\_\_\_.

## Southern Africa



## Angola

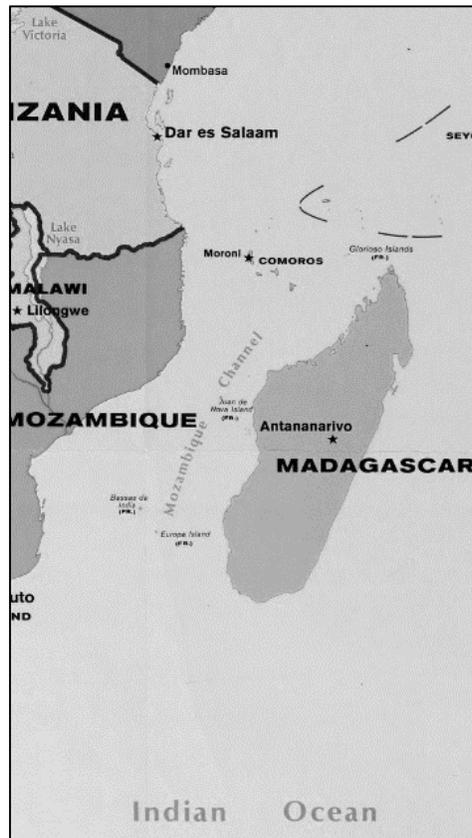
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest city and capital of Angola.
- On November 11, 1975 Angola gained its independence from Portugal. Since it was a colony of Portugal, the official language of Angola is \_\_\_\_\_.

## South Africa

- The river that begins in Lesotho, runs across South Africa and into the Atlantic is known for the high-quality diamonds found along its banks. Name this river. \_\_\_\_\_.
- South Africa has a legislative capital in the south: \_\_\_\_\_ and an administrative capital in the north: \_\_\_\_\_.

- Cape Town is located on the Cape of Good Hope, which got its name from Portuguese explorers because it symbolized the turning point in a long journey. If traveling east around the Cape of Good Hope past Cape Town, you would go from the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean to the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean.

## Madagascar



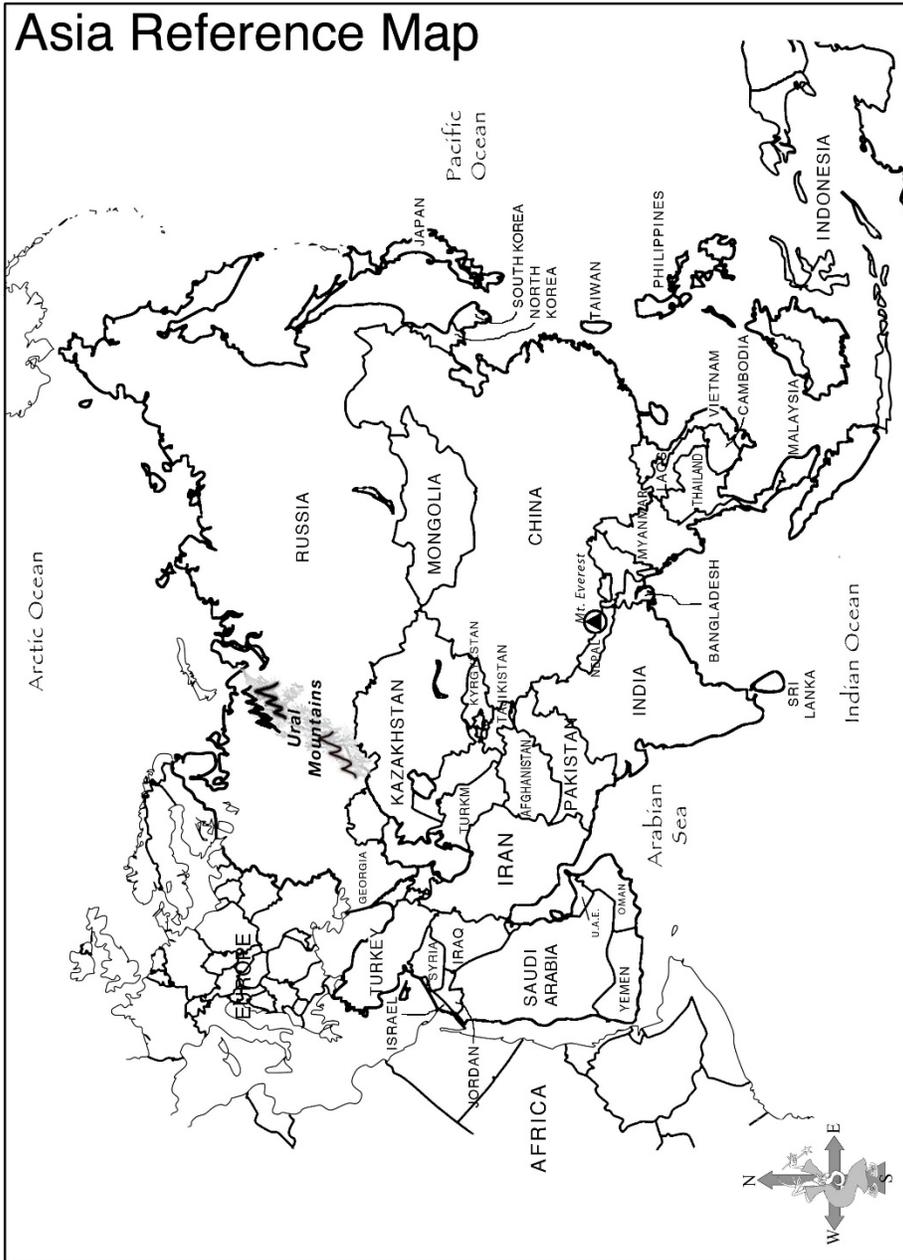
- Madagascar is the world's fourth largest island. It was once attached to the rest of Africa, but broke off about 65 million years ago. What body of water is on Madagascar's east coast? \_\_\_\_\_
- Many Malagasy (the people of Madagascar) call their capital city by its nickname, Tana. What is the full name of the capital city?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The island of Madagascar is home to over 150,000 plant and animal species that are found nowhere else in the world. Among them are the lemurs and the Malagasy giant rat. These animals evolved there due to the isolation from the rest of the African continent. What body of water separates Madagascar from mainland Africa? \_\_\_\_\_

# *A Taste of...ASIA*

Some interesting facts about Asia:

- Asia is the largest of the seven continents, covering almost one-third of the world's landmass, and is the most populous continent with approximately 60% of the world's population. There are 53 countries in Asia.
- More than one-third of the world's people live in just two Asian countries: China and India. China is the most populous country in the world, with well over a billion people. India is the second most populous country in the world.
- In Asia, we find the world's:
  - highest point, Mount Everest, in Nepal, near its border with China. It is more than five miles above sea level.
  - lowest point, the Dead Sea, which lies in Israel and Jordan. The Dead Sea is 1,350 feet below sea level.
  - wettest place, a town in western India (Cherrapunji), which gets 467 inches of rain a year. This is more than 10 times as much rain as we have in Maryland.
- Asia stretches from the Arctic Circle to just south of the equator and has a wide range of climates:
  - sub arctic areas such as Siberia in Russia
  - deserts in countries like Saudi Arabia and China
  - tropical rainforests in countries like Indonesia and India
- The longest river in Asia and third longest in the World is the Yangtze (6,211 km) which flows through China.
- The largest desert in Asia is the Gobi desert measuring 281,800 km<sup>2</sup>.

# Asia Reference Map



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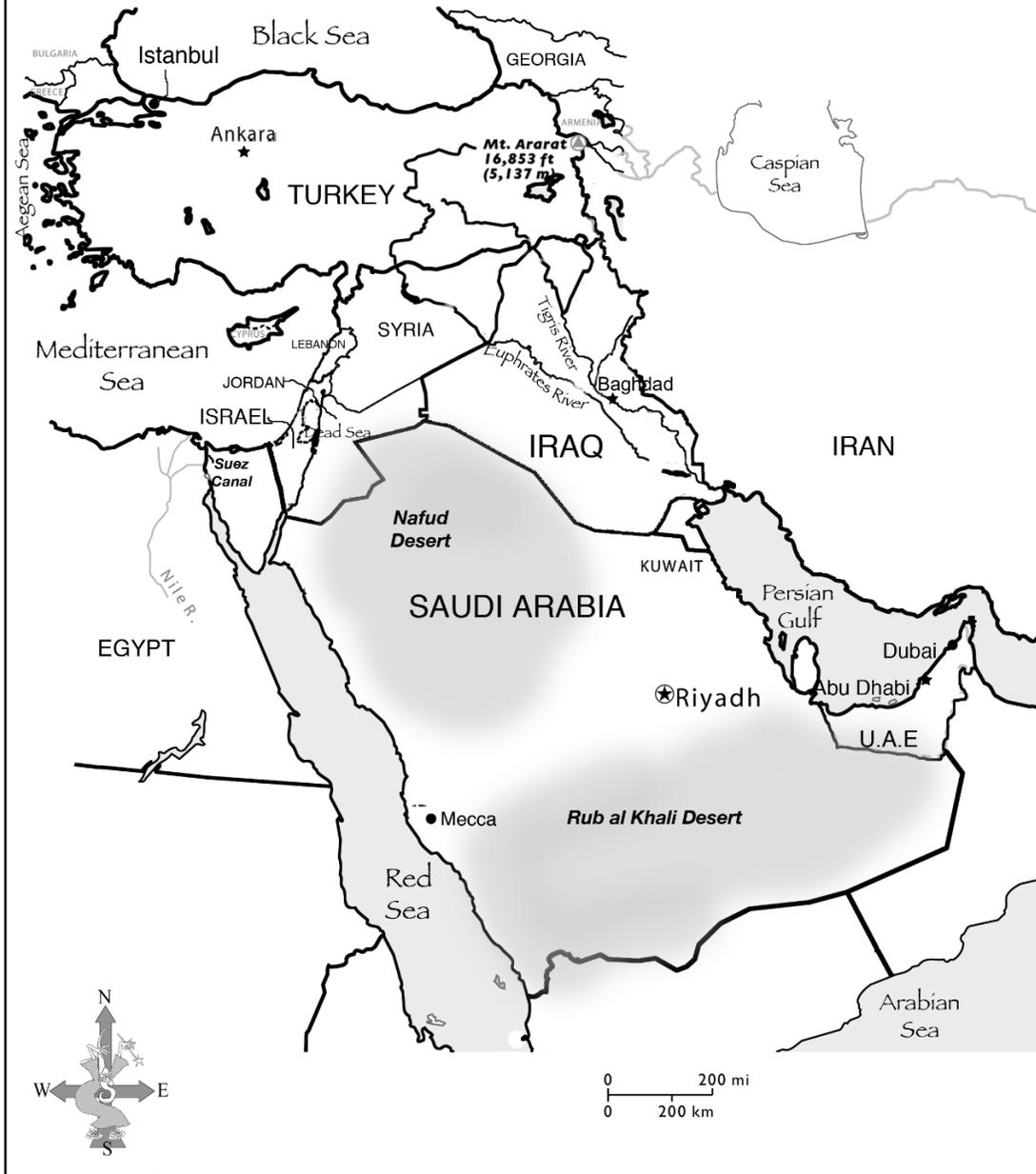
Use the map on the previous page to answer these questions about the Continent of Asia.

- The \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean borders Asia to the north.
- Which ocean borders Asia to the east? \_\_\_\_\_
- Name the ocean that borders Asia to the south? \_\_\_\_\_
- The Ural Mountains separate Asia from Europe. Find them on them on the map and color them in orange.
- The highest point on earth, Mt. Everest (29,002 ft.), is in Nepal, along the border of China. Trace that border in red.
- Is Asia north, south, east or west of Europe? \_\_\_\_\_

This section of your packet will cover 13 Asian countries. Please locate each country on the reference map on the preceding page, and then color or highlight each one.

Afghanistan  
China  
India  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Japan  
Pakistan  
Russia  
Saudi Arabia  
Thailand  
Turkey  
United Arab Emirates (UAE)

# Saudi Arabia, Iraq, U.A.E. and Turkey Reference Map



## **Saudi Arabia**

- Every year, hundreds of thousands of people of the Muslim faith travel to the birthplace of the prophet Mohammed, founder of their religion. It is located near the Red Sea. Name the city. \_\_\_\_\_
- Much of Saudi Arabia is covered by deserts. Because of the harsh climate, the country was very poor until oil was discovered. The oil lies underneath the vast deserts and the body of water on the eastern border of Saudi Arabia. Name the body of water. \_\_\_\_\_
- The name of the capital city of Saudi Arabia means “gardens.” It is located where there was once an oasis, an area in a desert where there is enough water to grow green plants. Name the capital. \_\_\_\_\_

## **Turkey**

- Turkey is the westernmost country in Asia. It borders three seas. Name the two of the three seas: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- People have inhabited the area where Turkey’s capital is located since the Stone Age. What is Turkey’s capital city? \_\_\_\_\_
- Turkey’s largest city is the only city in the world that straddles two continents, Europe and Asia. It is located on a key waterway between the Black Sea and the Aegean Sea. Name the city. \_\_\_\_\_

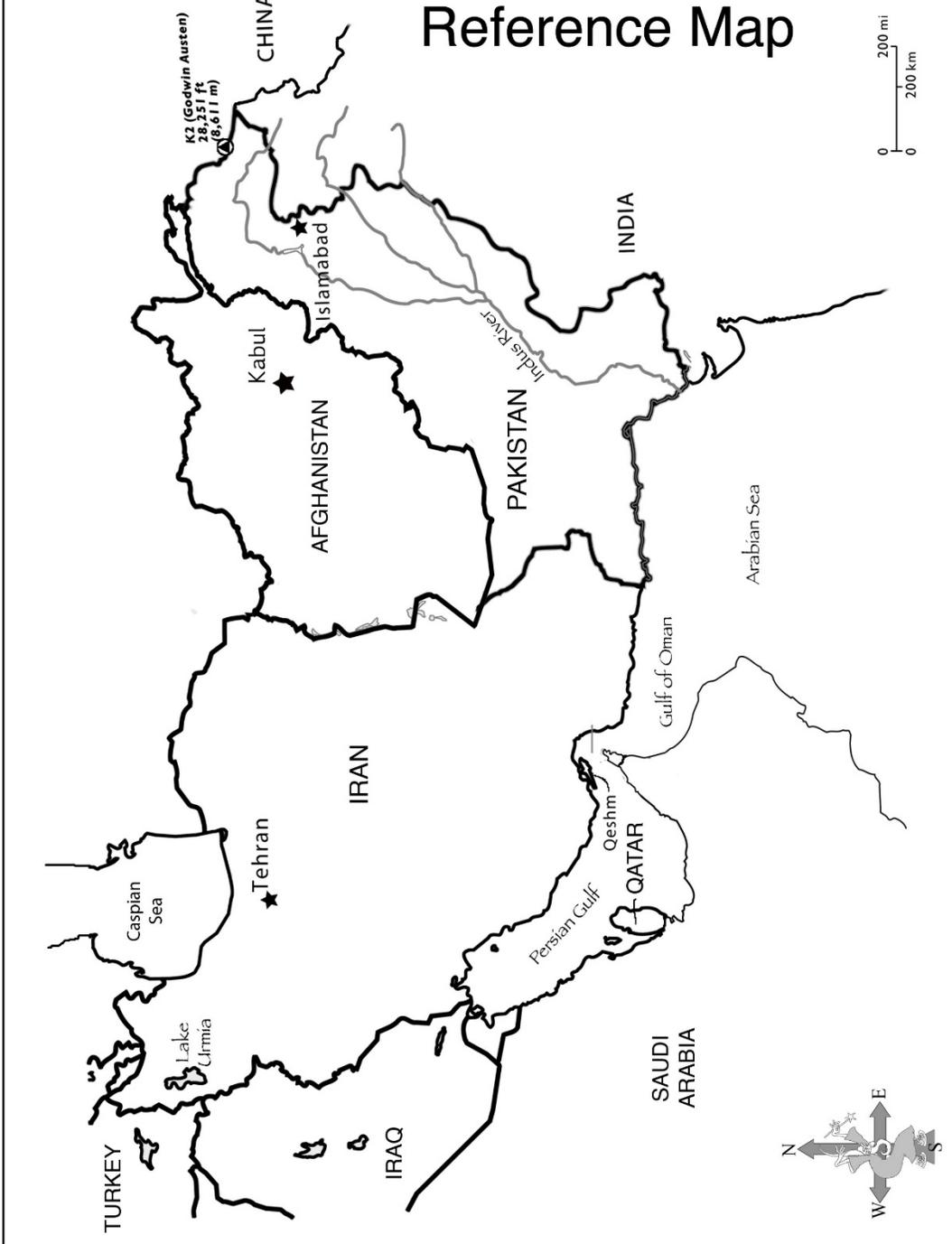
## **United Arab Emirates**

- The United Arab Emirates lies on the southeastern border of Saudi Arabia. The capital of U.A.E. is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Dubai is a major commercial city in U.A.E. on the on the shores of the \_\_\_\_\_ Gulf. Dubai is a major commercial city for the entire region. On January 4, 2010, Dubai officially became the home of the world’s tallest building.

## **Iraq**

- Two major rivers in Iraq flow from the highlands in the north toward the Persian Gulf. Name the two rivers. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Iraq is known as the “cradle of civilization.” The first type of writing and known set of laws came from Iraq. Name the capital. \_\_\_\_\_

# Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan Reference Map



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## Iran

- Iran (formerly called Persia) is famous for its beautiful handmade rugs. Iran and Saudi Arabia are the two largest countries in the Middle East. Name the body of water that separates these two countries.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The capital of Iran lies in the north, near the Caspian Sea. Name the capital. \_\_\_\_\_
- The sea that lies on Iran's northern border is the largest inland body of water in the world. Name the sea. \_\_\_\_\_
- Name the countries that border Iran on the east: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

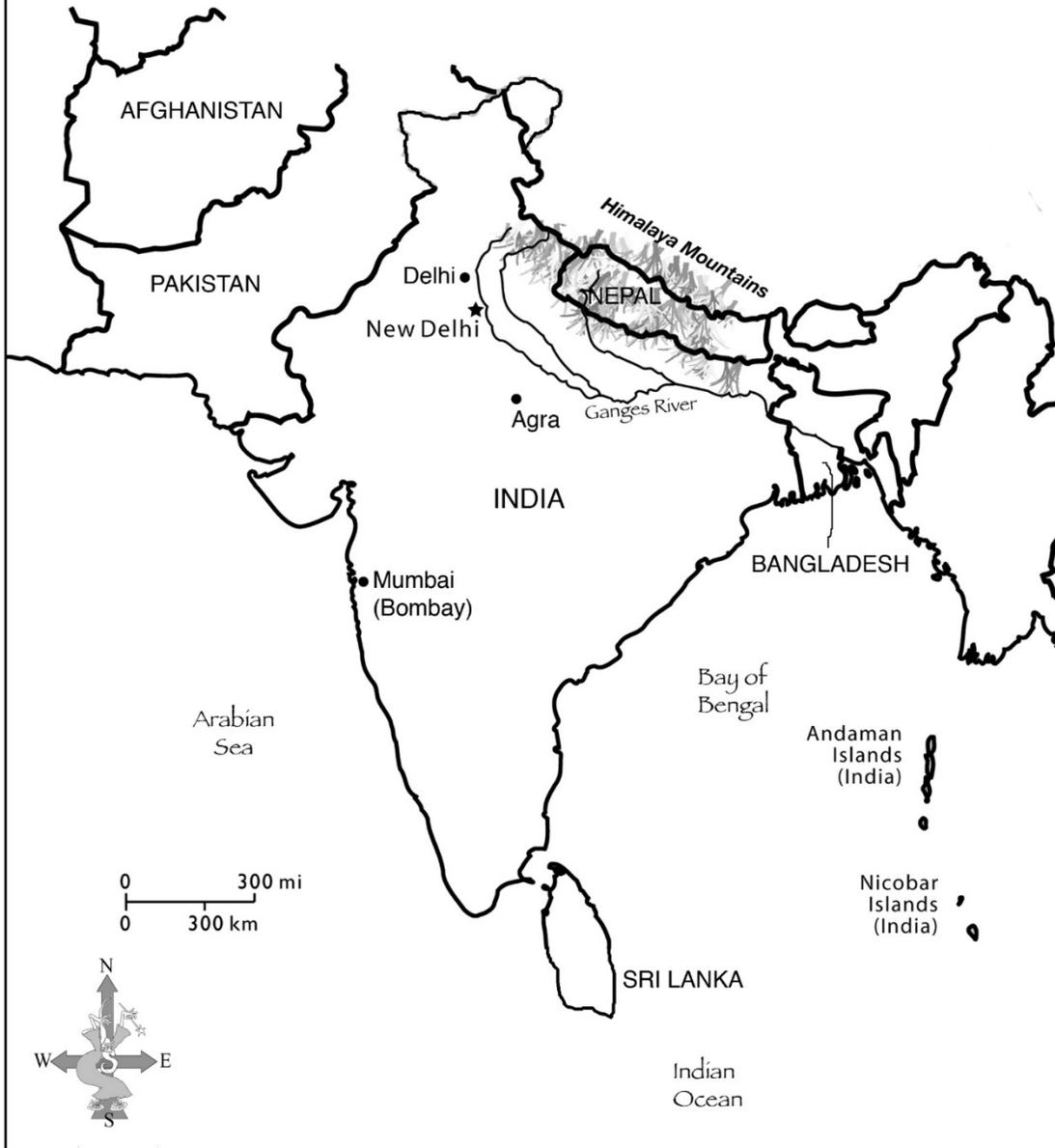
## Pakistan

- Pakistan, India and Iran all have coasts on this sea. Name the sea.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- This river flows the length of Pakistan and empties into the Arabian Sea. The river valley has supported civilizations of people going back thousands of years. Name the river. \_\_\_\_\_
- The name of the capital of Pakistan means "city of peace". It is a modern city, built only 40 years ago. Name the capital of Pakistan.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Pakistan was once part of its large neighbor to the southeast. In 1947, the British, who ruled the area at that time, granted it independence. Name the neighboring country. \_\_\_\_\_

## Afghanistan

- The capital city of Afghanistan is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Afghanistan is a landlocked country. With which country (directly to its east) does Afghanistan share the longest border? \_\_\_\_\_
- In what direction would you travel to go from Kabul to Tehran, Iran?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# India Reference Map



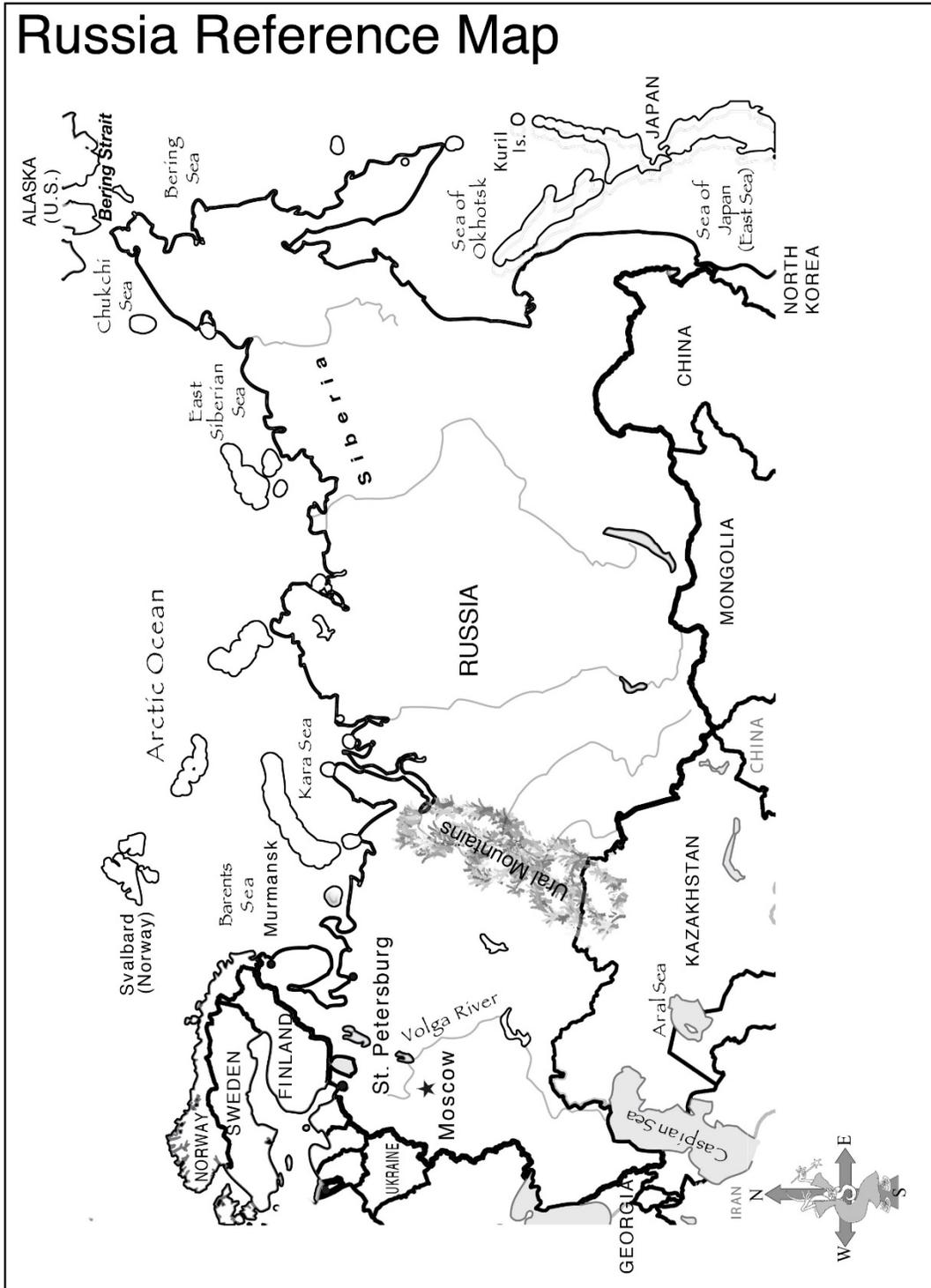
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## India

- The largest city in India is Mumbai (formerly called Bombay). Mumbai is located on the shore of what sea? \_\_\_\_\_
- What other large bodies of water border the Indian peninsula?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ocean and Bay of \_\_\_\_\_
- The second largest city in India, Delhi, is right next to the capital of India. Name the capital. \_\_\_\_\_
- A river flows from the Himalaya Mountains into the Bay of Bengal. The river is sacred to people who follow the Hindu religion. They believe that bathing in it will wash away their sins. Name this river. \_\_\_\_\_
- The Taj Mahal, in the city of Agra, is one of the world's most famous buildings. It is topped by a giant bulb-shaped, marble dome and has jewels embedded in the walls. If you wanted to visit the Taj Mahal, which big city is closer: Delhi or Mumbai? \_\_\_\_\_
- The mountain range found in India's northern neighbor, Nepal, is where Mt. Everest, the highest mountain in the world, is found. What is the name of the mountain range? \_\_\_\_\_
- To travel from New Delhi to Pakistan, in which direction would you travel? \_\_\_\_\_

# Russia Reference Map



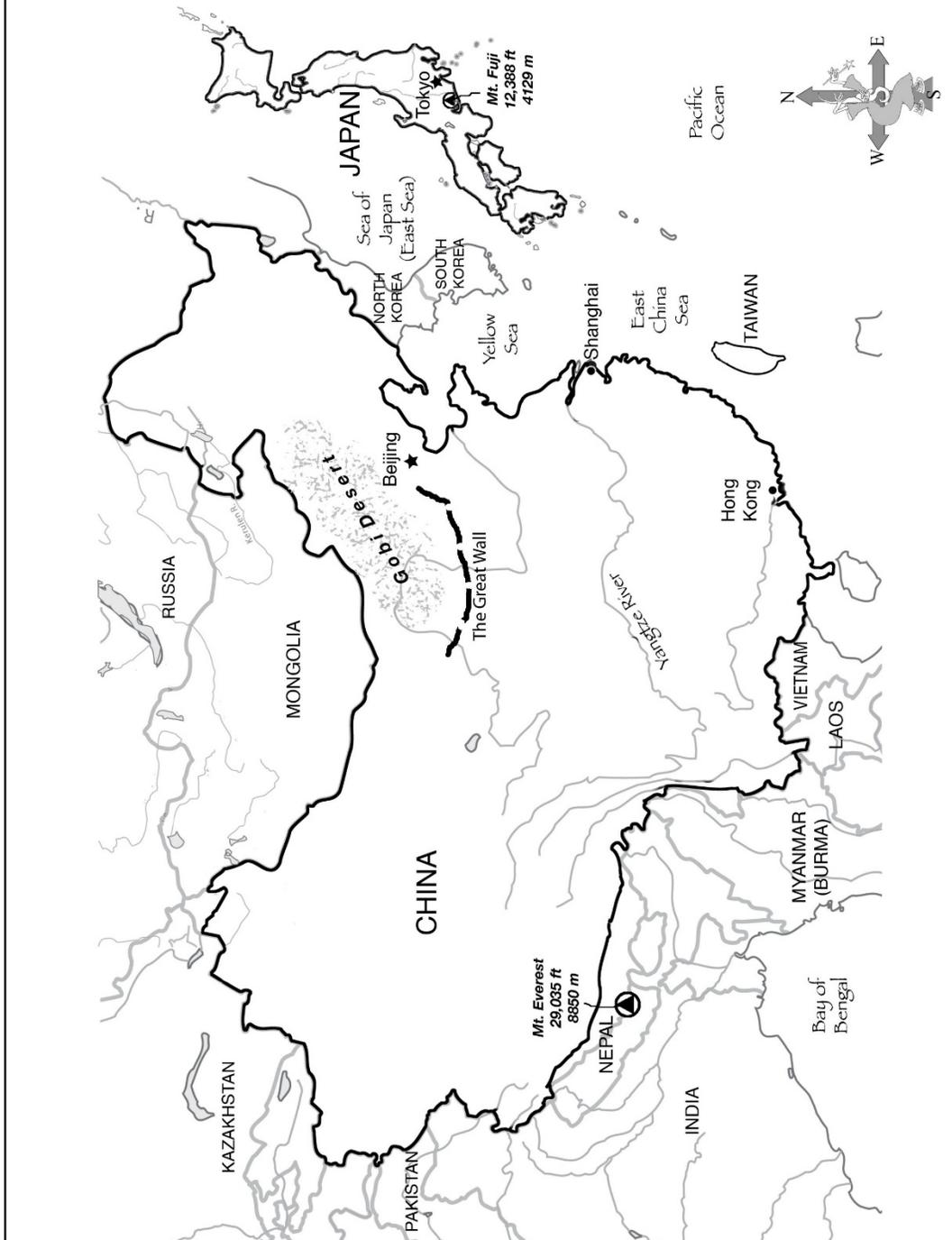
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## Russia

- The largest city in Russia, which is also its capital, is famous for the Kremlin, a medieval fortress topped by onion-shaped golden domes. Name the capital city. \_\_\_\_\_
- Russia spans two continents, Europe and Asia, which are divided by this mountain range in western Russia. Name the mountain range.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- This strait links the Arctic Ocean with the Bering Sea and separates the continents of Asia and North America at their closest point. Name that narrow body of water. \_\_\_\_\_
- A major river in western Russia starts north of Moscow and empties into the Caspian Sea. Name that river. \_\_\_\_\_
- One huge region of Russia, bordering the Arctic Ocean and stretching from the Ural Mountains to the Bering Sea, is known for its severe and punishing winters. For many years, criminals and enemies of the government were sent into exile here. Name this region. \_\_\_\_\_
- The island nation to the east of Russia is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Name the ocean that is north of Russia. \_\_\_\_\_

# China & Japan Reference Map



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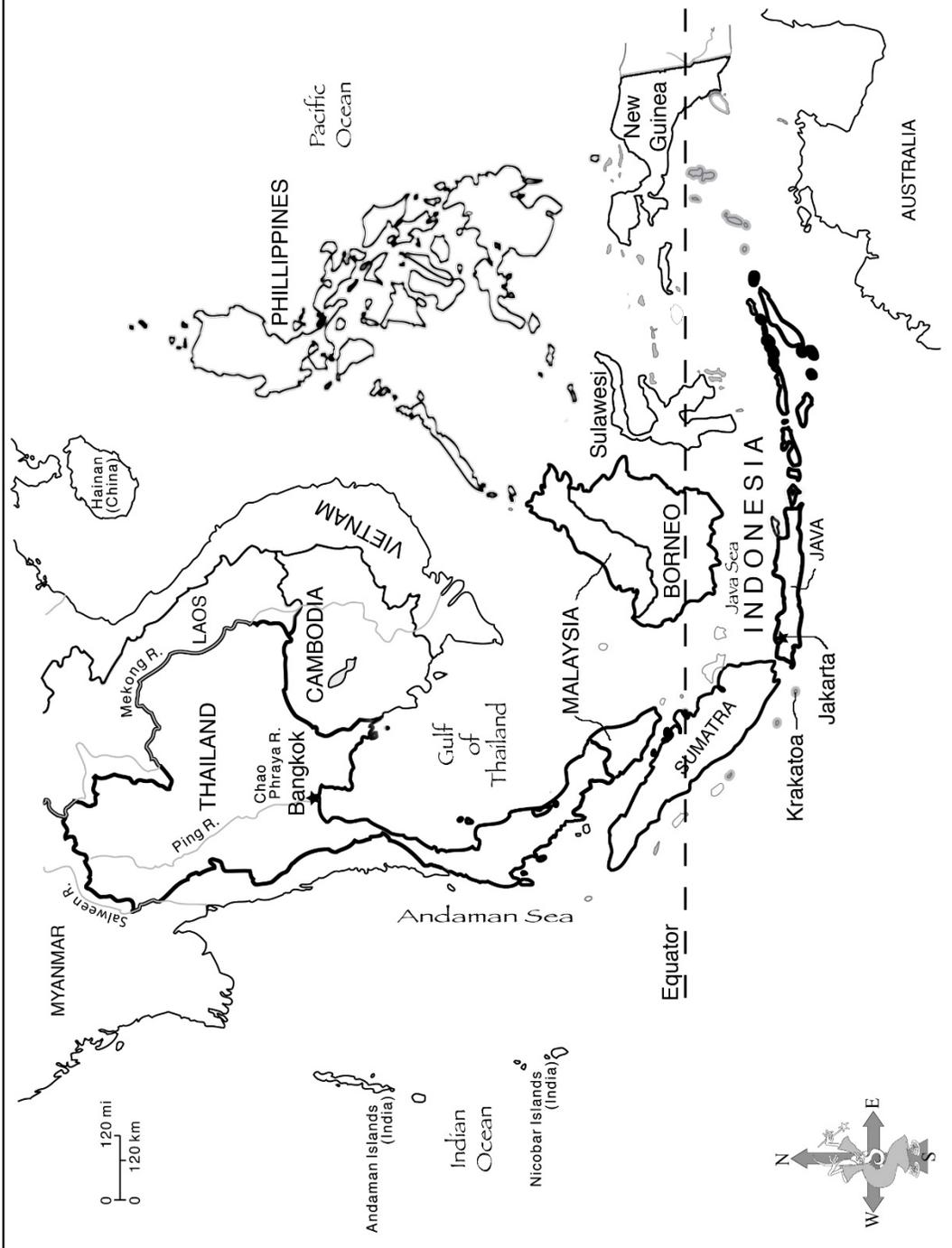
## China

- China borders many countries, both large and small. On China's southern border is a small country where the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest, is located. Name the country. \_\_\_\_\_
- Name the capital of China, which is home to the "Forbidden City" – a walled area within the city where the Chinese Emperor and his family lived, and where ordinary people were not allowed to go.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The longest river in Asia flows across the country from the west and empties into the East China Sea near Shanghai, the largest city in China. Name this river. \_\_\_\_\_
- There is a huge wall that passes near Beijing, nearly 4,000 miles long. It was built hundreds of years ago to keep out invaders from Mongolia, but the Mongol soldiers broke through the wall or went around it to attack China. This famous symbol of China is called \_\_\_\_\_.
- Marco Polo, a famous Italian explorer, traveled through Asia to China. He may have had to cross the desert that runs along China's northeastern border. What is the name of that desert? \_\_\_\_\_

## Japan

- Japan is made up of four large islands and more than one thousand small islands. The two bodies of water that touch Japan are the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean and the Sea of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Three Japanese cities have hosted the Olympics. In the summer of 1964, the capital city, \_\_\_\_\_, was host.
- Mount \_\_\_\_\_, at 12,388 feet, is the highest point in this island chain. It has not erupted for 300 years. It is one of many volcanoes in the island chain.
- Karate, which means "empty hand" in Japanese, originated in China. It was further developed on one of the southernmost Japanese islands, Okinawa. To travel from there to China, you would have to travel (in what direction) \_\_\_\_\_, across the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ Seas.

# Thailand & Indonesia Reference Map



## Thailand

- Thailand was known as Siam until 1939. It is where Siamese cats originated. To travel from Thailand to Indonesia you would go in what direction? \_\_\_\_\_
- Thailand exports more rice than any other country in the world. These exports leave the country by ship, on the two bodies of water that border it. These two bodies of water are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The capital of Thailand, \_\_\_\_\_, is located on the Gulf of Thailand.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ River forms much of the border between Thailand and its neighbor to the east, Laos.

## Indonesia

- Indonesia consists of almost 14,000 islands. A group of islands is called an “archipelago” (ARE kih PELL ah go). The Indonesian archipelago is located between two of the world’s oceans. Name them. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Only half of Indonesia’s islands are inhabited (have people living on them). One of the three main islands where people live is called Java and is the site of the capital. Name the capital. \_\_\_\_\_
- Some of the world’s best surfing is found on the southern and eastern coasts of the Indonesian islands, such as Java and Sumatra. Huge waves come rolling ashore from this ocean. \_\_\_\_\_
- What is Indonesia’s largest island? \_\_\_\_\_
- The nearest neighbor south of Indonesia is both a country and a continent. Name this country (and continent). \_\_\_\_\_

# *A Taste of...EUROPE*

Some interesting facts about Europe:

- Europe has the third-largest population of all continents, but it is the second smallest continent in land mass.
- Europe is home to the largest country in the world, Russia. Russia is so big that it takes up forty percent of Europe's land area.
- Europe has been the home to some of the Earth's greatest civilizations from Ancient Greece to the Roman Empire.
- While Mount Etna is Europe's largest volcano, Mount Vesuvius might be the most popular. This volcano, located east of Naples in Italy, is known for its eruption in AD 79 that destroyed Pompeii and other nearby areas.
- Europe has several large and small peninsulas, (landmasses surrounded on three sides by water), and many small islands.
- Asia and Europe are not separate land masses. They are divided by the Ural Mountains.
- Europe includes the smallest country in the world, Vatican City, which has a population of about 900 people and is smaller than the Mall in Washington, D.C.
- Europe's largest and longest river is the Volga that runs through central Russia.

# Europe Reference Map



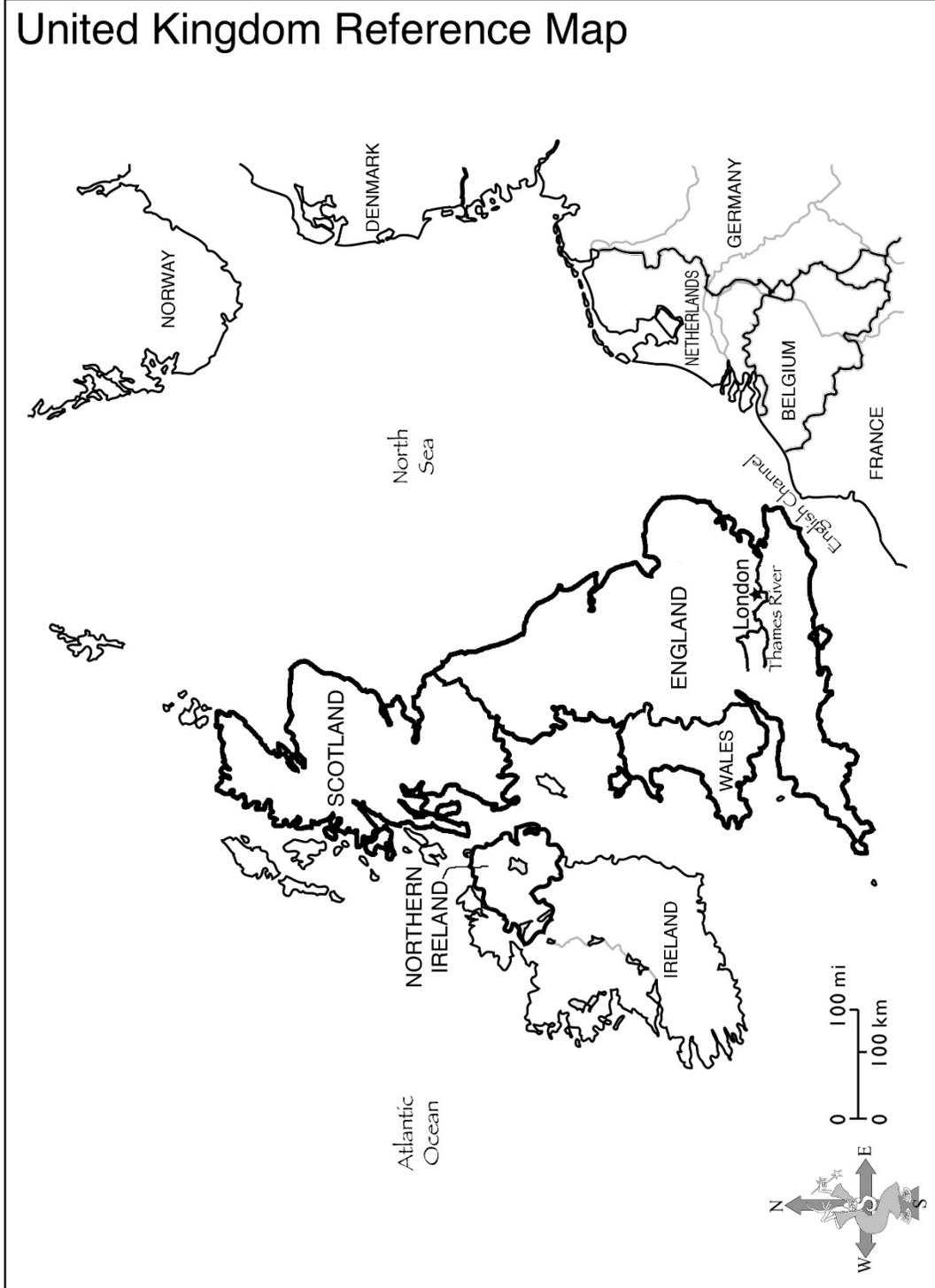
Use the Europe Reference Map on the preceding page to answer these questions. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the south, Asia to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the West.

- What is the name of the large sea that lies south of the European continent and separates it from Africa? \_\_\_\_\_
- Name the ocean that lies to the west of Europe: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name three seas in northern Europe. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_
- This is a large peninsula in Northern Europe, consisting mostly of Norway and Sweden. \_\_\_\_\_
- Name a body of water that borders Europe on the southeast. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spain and Portugal cover the area known as the Iberian Peninsula. Trace around them in purple.

This section of your packet will cover the 10 European countries listed below. Highlight or color them on the reference map on the preceding page.

Austria  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Italy  
Norway  
Poland  
Spain  
Sweden  
United Kingdom

# United Kingdom Reference Map



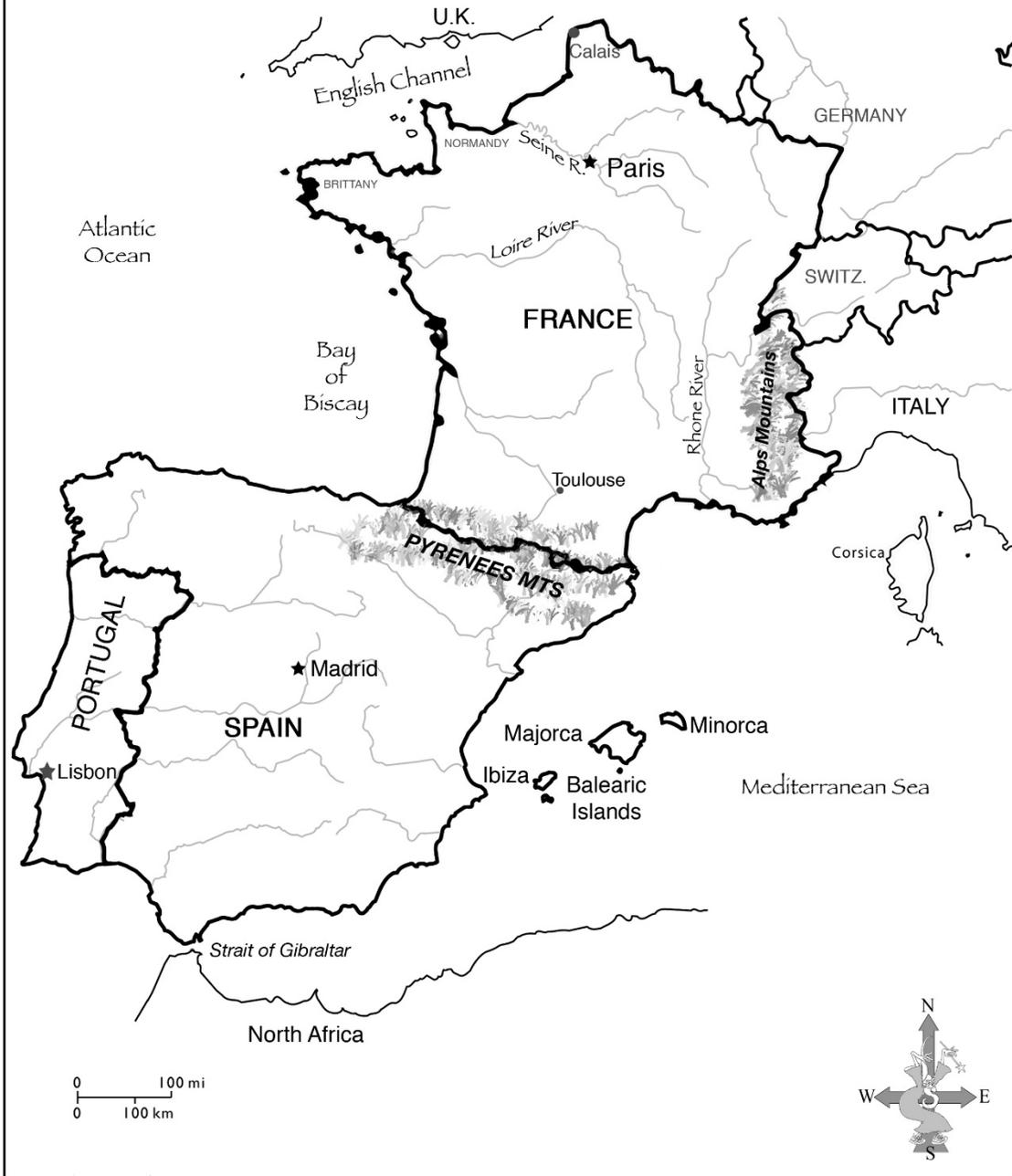
Woodlin Elementary Geography Bee

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## United Kingdom

- The United Kingdom lies just 22 miles north of France. The two countries are linked by a tunnel (called “The Chunnel”), that runs underneath the body of water that separates them. Name the body of water. \_\_\_\_\_
- The United Kingdom is small in physical size and made up of four distinct regions. Each region was an independent country at one time. Three of these regions are on one island and one is on the northern portion of an entirely separate island. What are their names?  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_
- The United Kingdom’s capital city of \_\_\_\_\_ is home to famous sites such as Westminster Abbey and Big Ben.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ River is the longest in the country and threads through London. Many important historical events have happened on or near this river, and it has served as a line of defense in battles.

# France & Spain Reference Map



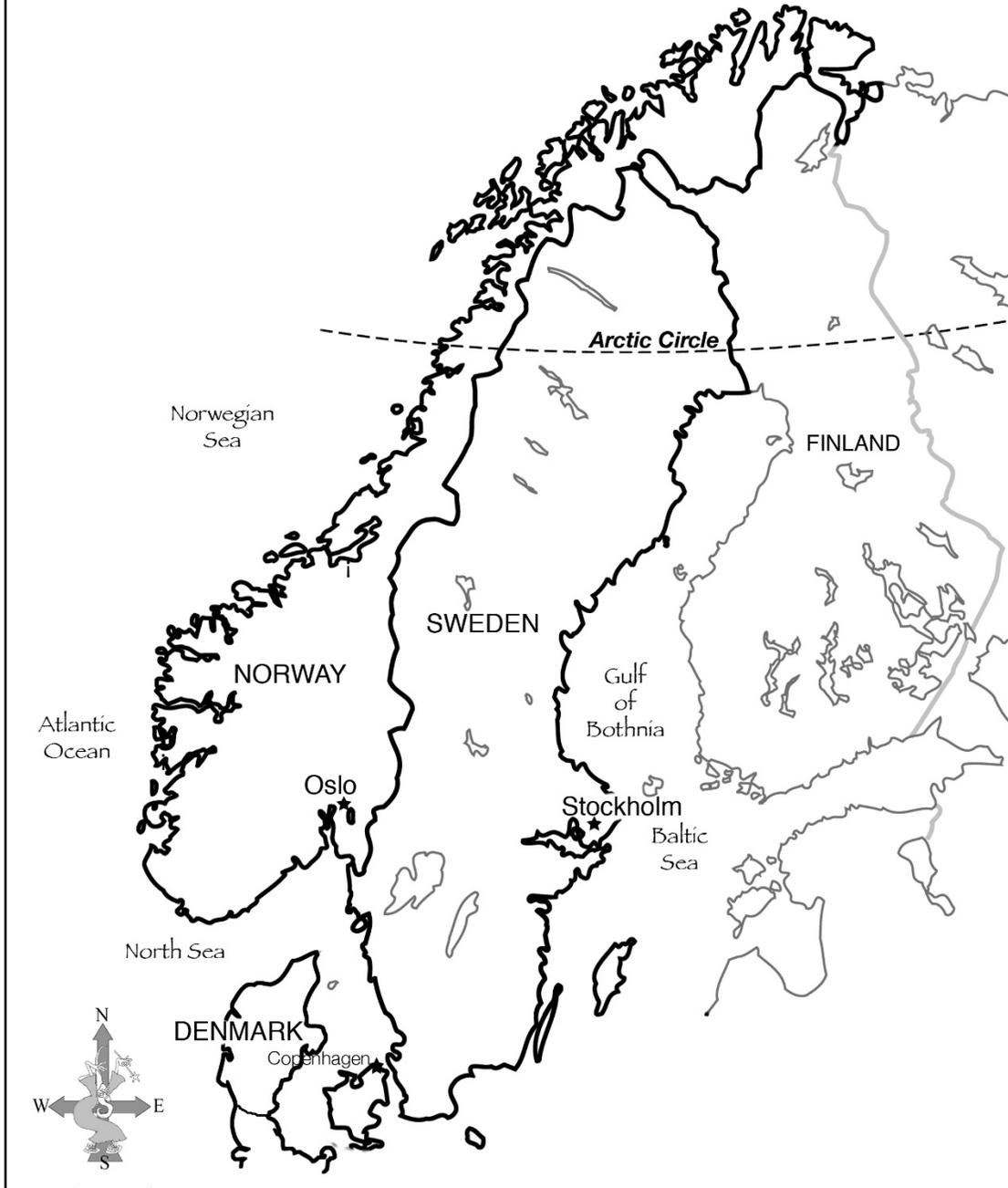
## France

- France is the largest country in Western Europe, with many miles of coastline. On the west are the Bay of Bay of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ Channel, which are both part of the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean. On the south, the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea borders France.
- The capital of France has been a center of European intellectual life since the Middle Ages. The Seine River runs through the middle of this city, which is also the site of the Eiffel Tower. What is the capital of France? \_\_\_\_\_
- France is made up mostly of flat plains or rolling hills in the north and west. Much of the rest of France is mountainous. What are the two main mountain ranges in the east and south? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Many rivers cross France. Its longest river has its headwaters in southeast France. It empties into the Bay of Biscay. What is the name of this river? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which large country borders France to the southwest? \_\_\_\_\_ . To the southeast? \_\_\_\_\_

## Spain

- Spain is in southwestern Europe. What narrow passageway of water separates Spain from Morocco and the continent of Africa? \_\_\_\_\_
- This country lies on the western border of Spain, and its capital is Lisbon. It was a world power in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Together, these two countries make up what is known as the Iberian Peninsula. What is the name of Spain's western neighbor? \_\_\_\_\_
- About 88% of Spain has coastlines. On the north is the Bay of \_\_\_\_\_, which is part of the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean and on the south and east, is the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea.
- A long, unbroken mountain chain extends across Spain's border with France, from the Bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean Sea. What is the name of this mountain chain? \_\_\_\_\_
- The capital of Spain is in the heart of the country, and has many famous theaters, landmarks and museums. It is near the geographic center of the Iberian Peninsula, and is known for bullfighting. What is the capital city of Spain? \_\_\_\_\_

# Norway & Sweden Reference Map



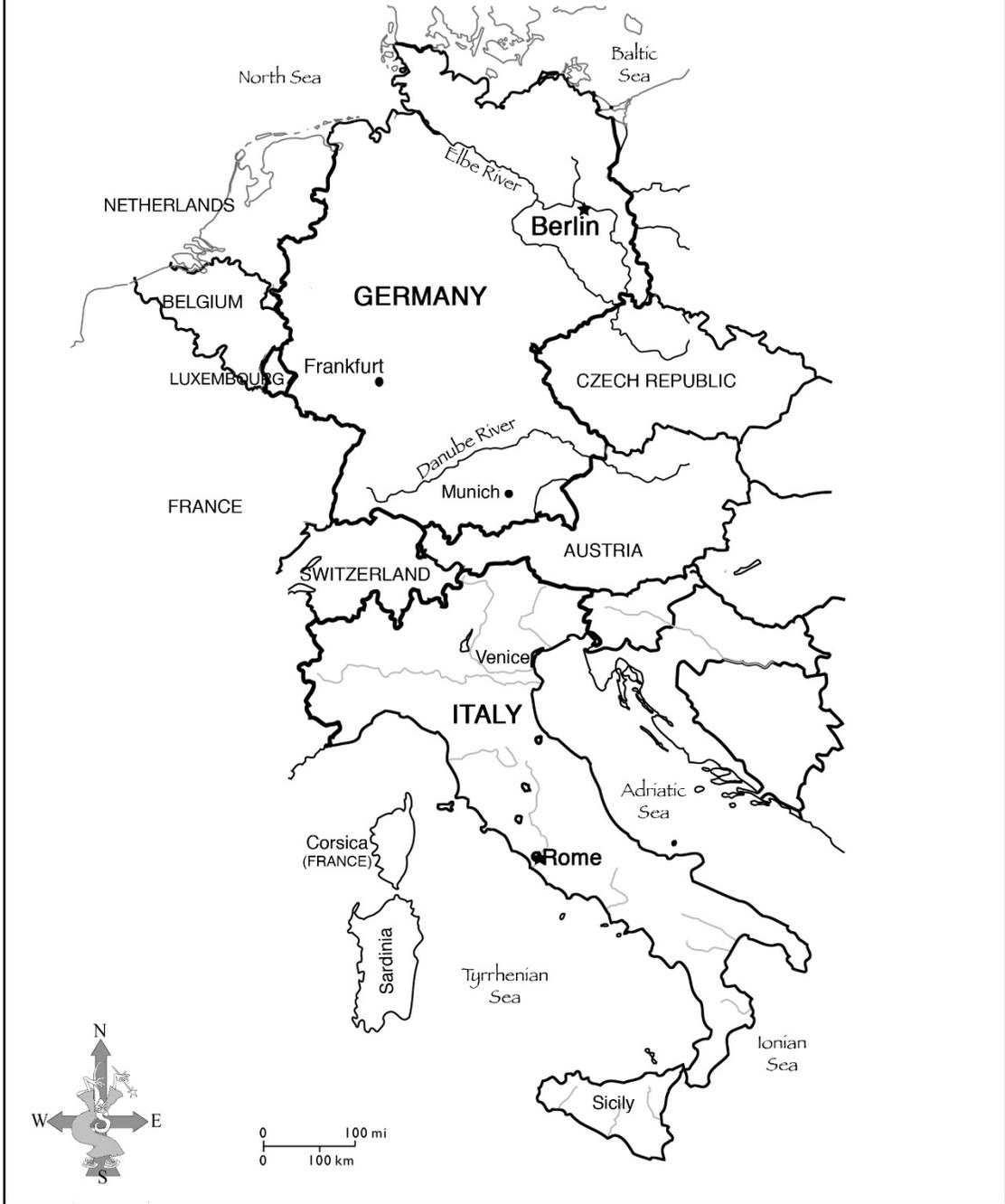
## Norway

- Norway is known for its fjords (FEE-ords), which are salt water-filled valleys that have been deepened by glaciers, and create its jagged border. They are home to fishing fleets and fish farms. Which ocean borders the fjords on Norway's west coast? \_\_\_\_\_
- Norway's capital is also its largest city, and about 25 percent of the country's population lives in and around there. The capital is in the southern part of Norway. What is its name? \_\_\_\_\_
- Norway shares a long border to its east with which other large country on the Scandinavian Peninsula (a landmass surrounded on three sides by water)? \_\_\_\_\_
- During the summer in northern Norway, it stays light until late at night and, even then, it is not completely dark. This is because it is so far north. What imaginary line cuts across the northern part of Norway (and Sweden and Russia)? \_\_\_\_\_

## Sweden

- Sweden is in northern Europe, on the eastern portion of the Scandinavian Peninsula. Which other country is on that peninsula?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Fertile farmlands and forest cover much of Sweden. There are gently rolling hills in the eastern part of Sweden, and mountains in the west. Sweden has a coastline of some 2,000 miles. What sea borders it on the west? \_\_\_\_\_
- What bodies of water lie east of Sweden? \_\_\_\_\_
- The capital of Sweden is on the eastern border of the country, and is built atop 14 islands, all connected by bridges. What is the capital?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- A small country that is the setting for the book "Number the Stars" lies southwest of Sweden. Name the country. \_\_\_\_\_

# Germany & Italy Reference Map



## Germany

- Germany is bordered on the north by the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea and the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea, and there are many important ports there.
- The capital of Germany is in the eastern part of the country, and from 1945 until 1989 it was divided in half by a concrete wall. One part of the city was controlled by East Germany, a Communist nation, and the other part by West Germany, a democracy. What is the name of the capital of Germany? \_\_\_\_\_
- This river begins in the mountains in the Czech Republic and flows north and west through Germany until it empties into the North Sea. What is the name of this river? \_\_\_\_\_
- Southern Germany includes this major river: \_\_\_\_\_ River.

## Italy

- If you look at the map of Italy, it seems to be shaped like a boot. There is a large island that is part of Italy that lies just next to what would be the toe of the boot. What is the island? \_\_\_\_\_
- Much of Italy is a peninsula located in the Mediterranean Sea, but it is also bordered by several smaller seas. Name the sea, which borders Italy on the northeast. \_\_\_\_\_
- This city and seaport in northeastern Italy sits on 120 islands formed by 177 canals. The islands are connected by hundreds of bridges, and for centuries the most common means of transportation around the city was by a boat called a gondola. What is the name of this city at the north end of the Adriatic Sea? \_\_\_\_\_
- The capital of Italy is often called the Eternal City, and was the capital of the ancient Roman Empire. What is its name? \_\_\_\_\_
- To travel from Italy to Germany, you must go (which direction) \_\_\_\_\_, through (what country) \_\_\_\_\_.

# Poland & Austria Reference Map



## Poland

- Poland is in north central Europe and is made up of plains, lakes and forests. Its coastline on this body of water forms its northern border. The Scandinavian Peninsula is across the sea. What is the name of the sea?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The capital of Poland lies in the east central part of the country, on the Vistula River. What is the capital city of Poland? \_\_\_\_\_
- Rivers and canals are important in Poland because they provide a means for shipping goods. The rivers also link ports on the Baltic Sea with inland cities. What is Poland's longest river? \_\_\_\_\_
- In which direction would you be traveling if you headed from Poland to Austria? \_\_\_\_\_ From Poland to Germany?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Austria

- Austria is considered the crossroads of central Europe. It is landlocked and is bordered by eight countries. One of its neighbors to the south is \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ is on the northwest side.
- In the movie, "The Sound of Music", the Von Trapp family crossed these mountains located in western Austria when they made their escape.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The \_\_\_\_\_ River begins in Germany and flows through northern Austria.
- Capital city of Austria is \_\_\_\_\_.

# Greece Reference Map



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## Greece

- The Olympics originated in Greece more than 2000 years ago. The modern Olympics were held in the capital city of \_\_\_\_\_ in 2004.
- Name the body of water that separates Greece from Turkey.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The southern half of Greece contains many small islands that are in the Sea of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The ancient Greeks believed that gods and goddesses (such as Zeus and Hercules) lived on the top of the country's highest mountain. This mountain, \_\_\_\_\_ is found in the northern part of the country.
- Greece is the southern part of what is known as the Balkan Peninsula, so it is almost entirely surrounded by water. The \_\_\_\_\_ Sea and the \_\_\_\_\_ Sea form Greece's western border.

## Continents, Countries and Capitals

Fill in the continent and capital for each country, and use this sheet to practice.

Continent	Country	Capital
Africa	Algeria	Algiers
Africa	Angola	Luanda
Africa	Cameroon	Yaoundé
Africa	Democratic Republic of Congo	Kinshasa
Africa	Egypt	Cairo
Africa	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa
Africa	Ghana	Accra
Africa	Ivory Coast	Yamoussoukro
Africa	Kenya	Nairobi
Africa	Madagascar	Antananarivo
Africa	Morocco	Rabat
Africa	Nigeria	Abuja
Africa	South Africa	Cape Town and Pretoria
Africa	Tanzania	Dar Es Salaam
Africa	Uganda	Kampala
Europe	Austria	Vienna
Europe	France	Paris
Europe	Germany	Berlin
Europe	Greece	Athens
Europe	Italy	Rome
Europe	Norway	Oslo
Europe	Poland	Warsaw
Europe	Spain	Madrid
Europe	Sweden	Stockholm
Europe	United Kingdom	London
Asia	Afghanistan	Kabul

Asia	China	Beijing
Asia	India	New Delhi
Asia	Indonesia	Jakarta
Asia	Iran	Tehran
Asia	Iraq	Baghdad
Asia	Japan	Tokyo
Asia	Pakistan	Islamabad
Asia and Europe	Russia	Moscow
Asia	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh
Asia	Thailand	Bangkok
Asia	Turkey	Ankara
Asia	United Arab Emirates	Abu Dhabi

## Glossary

Abolish	To end the practice of something
Administrative	The executive branch of a government, such as a president
Archipelago	A group of islands
Canal	A man-made waterway, used mainly for transportation of people and goods
Cape	A point of land that juts out into the water
Channel	A narrow body of water between two landmasses
Colony	An area controlled by another country
Dam	A man-made barrier to decrease or stop the flow of water
Desert	A barren land, with little open water
Dialect	A local variation of a language
Elevation	The height to which something reaches, such as a mountain peak
Equator	An imaginary line that divides the earth from north to south
Exile	To expel or banish from a country

Fertile	Land that is good for growing crops
Fjords	A narrow inlet of the sea between steep slopes or cliffs
Gulf	A part of an ocean or sea that extends into land
Hemisphere	Half of the earth, either northern or southern; eastern or western
Immigrant	A person who moves from their home country to another
Legislative	The part of a government that makes laws, such as congress
Middle East	The area around northern Africa and southwestern Asia
North Pole	The northernmost part of the earth
Oasis	A fertile area surrounded by desert
Peninsula	An area of land that is surrounded by water on 3 sides
Plateau	An area of land that is relatively flat, at a high elevation
Populous	Inhabited by a great number of people
Rainforest	A tropical woodland that receives at least 100 inches of rain per year
South Pole	The southernmost point of the earth
Strait	A narrow body of water that separates two landmasses
Sub arctic	An area north of the Arctic Circle, or south of the Antarctic Circle
Tropical	The area of the earth between the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn
Watercourses	A natural or artificial channel through which water flows