**Physical Geography of North Africa, Southwest and Central Asia**

Why are there so many earthquakes in this region?

What three major mountain ranges are found in this region?

What do the Atlas Mountains and Asir Mountains have in common?

What are the three landlocked bodies of water in this region?

What is the largest inland body of water on the planet?

Why is the Aral Sea drying up?

What one factor has affected development more than any other across the region?

Where does most of the population of Egypt live?

What does the Aswan High Dam provide?

What is provided by the dams along the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers?

What countries does it serve?

What is the most important natural resource of the region?

What are some drawbacks of economic dependence on oil?

What are countries doing about it

What is the main climate type found in this region?

What percentage of the land does it cover?

What is the largest desert in the world?

What is the largest area of sand in the world?

What is the second largest climate region?

What type of economic activity is found in this region?

**Cultural Geography**

**North Africa**

What cultures have influenced this region?

Where is the European influence is felt the most?

What is the primary cultural influence?

What is the indigenous culture of the region?

Because of the scarcity of water where is have most people settled?

What is the major city in the region?

Why has this region been vulnerable to invasion?

What influences were felt from Arab invasions in the 600’s?

What was a cultural influence from Europeans?

What European country once controlled Egypt?

What makes Egypt a major regional power?

What countries gained their independence from France?

What country gained independence from Italy?

Who control Libya today?

What type of government do they have?

**Eastern Mediterranean**

What are the two main groups of people in the Eastern Mediterranean?

What countries are included in this region?

Where do most people live?

Why?

Where else do most people live?

Why is Israel a diverse country?

What do the three major religions in the Middle East have in common?

What is the oldest of the three major religions?

What was the group that called for a Jewish state beginning in the late 1800”?

What year did the Jews proclaim their own independent state?

Who was the group that occupied the region before the creation of Israel?

What happened to them?

What has happened to this area since the creation of Israel?

What do the Palestinians want?

Most people in this region follow what religion?

What languages are spoken in this region?

**Cultural Geography**

**Iran, Iraq and Turkey**

Where were the Turks and the Iranians originally from

What language do Iranians speak?

What ethnic group are most Iraqi’s?

Where do the Kurds live?

What has happened to their efforts at independence?

The two most populous countries in this region are what?

What are the major cities?

How has the government of Iran tried to control urban growth?

What happened to the government of Iran in 1979?

What has changed the region drastically over the last 50 years?

What countries formed OPEC in the 1950’s?

Why has OPEC Grown in importance and power?

**Cultural Geography**

**Arabian Peninsula**

Why do most people live along the coast?

What ethnic group do most people in this region belong to?

Why have many foreign workers come to the region?

What has the discovery of oil brought to the region?

Where is the majority of the population non-native?

When did Saudi Arabia become independent?

Who did they gain independence from?

What family rules Saudi Arabia?

Which country is a sheikdom?

What is a sheikdom?

What is shari’ah law?

Which country uses this as their legal code?

Why do standards of living vary in this region?

Which country has one of the world’s highest per capita incomes?

What are the two dominant sects of Islam?

What is Wahabbism?

**Central Asia**

What are four factors that have shaped this region?

What is the dominant ethnic group in Afghanistan?

What are the two major Turkic groups in this region?

What is a cause of uneven population distribution?

Why are Armenia and Georgia different than other countries?

What country unified much of Central Asia in the 1900’s?

What changes did Soviet influence bring to the region?

Who ruled Afghanistan after the Soviets left the country?

What type of rule did they impose on the country?

What happened in 1991 to much of Central Asia?

What are three problems facing the region today?

**The Region Today**

What are the two key economic resources?

What are the main economic activities in the region?

What service industry jobs are found in the region?

Where are better road systems found?

What keeps roads from being built in some countries?

Why are the Strait of Hormuz and the Suez Canal important?

How does oil get from the oilfields to the ports?

Who controls most of the news outlets in the region?

What is an example of economic interdependence between this region and the rest of the world?

What is the key resource issue across this region?

How do oil rich countries supply some of their freshwater needs?

What is Libya’s Great Man Made River?

Where does the water come from?

Where does it supply water?

What is a potential negative effect of the Great Man Made River?

What are the positives and negatives of the Aswan High Dam?

What are the negative effects of Soviet rule in Central Asia?