

Section 1: Land and Water  
Africa: Physical Geography

## Guided Reading and Review

### A. As You Read

**Directions:** *As you read Section 1, answer the following questions in the spaces provided.*

1. Into what four regions can the continent of Africa be divided?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why is Africa often called the "plateau continent"?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is Africa's tallest mountain? In which region is it located?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Near what landform are most of Africa's major lakes located?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What are the names of the four major rivers in Africa?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Why can't ships sail all the way from Africa's interior to the sea?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why have people farmed the land along the Nile for thousands of years?

\_\_\_\_\_

### B. Reviewing Key Terms

**Directions:** *Write the key terms for the following definitions in the blanks provided.*

8. a large, level area that rises above the surrounding land; has at least one side with a steep slope \_\_\_\_\_
9. the height of land above sea level \_\_\_\_\_
10. a deep crack in Earth's surface \_\_\_\_\_
11. a river or stream that flows into a larger river \_\_\_\_\_
12. rich in the substances plants need to grow well \_\_\_\_\_

Section 1: Land and Water  
Africa: Physical Geography**Section Quiz****A. Key Terms**

**Directions:** Read the statements below. If a statement is true, write T in the blank provided. If it is false, write F. Rewrite false statements on the back of this page to make them true.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A 4,000-mile-long rift cuts through East Africa.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Throughout Africa, the elevation, or height of land below sea level, is low.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. A small river or stream that flows into a larger river is called a tributary.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. A large, raised area of mostly level land is called a plateau.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. When soil is fertile, very few plants will grow in it.

**B. Main Ideas**

**Directions:** Write the letter of the correct answer in each blank.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Africa is often called the "plateau continent" because the land is generally
- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| a. mountainous. | c. high. |
| b. wet.         | d. dry.  |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Which of the following is a major landform in East Africa?
- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| a. Mount Kilimanjaro | c. the Aswan Dam   |
| b. the Sahara        | d. the Congo River |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Ships cannot sail all the way from Africa's interior to the sea because of
- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. waterfalls and steep rapids.    | c. too many bends in the rivers.  |
| b. monthly flooding of the rivers. | d. the shallowness of the rivers. |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. What are three of the most important rivers in Africa?
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. the Ghana, the Zambezi, and the Niger    | c. the Nile, the Congo, and the Niger      |
| b. the Kilimanjaro, the Congo, and the Nile | d. the Guinea, the Zambezi, and the Sahara |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Why were people able to farm land surrounding the Nile River?
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a. Frequent flooding deposited rich soil.    | c. Merchants established trading centers in the area.       |
| b. Heavy rains provided water for the crops. | d. Farmers could buy different kinds of seeds from traders. |