

Name _____

Date _____

EUROPE

Landforms and Resources

All questions require at least
THREE sentences on own paper.

PLACES & TERMS

fjord a steep, glacier-carved, U-shaped valley that connects to the sea

upland a hill or low mountain that may also contain a mesa and high plateau

Meseta central plateau of Spain

Massif Central uplands in France; about one-sixth of French land

peat partially decayed plant matter found in bogs; it is used as fuel

Peninsulas and Islands

Why might Europe be called a “peninsula of peninsulas”?

Europe is a large *peninsula* west of Asia. It contains many smaller peninsulas. Europe is sometimes called a “peninsula of peninsulas.” Most locations in Europe are no more than 300 miles from the sea.

In the north is the Scandinavian Peninsula. It is home to Norway and Sweden. The Norwegian Sea, the North Sea, and the Baltic Sea surround this peninsula. *Glaciers* moved across the Scandinavian Peninsula during the last Ice Age. In Norway, the glaciers carved out fjords, deep U-shaped valleys connected to the sea.

Across from Scandinavia is the Jutland Peninsula. Jutland forms the largest part of Denmark and a small part of Germany.

Southern Europe contains three major peninsulas. The Iberian Peninsula is home to Spain and Portugal. Italy occupies the boot-shaped Italian Peninsula. The Balkan Peninsula is very mountainous. The Adriatic, Mediterranean, and Aegean seas surround it.

Europe also has many islands. The larger islands are Great Britain, Ireland, Iceland, and Greenland.

The smaller islands include Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, and Crete.

1. What are the five major peninsulas of Europe?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Mountains and Uplands

Why might the mountains and uplands of Europe be viewed as walls?

The mountains and uplands of Europe separate groups of people and make travel difficult. These landforms also influence the climate. For example, the Alps block cold winds, which makes Italy warmer.

The Alps arc across France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, and the northern Balkan Peninsula. The Alps cut Italy off from the rest of Europe.

The Pyrenees make it hard to move from France to Spain and Portugal. The Apennine Mountains divide the Italian Peninsula from east to west. The

Balkan Mountains separate the Balkan Peninsula from the rest of Europe. They also *isolated* the region's various ethnic groups from each other.

Europe also has several regions of uplands. Uplands are hills or low mountains that may also contain mesas or high plateaus. The Meseta, Spain's central plateau, is an upland region. So is the Massif Central, which makes up about one-sixth of France.

2. How do mountains and uplands affect the movement of people and goods?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Rivers: Europe's Links

What are two of Europe's major rivers?

The rivers that cross Europe help bring people and goods together. Rivers are used to transport goods to the coast. This aids economic growth. Historically, they have also aided the movement of ideas.

The Danube and Rhine rivers have served as waterways for centuries. The Rhine flows 820 miles from the center of Europe to the North Sea. The Danube touches 9 countries over its 1,771-mile length. It links Europe to the Black Sea. These rivers helped to connect Europe to the rest of the world.

3. How have rivers affected life in Europe?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Fertile Plains: Europe's Bounty

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Where does Europe grow its food?

One of the most fertile regions of the world is the Northern European Plain. It has good farmland that has produced vast quantities of food over the centuries. But the plain's flatness allowed invaders to use it as an easy route into Europe.

Smaller fertile plains exist in Sweden, Hungary, and northern Italy. These, too, are farming regions.

4. Why has the Northern European Plain been both useful and dangerous?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Resources Shape Europe's Economy

What are Europe's primary resources?

Europe has *abundant* supplies of coal and iron ore. Having both of these resources makes it possible to produce steel. One negative result is that regions with industry often suffered from pollution.

In 1959, oil and natural gas were found beneath the stormy North Sea. Even so, technology made it possible to build oil rigs there. Now the North Sea is a major source of petroleum.

About 33 percent of Europe's land can be used for farming. The land produces crops such as grains, grapes, olives, and cork. Timber is cut from vast forests. These forests are on the Scandinavian Peninsula and in the Alps.

5. How did the presence of coal and iron contribute to pollution in some regions?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Resources Shape Life

Why do the Irish cut peat?

The resources found in Europe helped shape the lives of Europeans. Resources affect food, fuel, jobs, and housing.

The distribution of resources cause differences between regions. Ireland lacks energy sources. In Ireland, peat beds are cut up and burned for fuel. In contrast, coal is plentiful in other parts of Europe. For example, Poland has had coal mines for generations.

6. How do resources affect the jobs people have?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.