Land Regions of the West

Directions: Read the paragraphs below and study the map carefully. Then answer the questions that follow.

The western United States contains many land regions. Plains are broad, level lands. Plateaus, also level, are elevated and often drier lands. Basins are fairly low-lying areas. The landforms typical of

ranges are long rows of mountains. Lowlands are areas lower than neighboring areas. Valleys are narrow lowlands between mountains.



Interpreting Text and Visuals

1. Which single type of landform is found in regions 5, 7, 10, and 12?
2. What regions extend all the way from Canada to Texas?
3. Which land regions would you cross if you traveled due west from Denver to San Francisco?
4. In which land region is each of the following physical features located?
a. Pikes Peak
b. Mt. Rainier
c. Grand Canyon
d. Mt. Whitney
5. Which is the only region separated into two sections?
6. Approximately which line of longitude forms the dividing line between the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountains—95°W, 100°W, 105°W, or 110°W?
7. What is the main difference between the land bordering the Gulf of Mexico and the land bordering the Pacific Ocean?
8. The Wyoming Basin is basically an extension of the Great Plains. Look at the map again. Why do you think the Wyoming Basin played a major role in the settling of the Far West?