

# Physical Features of Africa

Use the maps and additional references to complete the following. Label the features on the map.

Vast deserts cover portions of the African continent. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the large desert or group of deserts extending from Mauritania to Egypt. The sandy region of the western Sahara in Mauritania is called El \_\_\_\_\_. The section of the Sahara located in eastern Libya and western Egypt is known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Desert. Just to the south of the Sahara in the southern parts of Mali, Niger, and Chad is the \_\_\_\_\_, a very arid area that is subject to desertification. South of the Sahel, from Burkina Faso to the southern part of the country of Sudan, is the region known as the Sudan. There are two very dry deserts in southern Africa. The \_\_\_\_\_ desert is found along the Atlantic coast of Namibia and the \_\_\_\_\_ Desert covers most of southern Botswana.

Many large natural lakes exist in Africa. Lake \_\_\_\_\_ is located at 12°S and 34°E. Lake \_\_\_\_\_ is located at 7°S and 30°E. Lake \_\_\_\_\_ is located at 2°S and 33°E. Lake \_\_\_\_\_ is located at 13°N and 14°E. Africa is also surrounded by several bodies of water. The \_\_\_\_\_ Sea lies just east of Egypt and Sudan. Just north of Somalia, where the Red Sea meets the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean, is the Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ Sea is north of northern Africa. The \_\_\_\_\_ Channel separates Mozambique from Madagascar. The Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_ is just off the coast of Nigeria, Benin, and Cameroon.

Most of Africa is a plateau but there are several highland areas and chains of very high mountains. Two major mountainous regions are located in northern Africa within the Sahara, the \_\_\_\_\_ in southeastern Algeria and the \_\_\_\_\_ in northern Chad. The \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains are found in northeast Morocco and northern Algeria. The \_\_\_\_\_ Highlands extend along the northwest border of Cameroon. The group of mountains and plateaus in Ethiopia are known as the Ethiopian \_\_\_\_\_. The elevated region in southern Zaire, northeastern Angola, and northern Zambia is known as the Katanga or \_\_\_\_\_ Plateau. The \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains lie to the east of the Shaba and run north along the west side of Lake Tanganyika. A high chain of mountains, the \_\_\_\_\_, lie in Lesotho, Swaziland, and southeastern South Africa.

African rivers are essential to maintaining agriculture and trade throughout the continent. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the longest river in the world, flowing from Lake Victoria through Sudan and Egypt. The \_\_\_\_\_ River flows from Mali west to the country of Senegal. The \_\_\_\_\_ River flows through Mali, Niger, and Nigeria and into the Gulf of Guinea. The \_\_\_\_\_ River flows from the Shaba Plateau north then west then southwest through most of the country of Zaire. The \_\_\_\_\_ River flows from the Shaba Plateau south then east from Zambia to its mouth in Mozambique. The \_\_\_\_\_ River flows west through South Africa to the Atlantic Coast.

