Name:

Geography of Africa

Social Studies 8

Ms. McDade

November 1, 2106

Read pages 371-373 in your text book, look closely at Figure 12-1 (Topographic Map of Africa) and answer the following questions.

QUESTIONS BASED ON READINGS:

1. Estimate Africa’s Northernmost and Southernmost latitudes.
2. Is Africa’s temperature or precipitation more variable? How does this affect humans?
3. Why is it difficult to travel inland from the coast in most of Africa?
4. Where is the tropical rain forest in Africa and about how much of the continent does it comprise?
5. Why is East African climate different than the West?
6. What creates an area of dry to extremely dry conditions in the North and South of Africa? What deserts do you find in the South? Which one do you find in the North?
7. What did the Sahara desert look like 8000 years ago?
8. Describe the Sahara desert today – total land cover, features, average rainfall.
9. What are the grasslands of Africa called and what Canadian geographical feature can they be likened to?
10. Where are the grasslands from question 9 relative to the Sahara desert?
11. Describe the savanna – features, average rainfall.
12. Is the Sahara desert growing? Explain.
13. What is the Sahel? Explain the meaning of the word.
14. What aspect of climate contributes famine and widespread death and disease some years across the Sahel and savanna of Africa? Why?
15. What effect have poor soils had on African agriculture?

QUESTIONS BASED ON MAP:

1. What ocean borders Africa to the West?
2. What ocean borders Africa to the East?
3. What Sea borders Africa to the North?
4. What Sea borders Africa to the East?
5. To which continent is Africa connected by land?
6. Approximately how far is Africa away from Europe at the shortest sea crossing?
7. What large lake can be found at the equator?
8. What is the name of the tallest mountain in Africa? What is its elevation?
9. Is there any part of the African continent that is below sea level? If so, where is it?
10. What large island exists off the Southeast coast of the continent? Approximate its surface area.
11. Using the legend provided, most of Africa exists at which elevation?
12. The Nile River is the longest in the world. In which direction does it flow?
13. Where to all of the African rivers on the map end up?
14. What Mountain range is close to the North coast of Africa? Using the large world map in the classroom, in which present-day country would you find these mountains?
15. What Mountain range is close to the South coast of Africa? Using the large world map in the classroom, in which present-day country would you find these mountains?
16. If you were to walk from Africa’s western-most point to its eastern-most point (excluding Madagascar), how much distance would you cover? (Hint – use a ruler or a straight-edge)
17. If you were to walk from Africa’s northern-most point to its southern-most point, how much distance would you cover? (Hint – use a ruler or a straight-edge)