**Southwest Asia (Middle East) – TOP TEN**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. Dead Sea
   * landlocked, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_lake
   * lowest place on the Earth’s surface at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_feet below sea level
   * 9 times saltier than the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Tigris and Euphrates Rivers
   * Supported ancient river valley civilizations Mesopotamia “land between two \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”
   * Sumerian civilization – one of the 1st major civilizations (developed one of the 1st forms of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
   * Originate in the mountains of eastern \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & flow southeast through Syria & Iraq
   * Area believed to be the first place to practice domestication of plants & animals (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & livestock)
3. Oil

* The most important natural resource (after \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) in the region is petroleum
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the world’s oil reserves are found in the region
* Region produces about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_% of the world’s supply
  + Saudi Arabia is one of the world’s top producers of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Wealth from oil has brought about a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ growth
* Only about 5% of the oil is actually \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the region
* Most is exported in crude form to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ countries
* Region grew in global importance as oil became more important \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Large increases in oil prices allow oil-producing nations to put money into other projects like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ development
* 1960 – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) was formed
* Control worldwide oil prices and production \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Deserts

* Deserts cover about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_% of the region
* Lebanon, Cyprus, & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are the only countries without a desert
* Deserts in this region have limited sand dunes; more extensive are rocky gravel areas called “desert \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”, mountains, & exposed barren rock
* Desert areas are largely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Exception, the cities where oil-related industries provide \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Nomadic herders (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) who move from place to place in the desert live in or near desert oases.
* Rub' al Khali (Empty Quarter) – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + \_\_\_\_ of the total land area of the Arabian Peninsula
  + Largest area of sand in the region – about the size of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Sand dunes that are as high as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ feet
  + 10 years may pass without \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Temps may exceed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_º F
* Negev Desert – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* An-Nafud – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Peninsula
* Syrian Desert

1. Population

* Most populated countries are Turkey & Iran (each has more than \_\_\_\_\_ million people).
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the most densely populated (2,400 people per square mile).
  + Population total of about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ million.

1. Major Languages
   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * Hebrew – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Turkey & Cyprus
   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Cyprus
   * Pushtu – Afghanistan
   * Farsi - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Islam
   * Developed in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ around C.E. 600
   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ religion that is based on the teachings of its founder – Muhammad
   * Two main branches – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Shi’ite
   * The majority are Sunni Muslims, only about \_\_\_\_\_% are Shi’ite Muslims
   * Another smaller minority branch is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – the mystic aspect of Islam
   * Islam spread from C.E. 650-900 throughout a vast empire from Pakistan to North Africa and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * 2 holy cities are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Medina in Saudi Arabia
   * Majority of Muslims speak Arabic, except in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Turkish) and Iran (Farsi)
   * Followers are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the holy book of the Muslims
   * The Koran is believed to be a record of the word of Allah as it was revealed to his prophet, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * Muslims believe that it is a sin if the Koran is read in any language other than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * The Koran outlines the Five \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (basic duties) of Islam
     + 1. Pray 5 times daily facing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     + 2. Payment of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1/40 of one’s wealth)
     + 3. Fast from sunrise to sunset during the holy month of Ramadan, which is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ month of the Islamic year
     + 4. Make a pilgrimage, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to Mecca (if able)
     + 5. State the belief “There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of Allah”
3. Judaism

* Religion of people known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Hebrews lived along \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shore of the Mediterranean Sea
* Established the kingdoms of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Israel around 1000 B.C.E.
* Five holy books, together known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, recorded early history of the Hebrews and their religion

1. Christianity
   * Religion developed around C.E. 30 in the same region as Judaism (at that time the region was known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
   * Religion is based on the teachings of Jesus, a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who traveled through Palestine spreading his beliefs
   * Jesus was threatening to some people; he was tried and crucified in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * Followers are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the holy book of the Christians
   * Jerusalem is considered by Christians to be a holy city – sacred location of the final suffering & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus
2. A History of Unrest
   * Israeli Jews trace roots to the Hebrews, who settled the region in ancient times and believed God had given them the land as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_home
   * Over time, wars and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_drove many of the Jews out of the area
   * Israel was founded as a Jewish homeland in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * Arabs of the region, did not want a Jewish state on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that had been their homeland for centuries
   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_broke out between the Arabs and Jews and still continues today