6th Grade Social Studies

Use the Map Skills Issue of Junior Scholastic (11/4/19) to complete the Map Packet. You should do 1 page (front and back) each day.

Junior Scholastic

6th

SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD
RH.6-8.7

Europe

Europe is the sixth-largest of the world's seven continents. Twenty-eight of its 45 nations belong to the European Union (E.U.), an alliance that promotes free trade and travel among its members.*

* When the issue went to press, the United Kingdom was set to leave the E.U. by October 31, 2019.

Questions

1. What is the capital of Ireland?

2. In which direction would you travel to get from that city to the capital of the United Kingdom?

3. Which three labeled rivers flow through Germany?

4. The tiny nation of Andorra sits between which two larger countries in southwestern Europe?

5. The island of Sicily is part of which country?

6. What two mountain ranges divide Europe and Asia? What river also forms part of the dividing line?

7. Which city in Turkey is located at a point where Europe and Asia meet? This city sits on the south shore of which body of water?

8. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Reykjavík, Iceland?

9. Which countries on this map lie along the 50°N line of latitude from west to east?

10. About how many miles separate the capitals of North Macedonia and Greece?

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SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

Africa

KEY STANDARD RH.6-8.7

Africa is the world's second-largest continent in both land area and population. It is widely recognized as the birthplace of all humans and their ancestors, who began to appear there about 4 million years ago.

Questions

1. Which nation has coastline along the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea?

2. Lake Victoria is surrounded by which three East African countries?

3. The nation of Lesotho is located entirely within which other country?

4. Which capital cities are on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea?

5. What waterway marks the place where Africa is closest to Europe? Between which two countries is this waterway located?

6. Which capital is closest to the southernmost tip of Africa?

7. The line of latitude called the Tropic of Capricorn passes through which African countries?

8. Which capital is located at 13°N, 8°W? What major river flows through that city?

9. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Nairobi, Kenya? Which named latitude line is it near?

10. About how many miles separate Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Kigali, Rwanda?

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SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD RH.6-8.7

Asia and Oceania

Asia, the largest continent in area and population, covers about one-third of Earth's land surface. Oceania is a region in the Pacific Ocean that includes the country of Australia, which is also the world's smallest continent.

Questions

1. What is the capital of China?

2. From that city, in which direction would you travel to reach the ancient Chinese city of Xi'an?

3. Which two island countries sit off the southern coast of India? These nations are in which ocean?

4. Which river forms most of the border between China and North Korea?

5. Which capital sits on the shore of the Caspian Sea?

6. Which two countries in the Himalayas are bordered by India and China?

7. What is the capital of Papua New Guinea?

8. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Dhaka, the capital of the South Asian nation of Bangladesh?

9. About how many miles separate Ankara, Turkey, and Tehran, Iran?

10. Which Asian countries lie along the Tropic of Cancer, from east to west?

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SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD RH.6-8.7

The Middle East

The Middle East is a region, not a continent. Located mostly in Asia, it also includes parts of Africa (Egypt) and Europe (part of Turkey). The Middle East is the birthplace of three of the world's major religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Recent conflicts in some Middle Eastern nations have created many of the world's refugees.

Questions

1. Which two rivers flow through Iraq? Into what body of water do these rivers empty?

2. What mountain range forms much of the border between Iraq and Iran?

3. Which Egyptian city on the map is located on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea?

4. Which sea is bordered by Jordan and Israel?

5. The Sinai Peninsula is part of which country?

6. A ship traveling from Kuwait City, Kuwait, to Aden, Yemen, would pass through which bodies of water?

7. What waterway would a ship take to get from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea?

8. Which capital is located at 25°N, 47°E?

9. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Ankara, Turkey?

10. About how many miles separate the capitals of Yemen and Saudi Arabia?

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SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD
RH.6-8.7

North America

North America is largely made up of Canada, the United States, and Mexico. The continent also contains the region of Central America—located between Mexico and South America—and the island nations of the Caribbean Sea.

Questions

1. What are the two major mountain ranges in the U.S.?

2. Which large island is a territory of the European country of Denmark?

3. What waterway near South America connects the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean?

4. In which direction would you travel to get from Nassau, Bahamas, to Puerto Rico?

5. Which major U.S. river flows into the Mississippi River from the west? In which mountain range does this river begin?

6. Which river flows from Lake Ontario to the Atlantic Ocean?

7. Which two countries govern the Virgin Islands?

8. Which city is located at 21°N, 158°W?

9. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Havana, Cuba? About how many miles separate it from Key West, Florida?

10. About how many miles separate Mexico City, Mexico, and Belmopan, Belize?

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SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD
RH.6-8.7

South America

South America is home to the world's largest rainforest, the Amazon. About 50 percent of the planet's plant and animal species live there. Most South Americans speak Spanish or Portuguese, which traces back to the continent's major European colonizers.

Questions

1. What is the capital of Brazil?

2. In which direction would you travel to get from that city to Bogotá, Colombia?

3. Which two countries are landlocked, meaning they have no border on an ocean?

4. What is the southernmost point of South America called?

5. What two rivers in Argentina flow into the Río de la Plata?

6. What narrow body of water at the southern part of the continent links the Pacific and Atlantic oceans? What two countries does it divide?

7. Which countries lie along the 60°W line of longitude from north to south? What islands does that line cross?

8. Which capital is located at 19°S, 65°W? Its country has another capital city too—what is its name?

9. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Caracas, Venezuela?

10. About how many miles separate the capital cities of Asunción, Paraguay, and Montevideo, Uruguay?

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Junior Scholastic
SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD
RH.6-8.7

The United States

The United States is the world's fourth-largest country in land area, covering more than 3 million square miles. It is the third-largest in population, with more than 327 million people. Its 50 states contain rivers, deserts, mountains, and national parks.

Questions

1. The capital of North Dakota sits along which river?

2. Which Great Lakes border only one state each?

3. Which major city is located at 30°N, 90°W?

4. Part of Minnesota's northern border cuts through which labeled body of water?

5. Which U.S. states have coastline on the Gulf of Mexico?

6. About how many miles separate the capitals of New Hampshire and Pennsylvania?

7. Which five national parks are closest to California's border with Nevada?

8. Which Colorado city shown is closest to Pikes Peak?

9. What is the latitude and longitude of Iowa's capital?

10. The Continental Divide *(see map key)* is a series of mountain ridges separating rivers that flow into the Pacific Ocean from rivers that flow into the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico. It runs along or through which states?

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SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Research Skills

KEY STANDARD RI.6-8.7

U.S. Almanac Scavenger Hunt

Use the "State Basics" and "Key State Details" tables *(pp. 25-29)* to complete the chart.

CLUE	STATE, CAPITAL DISTRICT, OR TERRITORY
1. nickname: the Prairie State	
2. governor: Gina Raimondo	
3. personal income per capita, 2018: $49,908	
4. capital: Little Rock	
5. population: 1,877,719	
6. entered the Union in 1907	
7. high school graduation rate: 80 percent (two states)	
8. poverty rate, 2017: 20 percent (three states)	
9. name honors the father of the colony's founder	
10. home state of the Senate majority leader	
11. land area: 61 square miles	
12. has the most members of Congress of any state	
13. highest percentage of eighth-graders proficient or better in math	
14. self-governing commonwealth whose capital is Saipan	
15. name comes from an Aleut word	
16. had the lowest violent crime rate in the nation in 2017	
17. nickname: the Equality State	
18. governor: Jim Justice	
19. name comes from a Spanish word meaning *flowery*	
20. its job growth rate for 2013-2018 was 12.1 percent	

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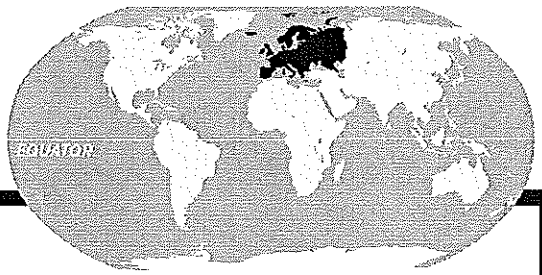
NAME: _____

Reading a Map

Europe



FAST FACTS

Area: About 4 million square miles. Europe is the world's sixth-largest continent.
Population: About 746 million people. (This includes the total population of Russia, which is partly in Europe and partly in Asia.)
Location: Shares a landmass, known as Eurasia, with Asia. The dividing line between the two continents, according to most geographers, is formed by the Ural Mountains, the Ural River, and the Caucasus Mountains. North to south, Europe runs from the cold Arctic region to the warm, sunny beaches along the Mediterranean Sea.
Physical features: Has excellent farmland and is rich in mineral resources. At 2,300 miles long, Russia's Volga River is the continent's longest river.
Elevation: *Highest:* Mount Elbrus, Russia (18,510 feet); *lowest:* shore of the Caspian Sea (92 feet below sea level)

Use the map on pp. 4-5 and the tables on pp. 6-7 to answer these questions about Europe. Write your responses on a separate sheet of paper. Where you see an asterisk (*), label those geographic features or places on the outline map provided.

1. In which direction would you travel to get from Copenhagen, Denmark, to Paris, France?
2. The Volga River flows through Russia into what sea?*
3. Name the national capital at 60°N, 25°E and its country.
4. What four regions make up the United Kingdom?*
5. Which European country has the largest land area? Which has the smallest?
6. List two parliamentary democracies in Europe. Who is usually the head of government in such a political system?
7. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Prague, Czechia?
8. Which countries border Poland?*
9. Which two European countries recently changed their names, and from what to what?
10. The nation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of three European countries with an alternating head of government. What are the other two? From what body does each choose its leader or leaders?

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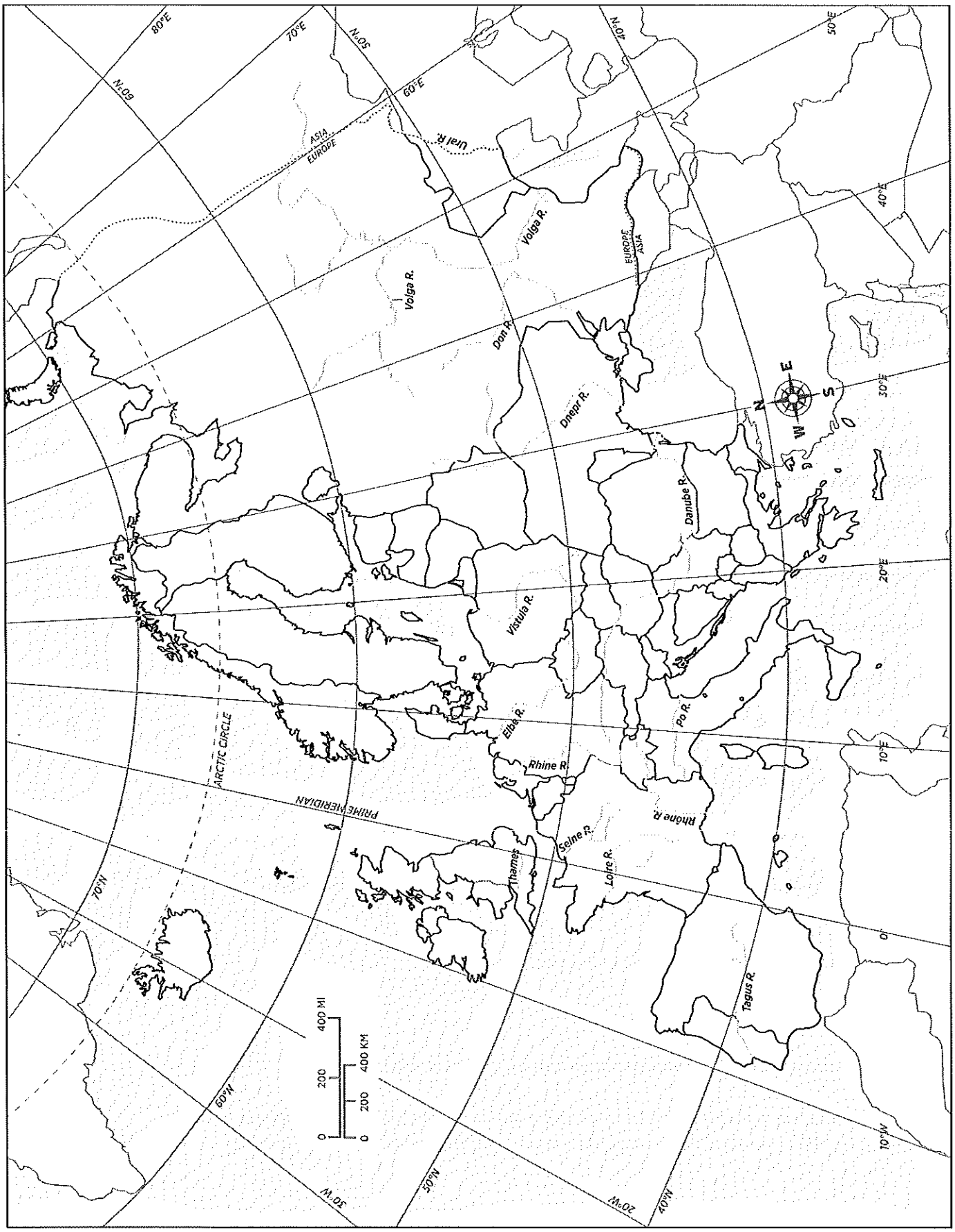

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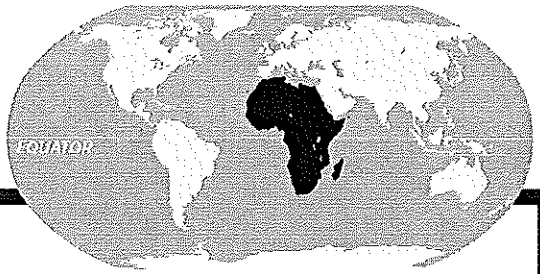
Reading a Map

Africa



FAST FACTS

Area: 11.7 million square miles, making it the second-largest continent. Only Asia is larger.
Population: Nearly 1.3 billion people. Africa ranks second among the continents in terms of population.
Location: Stretches from the Mediterranean Sea in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south.
Physical features: The world's largest desert extends across northern Africa from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea. The area south of this desert has tropical rainforests, savannas (grasslands), deserts, and many major rivers. At 4,160 miles long, the Nile is the world's longest river. It begins as two rivers whose waters converge in Sudan, then flow north to the sea.
Elevation: *Highest:* Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania (19,340 feet); *lowest:* Lake Assal, Djibouti (509 feet below sea level)

Use the map on p. 8 and the tables on pp. 9-11 to answer these questions about Africa. Write your responses on a separate sheet of paper. Where you see an asterisk (*), label those geographic features or places on the outline map provided.

1. What desert stretches across Namibia and Botswana in southern Africa?*
2. What large island country sits off the coast of Mozambique in southeast Africa?
3. Which city is located at 16°N, 33°E?
4. What are the literacy rates for males and females in Egypt and Sierra Leone? From that information, what can you infer about the education system in the two countries?
5. Which two rivers meet in Sudan to form the Nile? In which country does each river begin?*
6. What was Eswatini's former name?
7. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania?
8. What is the political system and who is the head of the government in Senegal? What might the country's political system suggest about its citizens' level of freedom to choose their leaders?
9. Which countries border Togo?*
10. Which countries have 1960 as their date of origin? What are the two main European languages spoken in those countries? What can you infer from these two facts?

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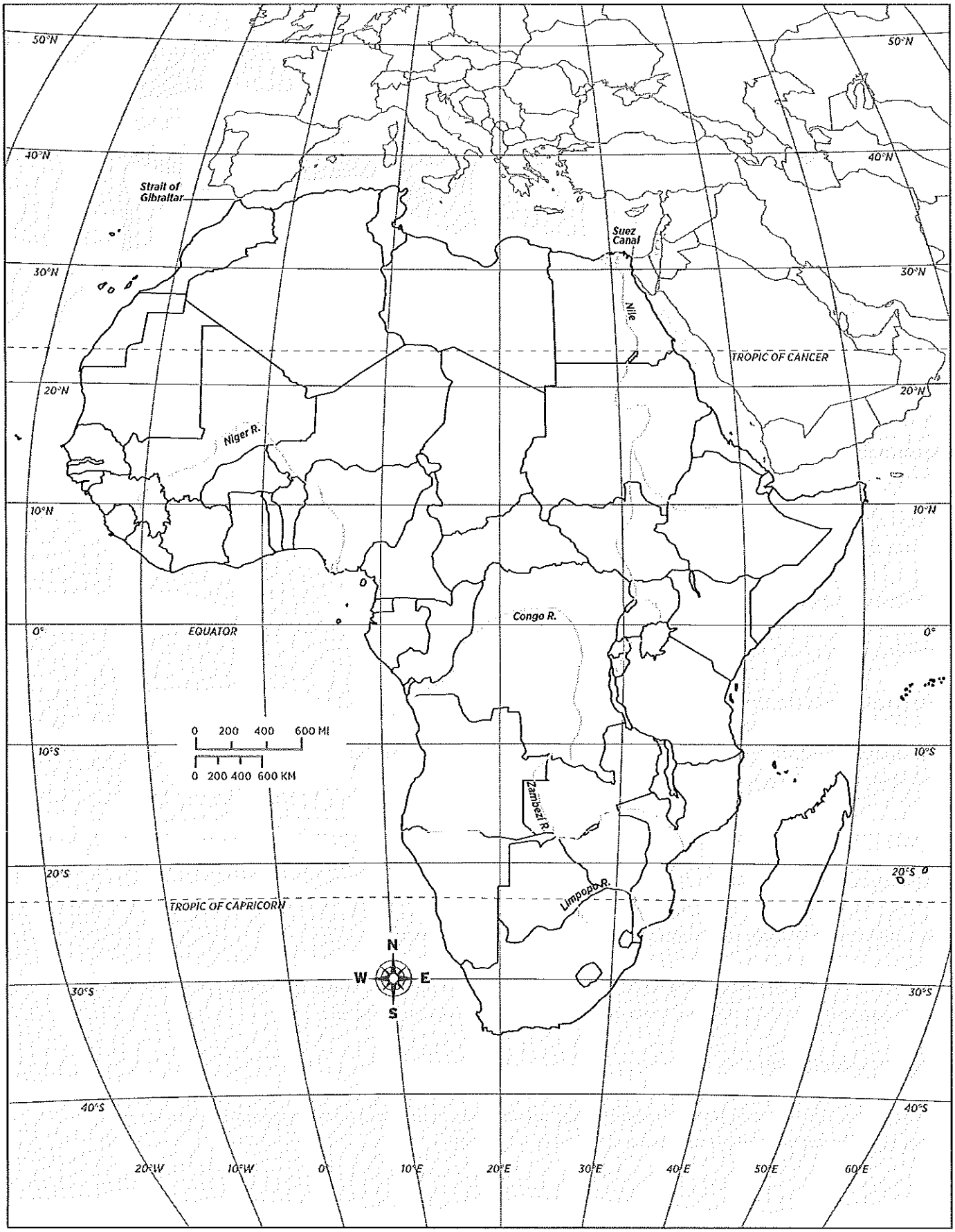

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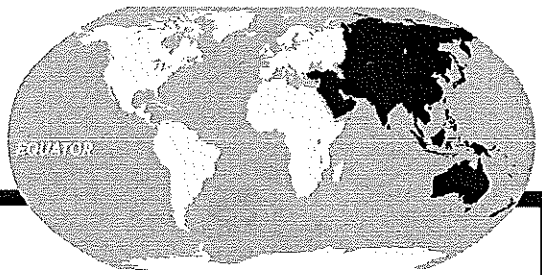
Reading a Map

Asia & Oceania



FAST FACTS

Area: *Asia:* 17 million square miles. The largest continent, it makes up one-third of the world's land area. *Oceania:* A region rather than a continent, it includes many islands spread across the Pacific Ocean.
Population: *Asia:* About 4.5 billion, 60 percent of the world's population. *Oceania:* About 41 million

Physical features: *Asia:* Includes the cold expanse of Siberia; the humid rainforests of Thailand and Myanmar; and the populous island nations of the Philippines and Japan. *Oceania:* Largely made up of low-lying volcanic islands, it also has mountains, rainforests, and the large plain in Australia called the Outback.

Elevation: *Asia, highest:* Mount Everest (29,029 feet), on the border of Nepal and China; *lowest:* the Dead Sea (about 1,390 feet below sea level), on the border of Jordan and Israel. *Oceania, highest:* Puncak Jaya, West Papua, Indonesia (16,503 feet); *lowest:* Lake Eyre, Australia (50 feet below sea level)

Use the map on pp. 12-13 and the tables on pp. 14-16 to answer these questions about Asia and Oceania. Write your responses on a separate sheet of paper. Where you see an asterisk (*), label those geographic features or places on the outline map provided.

1. What vast region stretches across Russia east of the Ural Mountains?*
2. What main river flows through Pakistan? Through India? Into what body of water does each empty?
3. Which Asian country had the greatest population increase (or rise)? Which had the smallest?
4. Which national capital is located at 6°S, 107°E?
5. Which capitals in Oceania are located on or close to the 170°E line of longitude?
6. Which Asian country recently changed its capital's name? What is that city's approximate latitude and longitude?
7. The Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden meet near which Asian country? What is that country's capital?*
8. What are the land area and population for Mongolia? For Singapore? What do these figures tell you about how these countries compare in population density (the number of people per square mile)?
9. Which labeled islands in Oceania are U.S. territories? Which are French territories?
10. Which Asian countries are Communist one-party states? Which Asian country's political system is under religious control?

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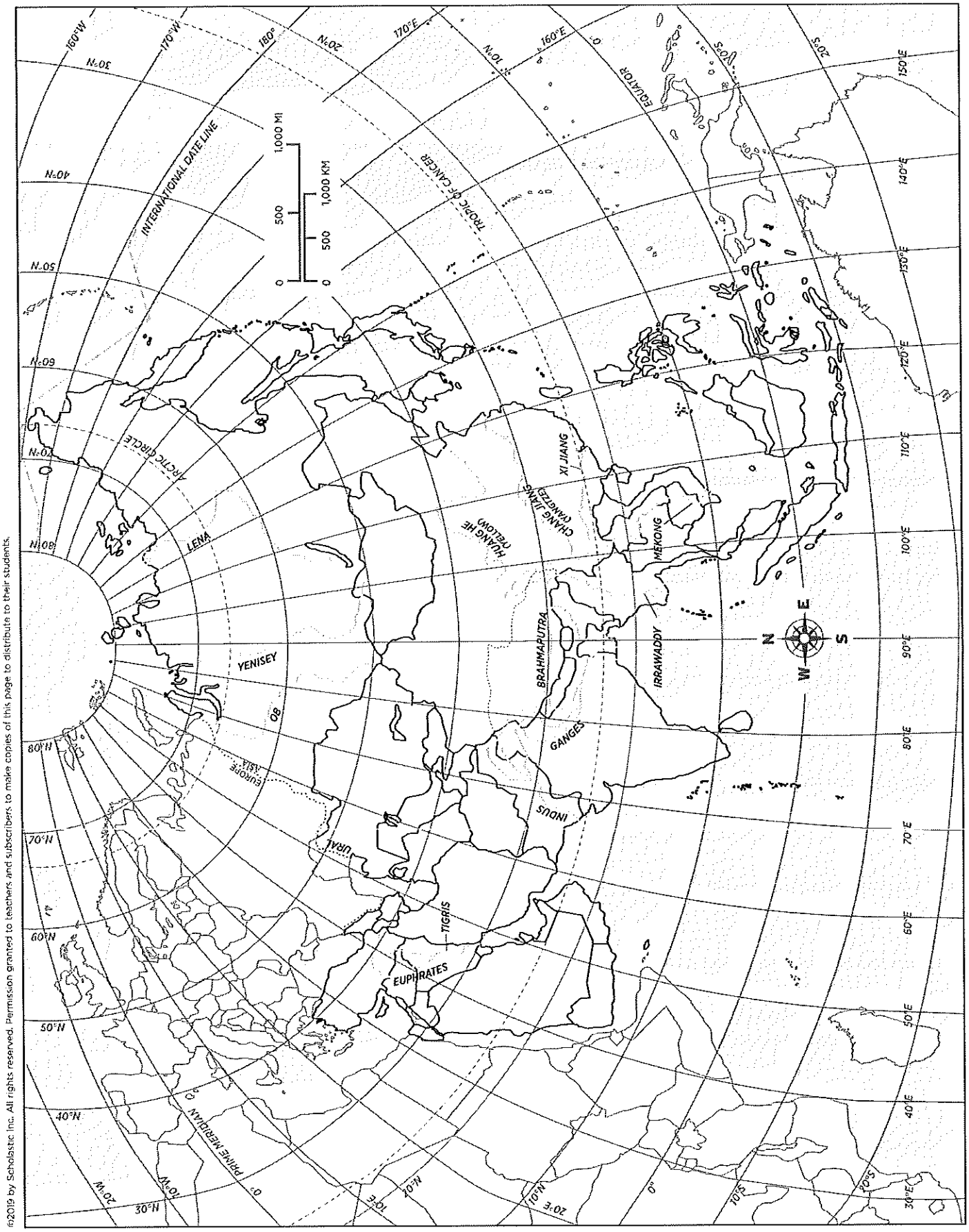

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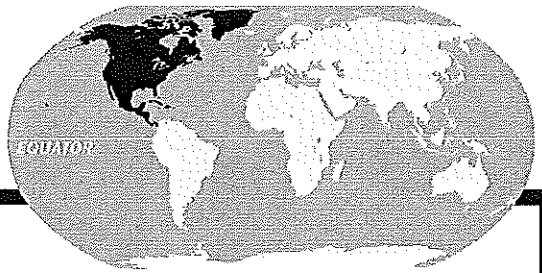
Reading a Map

North America



FAST FACTS

Area: 9.4 million square miles—the third-largest continent, after Asia and Africa
Population: About 587 million people. It ranks fourth among the continents, after Asia, Africa, and Europe.
Location: Includes Greenland (a self-governing territory of Denmark), Canada, the United States, Mexico, the seven countries of Central America, and the islands of the Caribbean Sea
Physical features: Has three major mountain systems—the Rocky Mountains, the Appalachian Mountains, and the Sierra Madre. Major bodies of water and waterways include Hudson Bay, the five Great Lakes (Erie, Huron, Michigan, Ontario, and Superior), and the Mississippi and St. Lawrence rivers.
Elevation: *Highest:* Denali (formerly Mount McKinley) in Alaska, 20,310 feet above sea level; *lowest:* Death Valley, California, 282 feet below sea level

Use the map on pp. 18-19 and the table on p. 22 to answer these questions about North America. Write your responses on a separate sheet of paper. Where you see an asterisk (*), label those geographic features or places on the outline map provided.

1. Which four U.S. cities on the map lie along the Mississippi River?
2. What countries make up the region between Mexico and South America, known as Central America?*
3. Which North American nation has the highest percentage of urban population? The lowest percentage?
4. Which river forms much of the border of the U.S. and Mexico? Into which body of water does it flow?
5. Which two countries in the Caribbean Sea share an island?*
6. List and compare the literacy rate, per capita GDP, and HDI for Canada and Honduras. What might that information indicate about the standard of living in those countries?
7. Which national capital is located at 18°N, 77°W?
8. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Ottawa, Canada?
9. Which countries border Mexico?*
10. In which North American countries is a "patois" *(pah-TWAH)*, meaning a dialect of a major language, spoken? Where are those nations located, and what can you infer they have in common?

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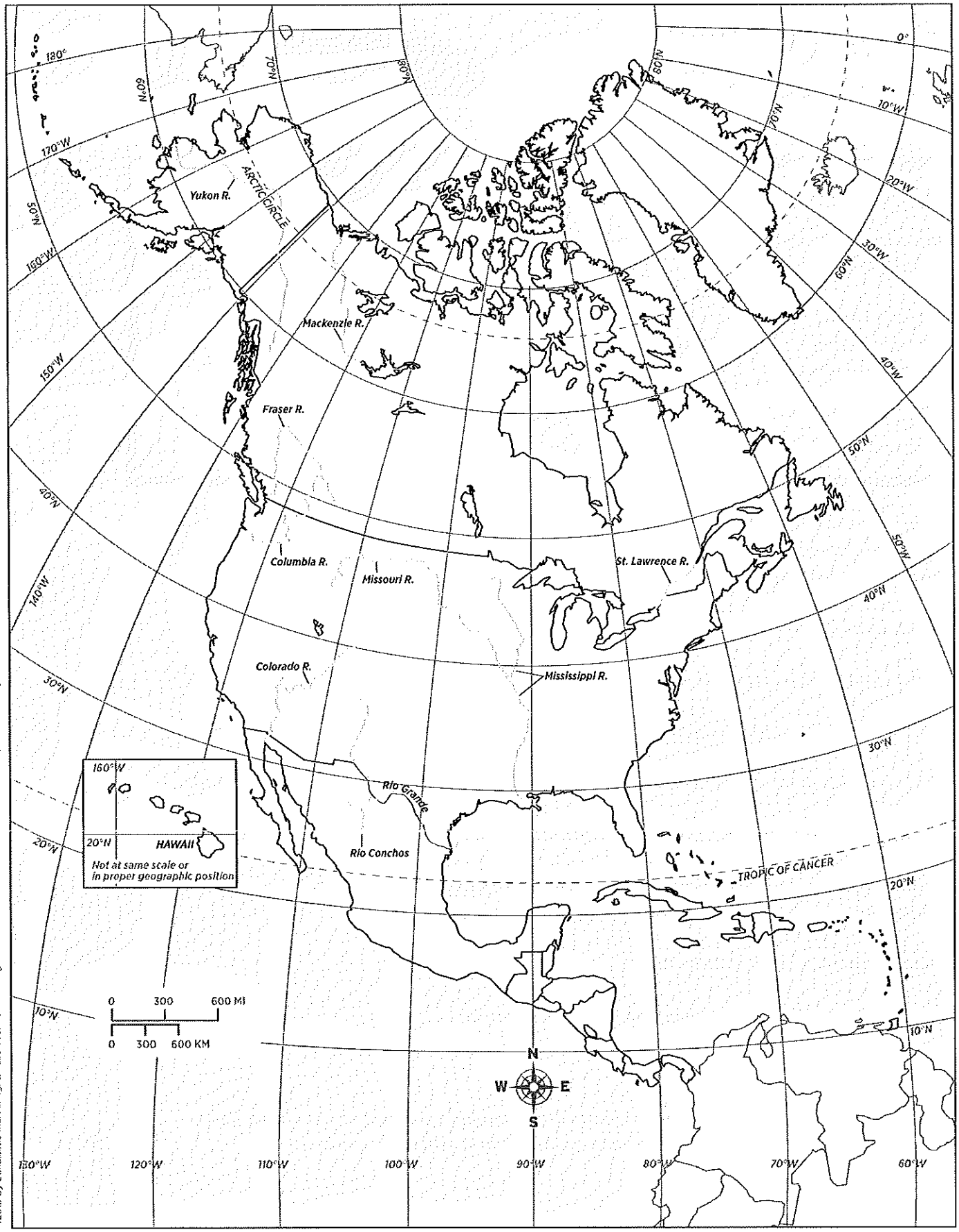

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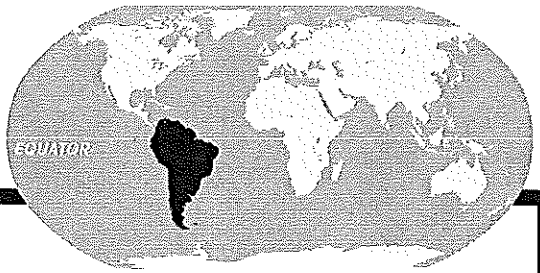
Reading a Map

South America



FAST FACTS

Area: 6.9 million square miles. It is the world's fourth-largest continent.
Population: About 427 million people. It ranks fifth among the continents in terms of population.
Location: Stretches from the Caribbean Sea in the north to Cape Horn at the continent's southern tip.

Physical features: Earth's longest mountain chain, the Andes, hugs the western edge of South America. The continent's longest river, the Amazon, begins in Peru and flows eastward for about 4,000 miles to the Atlantic Ocean. The huge area drained by this river and its tributaries covers more than one-third of South America and gets enough rainfall to sustain the world's largest tropical rainforest.
Elevation: *Highest:* Mount Aconcagua, Argentina (22,835 feet), tallest mountain in the Western Hemisphere; *lowest:* Valdes Peninsula, Argentina (131 feet below sea level)

Use the map on pp. 20-21 and the table on p. 23 to answer these questions about South America. Write your responses on a separate sheet of paper. Where you see an asterisk (*), label those geographic features or places on the outline map provided.

1. Which mountain range lies along the western coast of South America?
2. Which oceans surround South America?*
3. Which country has the highest per capita GDP? Which has the lowest?
4. The Amazon River and its tributaries run mostly through which country? Into which body of water do they empty?
5. Which city is located at 14°S, 72°W?
6. Locate the Galápagos Islands in the Pacific Ocean. On which line of latitude are they located? Which country are they part of?*
7. What is the approximate latitude and longitude of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil?
8. Who is the president of Colombia?
9. In which direction would you travel to get from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to La Paz, Bolivia?
10. What major language is spoken in 9 of South America's 12 countries? What can you infer from that fact?

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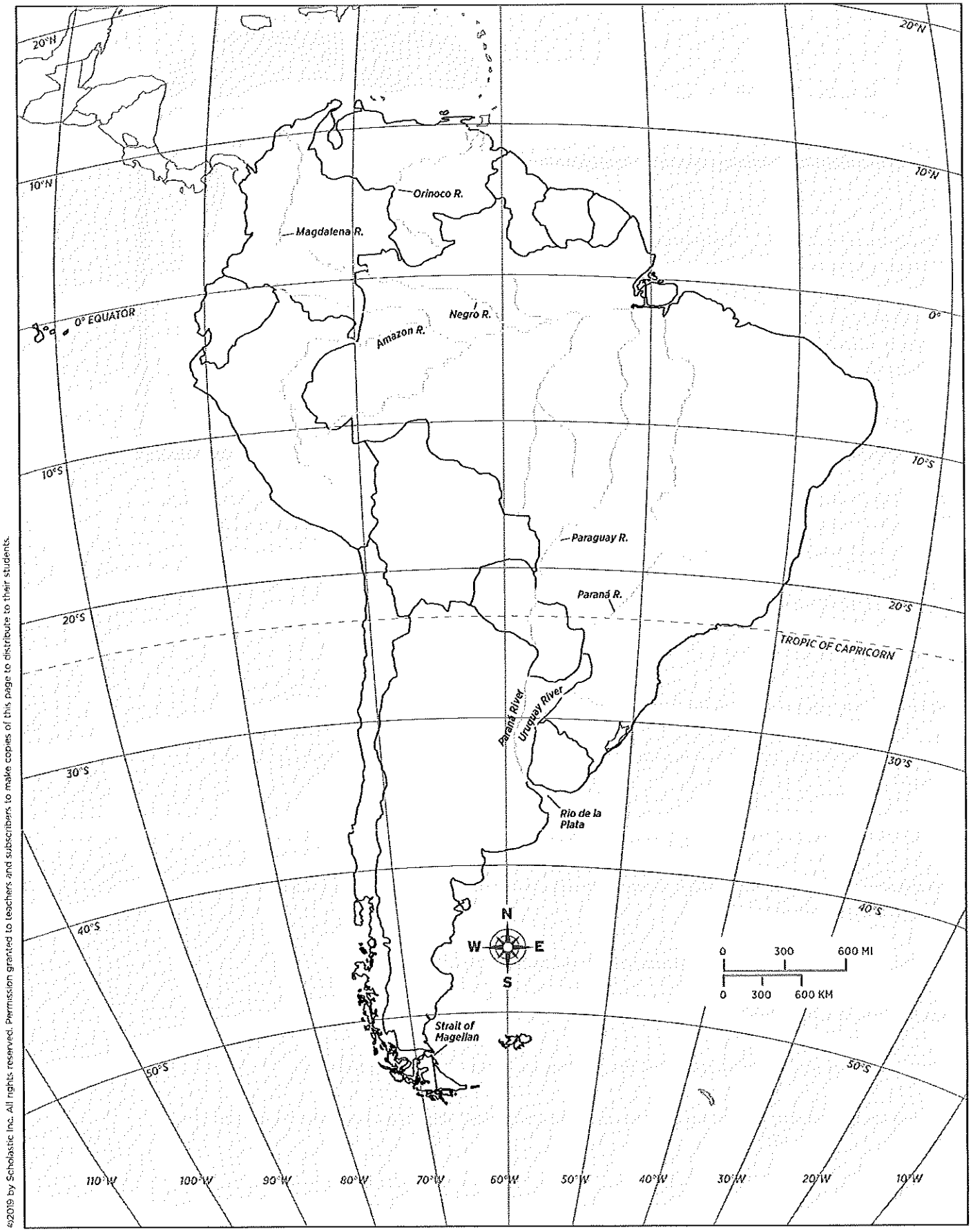

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Junior Scholastic

SKILL BUILDER Name: Date:

Map Skills

KEY STANDARD
RH.6-8.7

The United States

The United States is the world's fourth-largest country in land area, covering more than 3 million square miles. It is the third-largest in population, with more than 327 million people. Its 50 states contain rivers, deserts, mountains, and national parks.

Questions

1. The capital of North Dakota sits along which river?

2. Which Great Lakes border only one state each?

3. Which major city is located at 30°N, 90°W?

4. Part of Minnesota's northern border cuts through which labeled body of water?

5. Which U.S. states have coastline on the Gulf of Mexico?

6. About how many miles separate the capitals of New Hampshire and Pennsylvania?

7. Which five national parks are closest to California's border with Nevada?

8. Which Colorado city shown is closest to Pikes Peak?

9. What is the latitude and longitude of Iowa's capital?

10. The Continental Divide *(see map key)* is a series of mountain ridges separating rivers that flow into the Pacific Ocean from rivers that flow into the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico. It runs along or through which states?

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