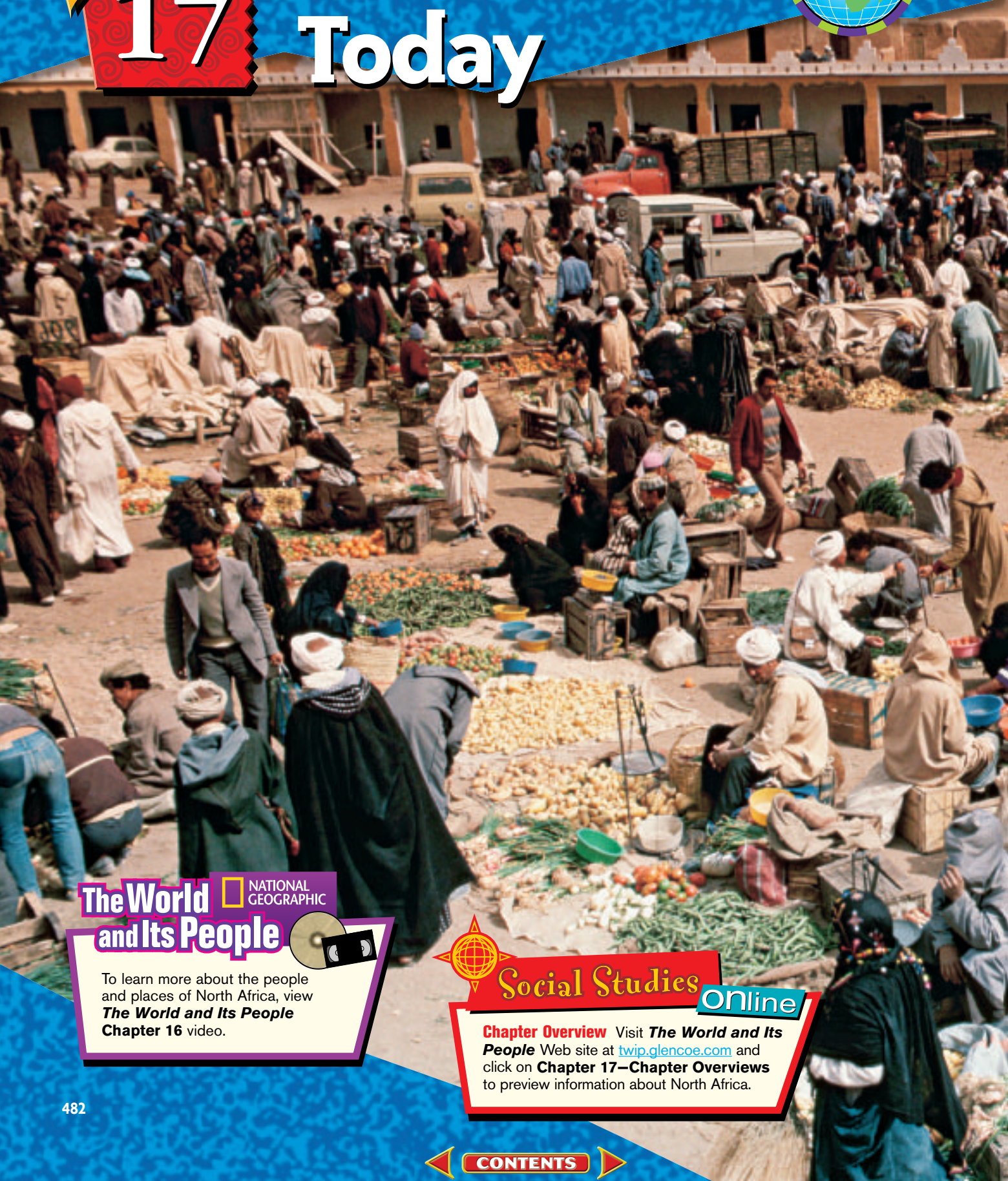
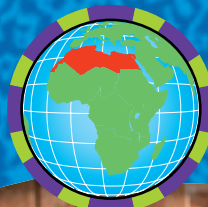


Chapter

17

North Africa Today



**The World
and Its People**

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

To learn more about the people
and places of North Africa, view
The World and Its People
Chapter 16 video.



Social Studies online

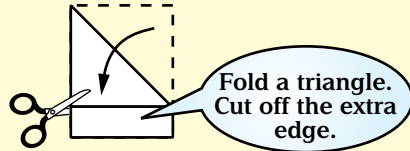
Chapter Overview Visit ***The World and Its People*** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 17—Chapter Overviews** to preview information about North Africa.

FOLDABLES™

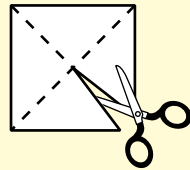
Study Organizer

Identifying Main Ideas Make this foldable to help you identify key facts about the people and places of North Africa.

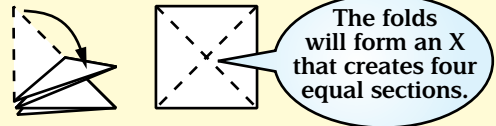
Step 1 Fold the paper from the top right corner down so the edges line up. Cut off the leftover piece.



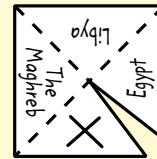
Step 3 Cut up one fold line and stop at the middle. This forms two triangular flaps.



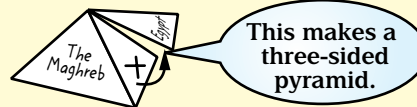
Step 2 Fold the triangle in half. Unfold.



Step 4 Draw an X on one tab and label the other three the following: Egypt, Libya, and The Maghreb.



Step 5 Fold the X flap under the other flap and glue together.



Reading and Writing As you read, write main ideas inside the foldable under each appropriate pyramid wall.

Why It Matters

Transitions

North Africa is made up of five independent countries. In past centuries, however, a series of powerful empires ruled in this part of the world. Arabs brought the religion of Islam to North Africa. In the twentieth century, the discovery of oil brought great wealth to parts of the region. Today these countries are struggling to preserve their traditions while also adapting to the modern world.

▲ Berber market at an oasis in Morocco

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

Egypt's Nile River and desert landscape have shaped the lives of the Egyptian people for hundreds of years.

Terms to Know

- silt
- oasis
- phosphate
- republic
- fellahin
- bazaar
- service industries
- mosque

Reading Strategy

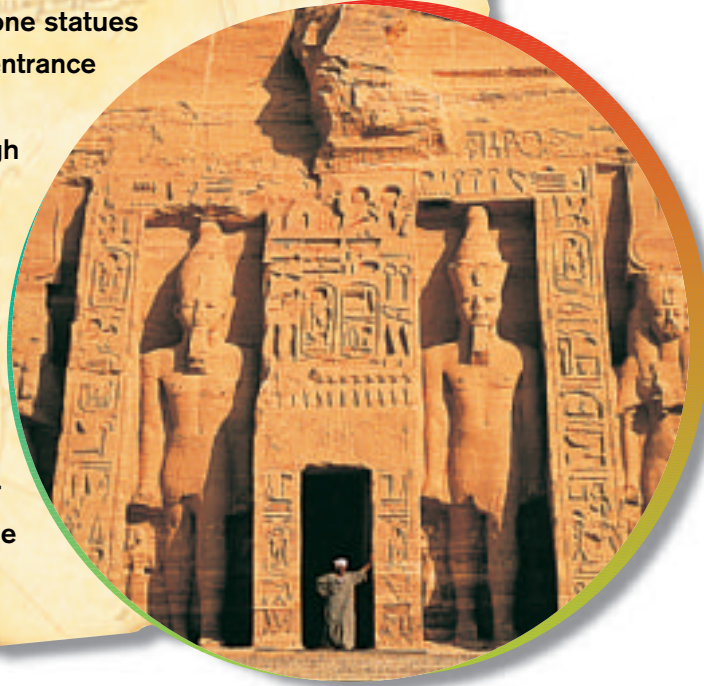
Draw a chart like this one. Then list five physical features of Egypt and their effects on life in Egypt.

Physical Feature	Effect on Egyptians
→	
→	
→	
→	
→	



Exploring our World

For centuries, four giant stone statues of Ramses II guarded the entrance to an ancient cliff temple in Egypt. When the Aswan High Dam was built, the lake it created—Lake Nasser—would have covered these statues. An international team of engineers took apart the statues and temple. They rebuilt them 200 feet (61 m) above their original location. In all, some 16,000 blocks were moved.



Egypt lies in Africa's northeast corner. Vast deserts sweep over most of the country. On the map on page 485, notice the **Nile River** running through Egypt. The Nile River, along with Egypt's location and deserts, has shaped life in Egypt for thousands of years.

Egypt's Land and Climate

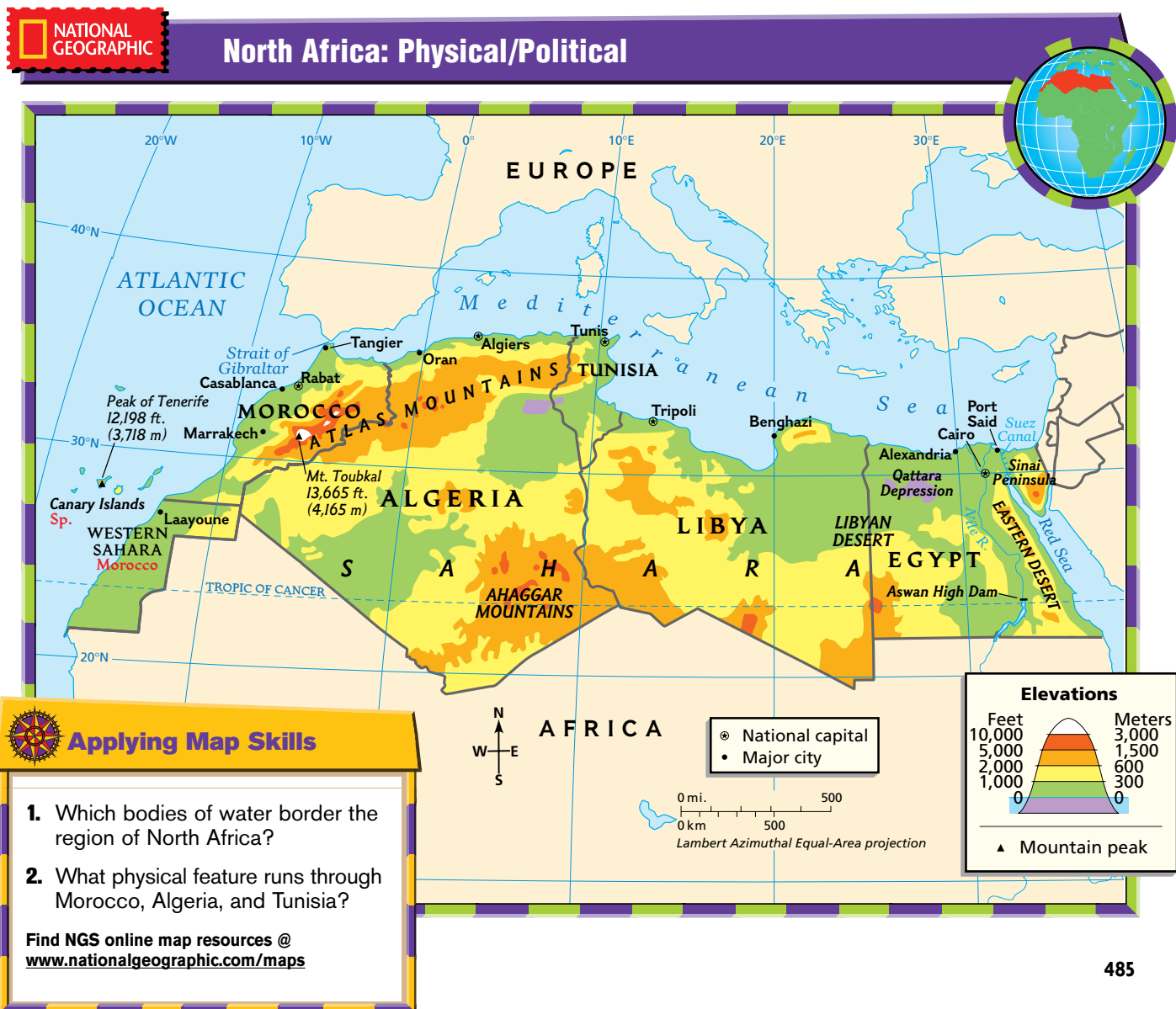
Egypt is a large country that is about the same size as Texas and New Mexico together. Yet most of it is desert. Egypt's people crowd into less than 4 percent of the land, which is an area about twice the size of Maryland. The lifeline of Egypt is the Nile River, which supplies 85 percent of the country's water. Along the Nile's banks, you can see mud-brick villages, ancient ruins, and, once in a while, a city or town of modern buildings. The Nile River empties into the **Mediterranean Sea**, forming the Nile's delta. This fertile, low-lying land is built up from the soil carried downstream.

For centuries, the Nile's waters would rise in the spring. The swollen river carried **silt**, or small particles of rich soil. When it reached Egypt, the Nile flooded its banks. As the floodwaters withdrew, the

silt was left behind, making the land better for farming. Today dams and channels control the river's flow for use in irrigation and in generating electric power.

Sinai Peninsula The triangle-shaped **Sinai (SY•NY) Peninsula** lies southeast of the Nile delta. This area is a major crossroads between Africa and Southwest Asia. A human-made waterway called the **Suez Canal** separates the Sinai Peninsula from the rest of Egypt. Egyptians and Europeans built the canal in the mid-1860s. The Suez Canal is still one of the world's most important waterways. Ships use the canal to pass from the Mediterranean Sea to the **Red Sea**. In making this journey, they avoid traveling all the way around Africa.

Desert Areas East of the Nile River spreads the **Eastern Desert**, also known as the Arabian Desert. West of the Nile is the much larger **Libyan (LIH•bee•uhn) Desert**, which covers about two-thirds of the country. Dotting both deserts are oases. An **oasis** is a fertile or green area in a desert. Plants grow here, giving these spots lush green growth in the midst of the hot sands.



The Eastern and Libyan Deserts are part of the **Sahara**, which is the largest desert in the world. *Sahara* comes from the Arabic word meaning “desert.” The Sahara is about the size of the United States. It stretches from Egypt westward across North Africa to the Atlantic Ocean.

A Desert Climate Wherever you go in Egypt, you find a dry desert climate with hot summers and mild winters. Egypt as a whole receives little rainfall. **Cairo**, the capital, averages only about 0.4 inch (1 cm) a year. In fact, some areas receive no rain for years at a time.

Springtime in Egypt brings hot winds instead of cooling rains. These winds move west across Egypt, reaching up to 87 miles (140 km) per hour. The powerful winds can harm crops and damage houses.

 **Reading Check** Why is the Suez Canal one of the world’s most important waterways?

Egypt’s Economy


Egypt has a developing economy that has grown considerably in recent years. Although only about 2 percent of Egypt’s land is used for farming, about 29 percent of Egypt’s people work in agriculture. The best farmland lies in the fertile Nile River valley. Egypt’s major crops include sugarcane, grains, vegetables, fruits, and cotton. Raw cotton, cotton yarn, and clothing are among the country’s main exports.

Some farmers still work the land using the simple practices and tools of their ancestors. Many use modern methods and machinery. All, however, rely on dams to control the water needed for their fields. The largest dam is called the **Aswan High Dam**. Find it on the map on page 485. The dams give people control over the Nile’s floodwaters. They can store the water for months behind the dams. Then they can release it several times during the year, rather than having just the spring floods. This control allows farmers to harvest two or three crops a year.

The dams bring challenges as well as benefits. Dams block the flow of silt, which means farmland is becoming less fertile. Farmers now rely more heavily on chemical fertilizers to grow crops. In addition, the dams prevent less freshwater from reaching the delta. So salt water from the Mediterranean Sea now flows deeper into the delta, making the land there less fertile.

Industry The Aswan High Dam provides hydroelectric power, which Egypt uses to run its growing industries. The largest industrial centers are the capital city of Cairo and the seaport of **Alexandria**. Egyptian factories make food products, textiles, and consumer goods. Tourism is another industry that is important to Egypt’s economy. Visitors come to see the pyramids and majestic temples of ancient Egypt.

Egypt’s main energy resource is oil, found in and around the Red Sea. Petroleum products make up almost half the value of Egypt’s exports. Egypt is developing a gas export market as well. The country also has phosphates. A **phosphate** is a mineral salt used in fertilizer.

 **Reading Check** On what crop are many of Egypt’s exports based?



Social Studies **online**

Web Activity Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 17—Student Web Activities** to learn more about Egypt’s history.

EXPLORING CULTURE

Food

Most Egyptian meals include fava beans that have been boiled for hours to make them soft. Egypt's national dish, *ful*, includes fava beans mixed with garlic, lemon juice, olive oil, onions, and parsley. Cubes of veal or lamb meat cooked on skewers are known as kabobs. Egyptians also eat tahini—a smooth paste made of sesame seeds that is eaten as a dip or sandwich spread. *Babaganoush* is another dipping paste, but it is made with eggplant and sesame. Instead of spoons, Egyptians usually use *aysh*, or bread, to scoop up food.

Looking Closer How does Egyptian bread differ from the bread you eat?



The Egyptians

In Chapter 16, you learned about the ancient Egyptians. Their advanced civilization included powerful pharaohs, the building of temples and pyramids, and advances in science and technology. From 300 B.C. to A.D. 300, however, Egypt fell under the influence of Greece and Rome. You may have heard of Cleopatra, an Egyptian queen who ruled during the time of the rise of the Roman Empire.

In A.D. 641, Arabs from Southwest Asia took control of Egypt. They practiced Islam, a religion based on the belief in one God known as Allah. Most of Egypt's people began to speak the Arabic language and became Muslims, as the followers of Islam are called. Today about 94 percent of Egypt's people are Muslims.

Egypt's Modern History By the end of the 1800s, all of Egypt, including the Suez Canal, had become part of the British Empire. Unhappy with British rule, the people of Egypt protested many times. Finally, in 1952 a group of army officers overthrew the British-supported king, and Egypt became independent. One of the army leaders, Gamal Abdel Nasser (guh•MAHL AHB•duhl NAH•suh), was Egypt's president from 1954 to 1970. Nasser made Egypt one of the most powerful countries in the Muslim world.

Egypt is a **republic**, or a government headed by a president. A legislature makes the laws, but the president has broad powers in running the country. In the 1990s, some Islamic political and religious groups opposed the government. These groups used violence in an effort to reach their political goals. By the early 2000s, however, the government had stopped these attacks.

Rural and Urban Life Look at the population density map in the **Geography Handbook** on page 10. Most of Egypt's 72.1 million

people live within 20 miles (32 km) of the Nile River. More than half of Egypt's people live in rural areas along this narrow valley. Most are peasant farmers called **fellahin** (FEHL•uh•HEEN). They live in villages and farm small plots of land that they rent from landowners. Many fellahin raise only enough food to feed their families. Any food left over is sold in towns at a **bazaar**, or marketplace.

Life is more modern in Egypt's cities. Many city dwellers live in high-rise apartments and have jobs in manufacturing, construction, or service industries. **Service industries** provide services to people rather than producing goods. In bustling ports like Alexandria and Port Said (sah•EED), people engage in trade.

Cairo is a huge and rapidly growing city. Almost 8 million people are crowded into its central area, with another 7 million living in its suburbs. It is the largest city in Africa. For centuries, Cairo has been a leading center of the Muslim world. Throughout the city you see schools, universities, and **mosques**, or places of worship for followers of Islam.

Cairo's population is increasing at a rapid rate. Why? First, Egypt is a country with a high birthrate. Second, many fellahin have moved to Cairo to find work. The crowded city cannot provide enough houses, schools, and hospitals for all of its people. Poverty, snarled traffic, and pollution have resulted.

 **Reading Check** When did Egypt become fully independent?

Section 1

Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** silt, oasis, phosphate, republic, fellahin, bazaar, service industries, mosque.

Recalling Facts

2. **Human/Environment Interaction** Why is the Nile River important to Egypt?
3. **History** Who was Gamal Abdel Nasser, and what did he do for Egypt?
4. **Culture** What are the major language and religion of Egypt?

Critical Thinking

5. **Understanding Cause and Effect** How has the Aswan High Dam helped and hurt Egypt?
6. **Problem Solving** What are some ways that the Egyptian government could help solve overcrowding in Cairo?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** In a chart like the one below, fill in three facts about Egypt for each category.

Agriculture	Industry
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Study the physical/political map on page 485. In what direction would you go to get from Cairo to Alexandria?

Making Connections

ART

SCIENCE

CULTURE

TECHNOLOGY

An Egyptian Folktale

In many rural areas of modern Egypt, storytellers entertain the fellahin. Here is one Egyptian folktale in which a father tries to teach his son a valuable lesson.

What Will People Say?

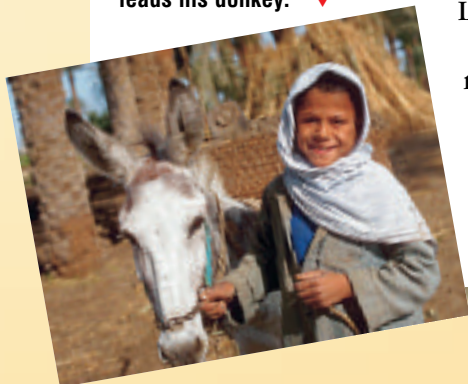
Goha had a naughty son who would never do as he was told. When asked to do something, the boy had one ready answer. "But what will people say?" he would shake his head and say. Goha decided one day that it was time to teach his son a useful lesson, and prove to the boy that pleasing everyone was an impossible thing. This is what Goha did:

He mounted his donkey and started to the market, after ordering his son to follow him along behind on foot. In a little while they came across a group of women doing their washing at the bank of the river.

The women bawled over to Goha, "Do you have a rock instead of a heart, you merciless man? How do you have the shamelessness to ride while that poor boy of yours runs along behind?"

So, Goha got off the donkey and ordered the boy to mount, while he himself followed on foot. After some time they came across a group of old men sunning themselves at the corner of a field. One of the old men . . . yelled out in a loud and shaky voice, "I do declare! If that ain't the way to bring up an ingrate. Yes sir-ree, if you want no respect from your boy, that's the way to get it." . . .

An Egyptian boy leads his donkey. ▼



Goha said to his son. "Have you heard? Let us both ride now."

So, father and son mounted the donkey and they continued on their way. Soon they met with some animal lovers, who called out in a

scolding voice, . . . "How dare you ride that skinny donkey when the two of you together have flesh and bones weighing more than that poor beast?"

Goha said to his son, "I think now we had better let the donkey lead the way while we both follow on foot. . . ."

It was not long, however, before they became the prey to a crowd of jokers and jesters, who hooted and said, ". . . Either let this poor weary donkey ride on one of you, or both of you carry him. That way he shall be spared the misery of walking." . . .

From a nearby tree [Goha] cut a strong stout branch about three yards long. Next, taking some strong rope he had with him, he tied the donkey's front hoofs together, and then his hind hoofs together. He then slipped the branch between the donkey's legs so that the two ends of the branch stuck out at either end.

That done, Goha called his son, and said, "Now you put one end of this branch on your shoulder, and I will bear the other end." . . .

When finally they arrived at the market, a great crowd gathered . . . following the strange sight . . . until at last a policeman managed to break through the group. The policeman addressed Goha, saying, "You will accompany me to the police station, and from there, my fine cracked friends, you may expect to go straight to the madhouse."

Goha turned to this son, and said, "This, my son, is the result of troubling yourself over what other people will say."

From *The Black Prince and Other Egyptian Folk Tales*, told by Ahmed and Zane Zagloul. Copyright © 1971. Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, NY.

Making the Connection

1. What happens to Goha and his son at the end?
2. Who do you think should have ridden the donkey? Explain.
3. **Summarizing Information** Write the moral, or lesson, of this folktale in your own words.

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

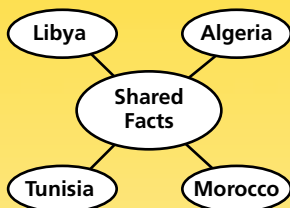
The countries of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco share a desert environment and a mostly Arab culture.

Terms to Know

- aquifer
- dictatorship
- erg
- civil war
- secular
- casbah
- constitutional monarchy

Reading Strategy

Draw a diagram like this one. In the four outer ovals, list facts about each country. In the center oval, write two facts that all four countries have in common.



Section

2

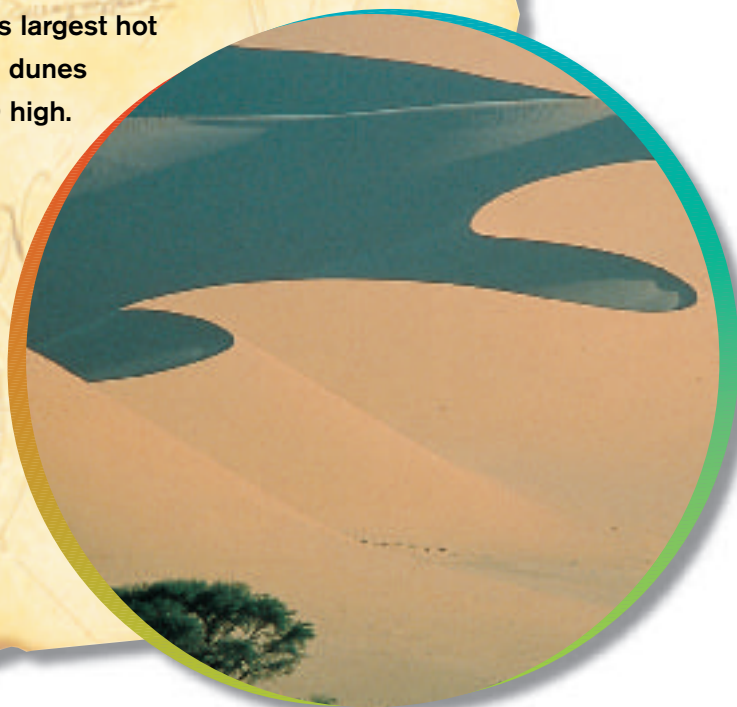
Libya and the Maghreb



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

The Sahara is the world's largest hot desert. Some of its sand dunes reach 1,000 feet (305 m) high. Thousands of years ago, however, it was not a desert at all. Grass and trees covered the region. Evidence of this can be seen in 7,000-year-old rock carvings of giraffes found in the Sahara. Giraffes eat leaves on tall, healthy trees that need water to grow.



Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco make up the rest of North Africa. Like Egypt, these countries have economies based on oil and other resources in the Sahara. Unlike Egypt, however, none of these nations enjoys the benefits of a life-giving river such as the Nile.

Libya

Libya is slightly larger than Alaska. Except for coastal lowlands, Libya is a desert area with only a few oases. In fact, the Sahara covers more than 90 percent of Libya. During the spring and fall, dust-heavy winds blow from the desert. When these fierce winds strike, temperatures in coastal areas can reach 110°F (43°C).

Libya has no permanent rivers, but aquifers lie beneath the vast desert. **Aquifers** are underground rock layers that store large amounts of water. In the 1990s, the government built pipelines to carry underground water from the desert to coastal areas.

The discovery of oil in Libya in 1959 brought the country great wealth. Libya's government uses oil money to import food, build schools and hospitals, and maintain a strong military.

Libya's People and History Almost all of Libya's 5.5 million people have mixed Arab and Berber heritage. The Berbers were the first people known to live in North Africa. During the A.D. 600s, Arabs brought Islam and the Arabic language to North Africa. Since then, Libya has been a Muslim country, and most of its people speak Arabic.

About 86 percent of Libyans live along the Mediterranean coast. Most live in two modern cities—**Tripoli**, the capital, and Benghazi (behn•GAH•zee). Libya became independent in 1951 under a king. In 1969 a military officer named Muammar al-Qaddhafi (kuh•DAH•fee) gained power and overthrew the king. Qaddhafi set up a **dictatorship**, or a government under the control of one all-powerful leader.

✓ **Reading Check** How has Libya been governed since 1969?

Tunisia

Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco form a region known as the **Maghreb**. *Maghreb* means “the land farthest west” in Arabic. These three countries were given this name because they are the westernmost part of the Arabic-speaking Muslim world.

About the size of the state of Georgia, Tunisia is North Africa's smallest country. Find it on the map on page 485. Northern and central Tunisia have Mediterranean or steppe climates, which provide some rainfall. Along the fertile eastern coast, farmers grow wheat, olives, citrus fruits, and vegetables.

Tunisian factories produce food products, textiles, and oil products. In addition, tourism is a growing industry. Many visitors enjoy Tunisia's sunny shores and explore its Roman ruins and outdoor markets.

Past and Present Tunisia's coastal location has drawn people, ideas, and trade throughout the centuries. In ancient times, Phoenician sailors founded the city of Carthage in northern Tunisia. This city was the center of a powerful trading empire and challenged Rome for control of the Mediterranean. Rome defeated and destroyed Carthage.

During the following centuries, Tunisia was part of several Muslim empires. It was a colony of France until becoming an independent republic in 1956. You can still see French influence in the cities.

Almost all of Tunisia's 9.9 million people are of mixed Arab and Berber ancestry. They speak Arabic and practice Islam. **Tunis**, with more than 1,000,000 people, is the capital and largest urban area.

✓ **Reading Check** Why can farming take place in Tunisia?

Algeria

About one and a half times the size of Alaska, Algeria is the largest country in North Africa. Along the Mediterranean coast, you find hills, plains, and Algeria's best farmland. Inland, the land slopes up to the



Bazaar!

Taha Hammam makes pottery to sell at the bazaar. “Going to the bazaar is a lot like going to an American mall,” he says. “It’s a big party where everyone talks and eats and buys and sells things.” Taha lives in Algiers. Although Taha wears jeans and sneakers, his parents dress in traditional clothes. His mother wears a black outer dress over a bright housedress and covers her hair with a long veil that reaches the ground. Taha’s father dresses in a long robe. In school, Taha studies Arabic, religion, social studies, arithmetic, science, and art.





Morocco

Even though North Africa is mostly hot, snow can fall high in the Atlas Mountains where this Berber lives.

Human/Environment Interaction How does the environment influence the lives of the Berbers?

Atlas Mountains. Another range—the Ahaggar (uh•HAH•guhr)—lies in southern Algeria. Between these mountain ranges are areas of the Sahara known as **ergs**, or huge, shifting sand dunes.

Like neighboring Libya, Algeria must import about one-third of its food. It pays for this food by selling oil and natural gas pumped from the Sahara. These deposits have helped Algeria's industrial growth, but widespread poverty remains. Many Algerians have moved to European countries to find work.

The Algerians About 31.7 million people live in Algeria. They have mixed Arab and Berber heritage. Most of them are Muslim and speak Arabic. If you visited Algeria, you would discover centuries-old Muslim traditions blending with those of France. Why? From 1834 to 1962, Algeria was a French colony. In 1954, Algerian Arabs wanting freedom rose up against the French. A bloody **civil war**, or conflict between different groups inside a country, erupted. When the fighting ended in 1962, Algeria won independence. Many of the French fled to France.

Today Algeria is a republic, with a strong president and a legislature. In the early 1990s, Muslim political parties opposed many of the government's **secular**, or nonreligious, policies. The Muslims gained enough support to win a national election. The government, however, rejected the election results and imprisoned many Muslim opponents. An ongoing civil war has taken many lives.

Algiers, the country's capital and largest city, has nearly 2.2 million people. Many of them live in the newer sections of the city, with modern buildings and broad streets. They enjoy visiting the older sections of the city, though, which are called **casbahs**. There they walk down narrow streets, stopping to bargain with merchants in bazaars.

Reading Check What conflict has affected Algeria since the early 1990s?

Morocco

Slightly larger than California, Morocco borders two bodies of water—the Mediterranean Sea on the north and the Atlantic Ocean on the west. The map on page 485 shows that Morocco's northern tip almost touches Europe. Here you will find the **Strait of Gibraltar**. It separates Africa and Europe by only 8 miles (13 km).

Farmers on Morocco's fertile coastal plains grow sugar beets, grains, fruits, and vegetables for sale to Europe. Many raise livestock, especially sheep. Morocco is a leading producer of phosphates, and tourism has grown as well. Visitors flock to cities like **Marrakech** and **Casablanca**. In marketplaces called souks (SOOKS), sellers in traditional hooded robes offer wares made of leather, copper, and brass.

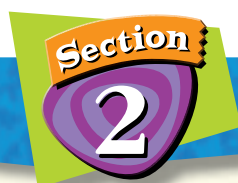
Morocco's History and People Morocco was first settled by the Berbers thousands of years ago. Their descendants still herd and farm in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains. During the A.D. 600s, Arab invaders swept into Morocco. A century later, Arabs and Berbers together crossed the Strait of Gibraltar and conquered Spain. Their descendants, called Moors, ruled parts of Spain and developed an advanced civilization. Christian Spanish rulers drove them out in the late 1400s. Many descendants of the Moors live in Morocco today.

In the early 1900s, the Moroccan kingdom weakened, and France and Spain gained control. In 1956 Morocco became independent once again. Today the country is a **constitutional monarchy**, where a king or queen is head of state, but elected officials run the government. In Morocco, the monarch still holds many powers, however.

Beginning in the 1970s, Morocco claimed the desert region of **Western Sahara**. The discovery of minerals there sparked a costly war between Morocco and a rebel group that wanted Western Sahara to be independent. The United Nations had tried to sponsor a vote to allow the people of Western Sahara to decide their own future, but nothing has been resolved.

Morocco has about 30.7 million people. Casablanca, the largest city, is home to about 3.4 million people. **Rabat**, with 2.3 million, is the capital. Moroccan culture is based on Arab, Berber, and African traditions. Their music blends rhythms of these groups. Artists here are known for their carpets, pottery, jewelry, brassware, and woodwork.

✓ **Reading Check** Who were the Moors?



Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** aquifer, dictatorship, erg, civil war, secular, casbah, constitutional monarchy.

Recalling Facts

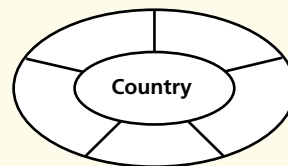
2. **History** Who were the Berbers?
3. **Culture** Why do many Algerians speak French?
4. **History** Why is there a dispute over control of Western Sahara?

Critical Thinking

5. **Making Generalizations** How have the physical features of North Africa affected where people live?
6. **Identifying Alternatives** How might the countries studied in this section improve their economies?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Draw a diagram like the one below. Choose one country from this section and fill in each outer part of the diagram with a fact about that country.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Study the map on page 485. Rabat is located on the coast of which country? Along what body of water is it located?

Technology Skill

Using a Spreadsheet

A **spreadsheet** is an electronic worksheet that can manage numbers quickly and easily. Spreadsheets are powerful tools because you can change or update information, and the spreadsheet automatically performs the calculations.

Learning the Skill

All spreadsheets follow a basic design of rows and columns. Each column is assigned a letter, and each row is assigned a number. Each point where a column and a row intersect is called a *cell*. The cell's position on the spreadsheet is labeled according to its corresponding column and row—*A1* is column A, row 1; *B2* is column B, row 2; and so on.

Spreadsheets use *formulas* to calculate numbers. To create a formula, highlight the cell you want the results in. Type an equal sign (=) and then build the formula, step-by-step. If you type the formula $=B4+B5+B6$ in cell B7, the numbers in these cells are added together, and the sum shows up in cell B7.

To use division, the formula would look like this: $=A5/C2$. This divides A5 by C2. An asterisk (*) signifies multiplication: $=(B2*C3)+D1$ means that you want to multiply B2 times C3, and then add D1.

Practicing the Skill

Use these steps to create a spreadsheet.

1. In cells B1, C1, and D1, type the years 1980, 1990, and 2000. In cell E1, type the word *Total*.
2. In cells A2 through A6, type the names of North Africa's countries. In cell A7, type the word *Total*.
3. In row 2, enter the number of tons of oil produced by Algeria in 1980, 1990, and 2000.
4. Repeat step 3 in rows 3 through 6 for each country. You can find the information you need for each country in a world almanac or an encyclopedia.
5. Create a formula that tells which cells to add together so the computer can calculate the number of tons of oil for each country. For example, in cell E2, you should type $=B2+C2+D2$ to find the total amount of oil that Algeria produced in those years.

	B2	=			
	A	B	C	D	E
1		1980	1990	2000	Total
2	Algeria				
3	Egypt				
4	Libya				
5	Morocco				
6	Tunisia				
7	Total				
8					

▲ The computer highlights the cell in which you are working.

Applying the Skill

Use the spreadsheet you have created to answer these questions: Which country is the largest producer of oil? Has it always been number one? Are countries in North Africa together producing more oil or less oil today than they did 20 years ago?



Section 1

Egypt

Terms to Know

silt
oasis
phosphate
republic
fellahin
bazaar
service industries
mosque

Main Idea

Egypt's Nile River and desert landscape have shaped the lives of the Egyptian people for hundreds of years.

- ✓ **Location** Most people in Egypt live along the Nile River or in its delta.
- ✓ **Economics** About 29 percent of Egypt's people work in agriculture, but industry has grown in recent years.
- ✓ **Culture** Most people in Egypt are Muslims who follow the religion of Islam.
- ✓ **Culture** More Egyptians live in rural areas than in cities, but Cairo is the largest city in Africa.

Section 2

Libya and the Maghreb

Terms to Know

aquifer
dictatorship
erg
civil war
secular
casbah
constitutional
monarchy

Main Idea

The countries of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco share a desert environment and a mostly Arab culture.

- ✓ **Region** North Africa includes Libya and the three countries called the Maghreb—Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco.
- ✓ **Location** These countries are all located on the Mediterranean Sea. Morocco also has a coast along the Atlantic Ocean.
- ✓ **Region** The landscape of this region is mostly desert and mountains.
- ✓ **Economics** Oil, natural gas, and phosphates are among the important resources in these countries.
- ✓ **Culture** Most of the people in these countries are Muslims and speak Arabic. Most also are of mixed Arab and Berber heritage.



◀ The pyramids at Giza, Egypt

Assessment and Activities



Using Key Terms

Match the terms in Part A with their definitions in Part B.

A.

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. oasis | 6. dictatorship |
| 2. secular | 7. silt |
| 3. mosque | 8. erg |
| 4. casbah | 9. aquifer |
| 5. bazaar | 10. republic |

B.

- government under an all-powerful leader
- underground rock layer that stores water
- old area of cities with narrow streets and small shops
- marketplace
- place of worship for Muslims
- fertile or green area in a desert
- nonreligious
- desert region of shifting sand dunes
- particles of soil deposited by water
- government headed by a president



Reviewing the Main Ideas

Section 1 Egypt

- Place** What is the capital of Egypt?
- Movement** Which two bodies of water does the Suez Canal connect?
- Place** Describe the climate and rainfall in Egypt.
- Economics** Name four of Egypt's agricultural products.
- Government** What type of government does Egypt have today?

Section 2 Libya and the Maghreb

- Human/Environment Interaction** Why must Libya depend on aquifers for water?
- Region** What does *maghreb* mean?
- History** Who founded the city of Carthage in Tunisia?
- History** What foreign country controlled Algeria from 1834 to 1962?
- Economics** What energy resource is important to almost all of North Africa's countries?

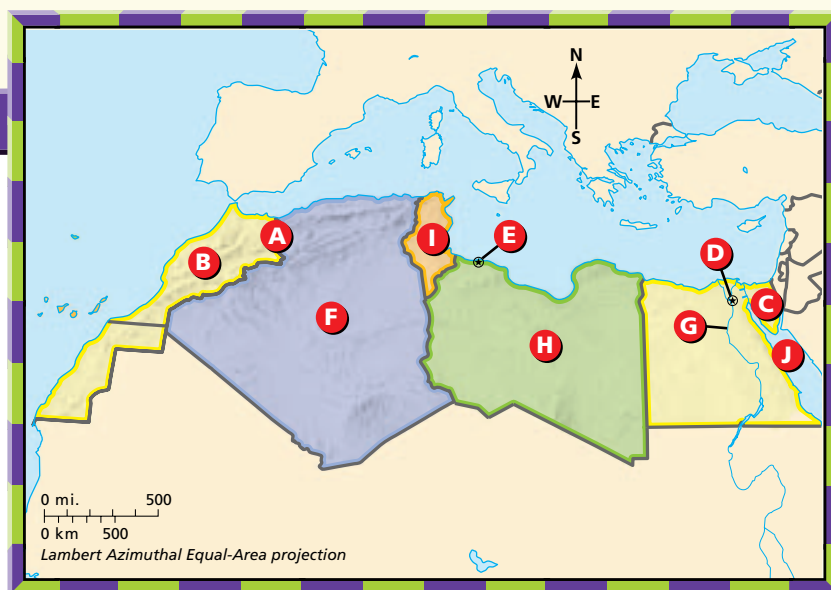
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

North Africa

Place Location Activity

On a separate sheet of paper, match the letters on the map with the numbered places listed below.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Red Sea | 6. Nile River |
| 2. Morocco | 7. Cairo |
| 3. Libya | 8. Tunisia |
| 4. Algeria | 9. Tripoli |
| 5. Atlas Mountains | 10. Sinai Peninsula |





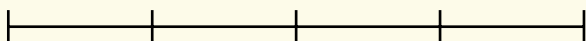
Social Studies Online

Self-Check Quiz Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 17—Self-Check Quizzes** to prepare for the Chapter Test.



Critical Thinking

- 21. Understanding Cause and Effect** Why are the most densely populated areas of North Africa along the Mediterranean Sea and the Nile River?
- 22. Sequencing Information** On a time line like the one below, label five events or eras in Egyptian history. Include their dates.



Comparing Regions Activity

- 23. Geography** Turn the page to read about the severe shortages of water in the regions of North Africa and Southwest Asia. It is likely that your region does not currently face this challenge. For an entire day, notice all the different ways you use water. Write a paragraph about how your day would change if you lived in a region where water shortages were common. What might you have to do differently?



Mental Mapping Activity

- 24. Focusing on the Region** Draw a simple outline map of North Africa, then label the following:

- Mediterranean Sea
- Red Sea
- Atlantic Ocean
- Nile River
- Atlas Mountains
- Egypt
- Libya
- Morocco
- Tunisia
- Algeria



Technology Skills Activity

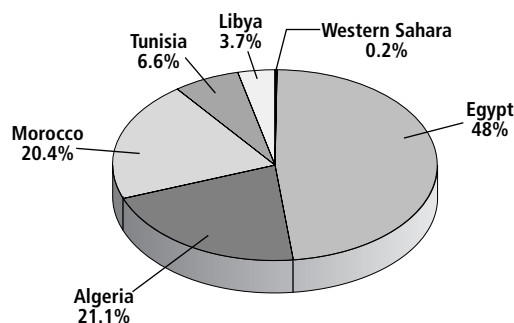
- 25. Using the Internet** Use the Internet to research life in the desert. Besides the Sahara, what other large deserts are there in the world? What kinds of life do deserts support? How do humans adapt to life in the desert? Are deserts changing in size and shape? Why? Use your research to create a bulletin board display on "Desert Life."



Standardized Test Practice

Directions: Study the graph, and then answer the question that follows.

Percentage of North Africa's People Living in Each Country



Source: Population Reference Bureau, 2003.

- 1. According to the graph above, which one of the following statements is true?**
- F Almost half of the people of North Africa live in Egypt.
 - G Almost half of the people of North Africa live in Algeria.
 - H Egypt's land area is much larger than Algeria's land area.
 - J Algeria's land area is much larger than Libya's land area.

Test-Taking Tip: When analyzing circle or pie graphs, first look at the title to see what the graph shows. Next read each section of the "pie" and compare the sections to one another. Notice that no actual population figures are given on the pie graph, only percentages. All the pie sections are different sizes, but together they add up to 100 percent.



A Water Crisis

Draining the Rivers The ball game is over. You are hot, sweaty, and thirsty. You press the button on the drinking fountain, but no water comes out. A crisis? Consider this: Many people in Southwest Asia and North Africa never have enough water to meet their needs.

Most of the usable water in this region comes from aquifers—underground areas that store large amounts of water—and from the Jordan, Tigris, Euphrates, and Nile Rivers. Despite these great rivers, water is scarce. The rivers flow through several countries. As each country takes its share of water, less remains for those who are downstream. A few countries have desalinization plants that turn seawater into freshwater. Desalinization is expensive, though. Water resources are further strained by many factors.

- 💧 **Population growth** — By 2025, about 570 million people will inhabit the region. That is too many people for the existing water supplies.
- 💧 **Irrigation** — About 90 percent of water supplies in Southwest Asia are used to irrigate crops.
- 💧 **Pollution** — River water in many places is polluted by salt, sewage, and chemicals.

Finding Solutions Faced with growing demand and decreasing supplies, countries in this region are looking for creative solutions to the water crisis.

- 💧 Some countries are recycling wastewater to use on crops.
- 💧 Advances in technology are making desalinization more affordable.
- 💧 Countries are building dams to regulate water. They are also constructing pipelines to carry water to where it is most needed.



Camels crossing Egypt's desert drink water piped from the Nile River, 300 miles (483 km) away.



Making a Difference

Wise Water Ways Scientist Sandra Postel is trying to educate others on ways to use water more wisely. In her book, *Last Oasis: Facing Water Scarcity*, Postel argues that we can no longer meet rising demands for water by building larger dams and drilling deeper wells. Instead of reaching out for more water, Postel argues, everyone needs to do more with less water. People need to conserve and recycle water and to use it more efficiently. Through her research, Postel has found that farmers, industries, and cities could cut their water use by as much as 50 percent. Water could be saved by practicing water conservation methods such as drip irrigation and water recycling. Postel hopes that governments around the world will work together to protect one of the earth's most precious resources.



Author Sandra Postel



Meeting Demand A group in Southwest Asia and North Africa is studying ways to ease water shortages in the region. The Water Demand Management Research Network (WDMRN) is made up of scientists and government representatives who are studying ways to meet the growing needs for water. The WDMRN shares information with other water researchers and holds meetings to encourage cooperation between all countries in the region.

A worker takes a drink of water at a desalinization plant in Kuwait.



What Can You Do?



Conserve Water

Saving water is as easy as turning off a faucet. Practice water conservation by taking shorter showers and by turning off the water while brushing your teeth. What other ways can you conserve water at home or at school?



Find Out More

Investigate the pathway drinking water takes in your community. Collaborate with classmates to create a bulletin board display showing how water gets from its source to a drinking fountain in your school.