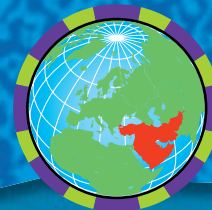


Chapter 18

Southwest Asia



**The World
and Its People**

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC



To learn more about the people and places of Southwest Asia, view **The World and Its People** Chapter 17 video.



Social Studies **Online**

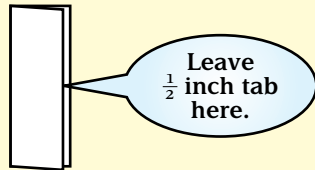
Chapter Overview Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 18—Chapter Overviews** to preview information about Southwest Asia.

FOLDABLES™

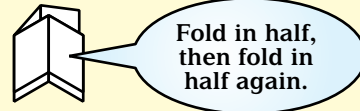
Study Organizer

Categorizing Information If you ask yourself questions while reading your textbook, it will help you focus on what you are reading. Make this foldable to help you ask and answer questions about the people and places in Southwest Asia.

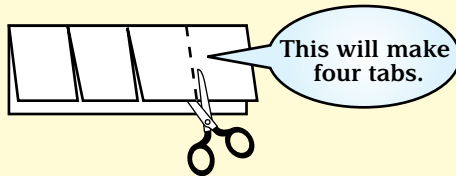
Step 1 Fold a sheet of paper in half from side to side, leaving a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch tab along the side.



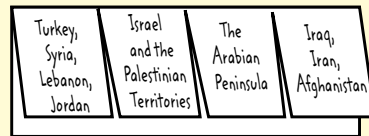
Step 2 Turn the paper and fold it into fourths.



Step 3 Unfold and cut up along the three fold lines.



Step 4 Label as shown.



Reading and Writing As you read the chapter, ask yourself questions about these countries. Write your questions and answers under each appropriate tab.

Why It Matters

Crossroads

Because of its location near Europe and Asia, Southwest Asia remains at the “crossroads of the world” even today. The world depends upon the oil and gas resources found here. These resources make the events that unfold in these oil-rich countries of interest to many nations. Achieving peace in this region is of global importance.

▲ King Fahd Stadium in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan lie at the crossroads of Europe and Asia.

Terms to Know

- migrate
- bedouins

Reading Strategy

Create a chart like this one, and fill in at least two key facts about each country.

Country	Fact #1	Fact #2
Turkey		
Syria		
Lebanon		
Jordan		

Section 1

Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring Our World

There is only one city in the world that lies on two continents. The Bosphorus (BAHS•puhr•uhs), a strait in Turkey, separates this city—Istanbul. The Bosphorus also divides Europe from Asia. It is an important seaway that links the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara and, eventually, to the Mediterranean Sea.



A little larger than Texas, **Turkey** has a unique location—it bridges the continents of Asia and Europe. The large Asian part of Turkey occupies the peninsula known as Asia Minor. The much smaller European part lies on Europe's Balkan Peninsula. Three important waterways—the **Bosphorus**, the **Sea of Marmara** (MAHR•muh•ruh), and the **Dardanelles** (DAHRD•uhn•EHLZ) separate the Asian and European parts of Turkey. Together, these waterways are called the Turkish Straits. Find these bodies of water on page RA19 of the **Reference Atlas**.

Turkey

In the center of Turkey is **Anatolia** (A•nuh•TOH•lee•uh), a plateau region rimmed by mountains. The **Pontic Mountains** border the plateau on the north. The **Taurus Mountains** tower over it on the south. Severe earthquakes often occur in northern Turkey, causing much damage and death. Lowland plains curve along Turkey's three coasts.

Turkey's climate varies throughout the country. The Anatolian plateau experiences the hot, dry summers and cold, snowy winters of the steppe climate. People living in the coastal areas enjoy a Mediterranean climate—hot, dry summers and mild, rainy winters.

Many of Turkey's people are farmers who live in the mild coastal areas. There they raise livestock and plant crops such as cotton, tobacco, fruits, and nuts for export. On the drier inland plateau, farmers grow mostly wheat and barley for use at home.

Turkey is seeking to join the European Union. The country has rich mineral resources of coal, copper, and iron. The most important industrial activities are oil refining and the making of textiles and clothing. Turkish factory workers also process foods and make cars, steel, and building materials. The country's beautiful beaches and historic sites have made tourism another growing industry.

Turkey's People Most of Turkey's 71.2 million people live in the northern part of Anatolia, on coastal plains, or in valleys. Almost 100 percent are Muslims, or followers of Islam. Turkish is the official language,



Southwest Asia: Physical/Political



Applying Map Skills

1. What mountain range runs along the southern coast of Turkey?
2. Would you describe Iran as mountainous or low-land? How can you tell?

Find NGS online map resources @ www.nationalgeographic.com/maps

Festival Time

Kudret Özal lives in Söğüt, Turkey. Every year, she and her family attend a festival that honors a warrior ancestor. She says, "At night everyone gathers to sing, dance, and tell jokes and stories." According to custom, Kudret wears clothing that covers her head, arms, shoulders, and legs.



but Kurdish and Arabic are also spoken. Kurdish is the language of the Kurds, an ethnic group who make up about 20 percent of Turkey's people. They are seeking to unite with other Kurds from Iraq, Iran, and Syria to form an independent homeland. The Turkish government has tried to turn the Kurds away from Kurdish culture and language. Tensions between the two groups have resulted in violent clashes.

Almost 70 percent of Turkey's people live in cities or towns. **Istanbul** is Turkey's largest city with nearly 9 million people. It is the only city in the world located on two continents. Istanbul is known for its beautiful palaces, museums, and mosques. Because of its location at the entrance to the **Black Sea**, Istanbul is a major trading center. Turkey's capital and second-largest city is **Ankara**.

History and Culture Istanbul began as a Greek port called Byzantium more than 2,500 years ago. Later it was renamed Constantinople after the Roman emperor Constantine the Great. For almost 1,000 years, the city was the glittering capital of the Byzantine Empire.

Many of Turkey's people today are descendants of an Asian people called Turks. These people migrated to Anatolia during the A.D. 900s. To **migrate** means to move from one place to another. One group of Turks—the Ottomans—conquered Constantinople in the 1400s. They, too, renamed the city, calling it Istanbul. The city served as the capital of a powerful Muslim empire called the Ottoman Empire. This empire once ruled much of southeastern Europe, North Africa, and Southwest Asia. The map on page 518 shows the extent of this empire.

World War I led to the breakup of the Ottoman Empire. During most of the 1920s and 1930s, Kemal Atatürk, a military hero, served as Turkey's first president. He introduced many political and social changes to modernize the country. Turkey soon began to consider itself European as well as Asian. Many Turkish people, however, continued to value the Islamic faith. During the 1990s, Muslim and secular, or non-religious, political groups struggled for control of Turkey's government.

Throughout the country, you can see traditional Turkish arts: colored tiles, finely woven carpets, and beautifully decorated books. Turkish culture, however, has its modern side as well. Folk music blends traditional and modern styles. Turkey also has recently produced many outstanding films that deal with social and political issues.

✓ **Reading Check** What is unusual about Turkey's largest city?

Syria

South of Turkey, **Syria** has been a center of trade for centuries. Syria was a part of many empires, but in 1946 it became an independent country. Since the 1960s, one political party has controlled Syria's government. It does not allow many political freedoms.

Syria's land includes fertile coastal plains and valleys along the Mediterranean Sea. Inland mountains running north and south keep moist sea winds from reaching the eastern part of Syria. The vast **Syrian Desert** covers this eastern region.

Agriculture is Syria's main economic activity. Farmers grow mostly cotton, wheat, and fruit. The Syrian government has built dams on the **Euphrates River**, which flows through the country. These dams provide water for irrigation as well as hydroelectric power for cities and industries. Turkey, Syria's upstream neighbor, is building a huge dam that will reduce the flow of water to Syria and Iraq. Future conflict over water from this river is a possibility.

Like many other countries of Southwest Asia, Syria has reserves of oil—the country's main export. Other industries are food processing and textiles. Syrian fabrics have been highly valued since ancient times.

The Syrians Almost half of Syria's 17.5 million people live in rural areas. A few are **bedouins**—nomadic desert peoples who follow a traditional way of life. Most other Syrians live in cities. **Damascus**, the capital, is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. It was founded as a trading center more than 4,000 years ago.

The people of Syria are mostly Arab Muslims. In many Syrian cities, you can see spectacular mosques and palaces. As in other Arab countries, hospitality is a major part of life. Group meals are a popular way of strengthening Syrian family ties and friendships. Common foods are lamb, flat bread, and bean dishes flavored with garlic and lemon.

✓ **Reading Check** On what river has Syria built dams?

Lebanon

Lebanon is about half the size of New Jersey. Because the country is so small, you can swim in the warm Mediterranean Sea in the west, then throw snowballs in the mountains in the east—all in the same day.

Cedar trees once covered Lebanon. Now only a few lonely groves survive in a protected area. Still, Lebanon is the most densely wooded of all the Southwest Asian countries. Pine trees thrive on the mountains.

More than 60 percent of Lebanon's people work in service industries such as banking and insurance. Manufactured products include food, cement, textiles, chemicals, and metal products. Lebanese farmers grow citrus fruits, vegetables, grains, olives, and grapes on coastal land. Shrimp are harvested from the Mediterranean Sea.

The Lebanese People More than 88 percent of Lebanon's nearly 4.2 million people live in coastal urban areas. **Beirut** (bay•ROOT), the capital and largest city, was once a major banking and business center. European tourists called Beirut "the Paris of the East" because of its elegant shops and sidewalk cafés. Today, however, Beirut is still rebuilding after a civil war that lasted from 1975 to 1991.

Lebanon's civil war arose between Muslims and Christians. About 70 percent of the Lebanese are Arab Muslims. Most of the rest are Arab Christians. Many lives were lost in the war and many people fled as refugees. Lebanon's economy was almost destroyed. Israel invaded Lebanon during the war, finally withdrawing all its troops in 2000.

Arabic is the most widely spoken language in Lebanon. French is also an official language. Why? France ruled Lebanon before the country

Believe It! or Not!

Petra

One of Jordan's major tourist attractions, Petra was built during the 300s B.C. The city's temples and monuments were carved out of cliffs in the Valley of Moses in Jordan. It was a major center of the spice trade that reached as far as China, Egypt, Greece, and India. Archaeologists have found dams, rock-carved channels, and ceramic pipes that brought water to the 30,000 people who once lived here.



became independent in the 1940s. Local foods reflect a blend of Arab, Turkish, and French influences.

 **Reading Check** Why is Beirut in the process of rebuilding?

Jordan

A land of contrasts, **Jordan** stretches from the fertile Jordan River valley in the west to dry, rugged country in the east. Jordan lacks water resources. Irrigated farmland lies in the Jordan River valley, however. Here farmers grow wheat, fruits, and vegetables. Jordan's desert is home to tent-dwelling bedouins who raise livestock.

Jordan also lacks energy resources. Many people work in service and manufacturing industries. The leading manufactured goods are phosphate, potash, pottery, chemicals, and processed foods.

People and Government Most of Jordan's 5.5 million people are Arab Muslims. They include more than 1 million Palestinian refugees. **Amman** is the capital and largest city. On a site occupied since pre-historic times, Amman has Roman and other ancient ruins.

During the early 1900s, the Ottoman Empire ruled this area. After the Ottoman defeat in World War I, the British set up a territory that became known as Jordan. It gained independence in 1946. The country has a constitutional monarchy. Elected leaders govern, but a king is the official head of state. From 1952 to 1999, King Hussein I ruled Jordan. He worked to blend the country's traditions with modern ways. The present leader of Jordan is Hussein's son, King Abdullah II.

 **Reading Check** What are Jordan's leading manufactured goods?

Section

1

Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** migrate, bedouins.

Recalling Facts

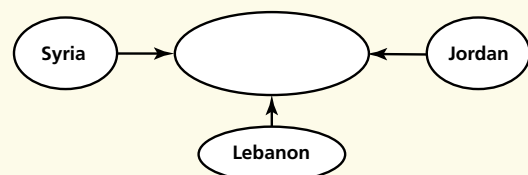
2. **Economics** Name five of Turkey's agricultural products.
3. **Place** What landform covers eastern Syria?
4. **Place** What is the capital of Lebanon?

Critical Thinking

5. **Understanding Cause and Effect** How could a dam on the Euphrates River cause a conflict among Turkey, Syria, and Iraq?
6. **Analyzing Information** How has Istanbul's location made it a trading center?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Draw a diagram like this one. Inside the large oval, list characteristics that Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan share.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Study the map on page 503. What borders Turkey on the north? On the south?

Making Connections

ART

SCIENCE

CULTURE

TECHNOLOGY

Carpet Weaving

For thousands of years, people have been making the hand-knotted floor coverings sometimes called Persian or Turkish rugs. Valued for their rich color and intricate design, these handmade rugs are unique works of art.

History

Most experts think that the nomadic peoples of Asia were among the first to make hand-knotted carpets. They used their carpets as wall coverings, curtains, saddlebags, and coverings for the bare ground in their tents. The soft, thick rugs blocked out the cold and could also be used as a bed or blanket.

As the nomads moved from place to place, they spread the art of carpet making to new lands and peoples. Throughout the years, the greatest carpet-producing areas have included Turkey, the republics of the Caucasus, Persia (Iran), and Turkmenistan. People in other countries, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, India, and China, also became skilled carpet weavers.

Weaving and Knotting

Early nomads wove their carpets from sheep's wool on simple wooden looms that could be rolled up for traveling. Each carpet was woven with two sets of threads. The *warp* threads run from top to bottom, and the *weft* threads are woven from side to side. Hand-tied knots form the carpet's colorful pattern. A skillful weaver can tie about 15 knots a minute. The best carpets can have more than 500 knots per square inch!

Color and Design

The beauty of woven carpets comes from the endless combination of colors and designs. Over the years, various regions developed their own



▲ Turkish carpet weavers

carpet patterns. These were passed down from generation to generation. Often the images hold special meanings. For instance, the palm and coconut often symbolize happiness and blessings.

The very first rugs were colored gray, white, brown, or black—the natural color of the wool. Then people learned to make dyes from plants and animals. The root of the madder plant, as well as certain insects, provided red and pink dye. Turmeric root and saffron supplied shades of yellow, and the indigo plant provided blue.

Making the Connection

1. How did the art of carpet weaving spread from one place to another?
2. What creates the pattern in a Turkish carpet?
3. **Drawing Conclusions** In what way do hand-knotted carpets combine art with usefulness?

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

After years of conflict, the Jewish nation of Israel and neighboring Arab countries still struggle to achieve peace.

Terms to Know

- kibbutz
- moshav
- Holocaust

Reading Strategy

Create a time line like this one. Write four key events on the time line that have occurred in Israel since 1948.



Section 2

Israel and the Palestinian Territories



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

Modern and traditional cultures exist side by side throughout Israel.

Israel was established as an independent country in 1948 after many years of trying to create a homeland for Jews. Since then, Jewish people from more than 100 countries have migrated to this small country. At this market in Tel Aviv-Yafo, buyers and sellers talk about current events and sports.



Israel lies at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. Slightly larger than New Jersey, it is 256 miles (412 km) long from north to south and only 68 miles (109 km) wide from east to west.

Israel's Land and Climate

The mountains of Galilee lie in Israel's far north. East of these mountains is a plateau called the **Golan Heights**. South of the Golan Heights, between Israel and Jordan, is the **Dead Sea**. At 1,349 feet (411 m) below sea level, the shores of the Dead Sea are the lowest place on the earth's surface. The Dead Sea is also the earth's saltiest body of water—about nine times saltier than ocean water. The map on page 511 shows you where the Golan Heights and the Dead Sea are located.

In southern Israel, a desert called the **Negev** (NEH•GEHV) covers almost half the country. A fertile plain no more than 20 miles (32 km) wide lies along the country's Mediterranean coast. To the east, the

Jordan River cuts through the floor of a long, narrow valley before flowing into the Dead Sea.

Northern Israel has a Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and mild winters. About 40 inches (102 cm) of rain fall in the north each year. Southern Israel has a desert climate. Summer temperatures soar higher than 120°F (49°C), and annual rainfall is less than 1 inch (2.5 cm).

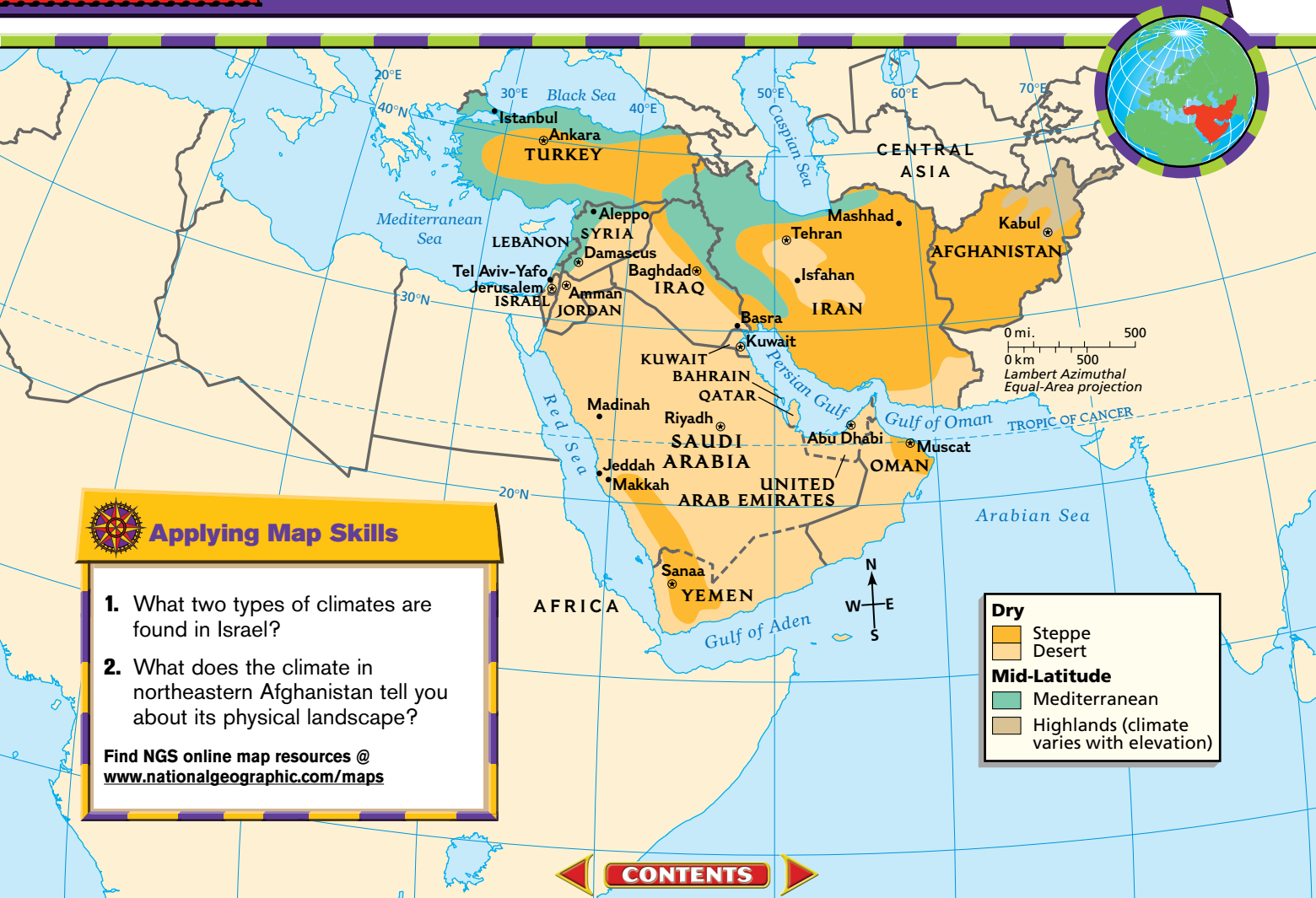
✓ **Reading Check** What plateau is found in northeastern Israel?

Israel's Economy

Israel's best farmland stretches along the Mediterranean coastal plain. For centuries, farmers here have grown citrus fruits, such as oranges, grapefruits, and lemons. Citrus fruits are still Israel's major agricultural export. Farther inland, you find that the desert actually blooms. This is possible because farmers add fertilizers to the soil and carefully use scarce water resources. In very dry areas, crops are grown with drip irrigation. This method uses computers to release specific amounts of water from underground tubes to the roots of plants. Israeli farmers also plant certain fruits and vegetables that do not absorb salts, such as the Negev tomatoes. As a result of technology, Israel's farmers feed not only the country's people—they even export some food to other countries.



Southwest Asia: Climate



Applying Map Skills

1. What two types of climates are found in Israel?
2. What does the climate in northeastern Afghanistan tell you about its physical landscape?

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www.nationalgeographic.com/maps



Israel

Cartloads of apples are transported to market from a farm settlement called a kibbutz in Metulla, Israel.

Place How do Israeli farmers make the desert bloom?

About 9 percent of Israelis live and work on farm settlements. Many join together to grow and sell crops. People in one type of settlement called a **kibbutz** (kih•BUTS) share all of the property. They may also produce goods such as clothing and electronic equipment. Another kind of settlement is called a **moshav** (moh•SHAHV). People in a moshav share in farming, production, and selling, but each person is allowed to own some private property as well.

Israel is the most industrialized country in Southwest Asia. Its economic development has been supported by large amounts of aid from European nations and the United States. Israel's skilled workforce produces electronic products, clothing, chemicals, food products, and machinery. Diamond cutting and polishing is also a major industry. The largest manufacturing center is the urban area of **Tel Aviv-Yafo**.

Mining is also important to Israel's economy. The Dead Sea area is rich in deposits of potash. The Negev is also a source of copper and phosphate, a mineral used in making fertilizer.

✓ **Reading Check** What city is the largest manufacturing center in Israel?

The Israeli People

The area that is today Israel has been home to different groups of people over the centuries. The ancient traditions of these groups have led to current conflicts among their descendants. About 80 percent of Israel's 6.7 million people are Jews. The other 20 percent belong to an Arab people called Palestinians. Most Palestinians are Muslims, but some are Christians.

As you learned in Chapter 16, the ancient Jews under King David created a kingdom in about 1000 B.C. Over time, the region was ruled by Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, and Ottoman Turks. Under the Romans, the area was called Palestine. The Jews twice revolted against Roman rule but failed to win their freedom. In response, the Romans ordered all Jews out of the land.

Prejudice against the Jews caused them much hardship. In the late 1800s, some European Jews began to move back to Palestine. These settlers, known as Zionists, had planned to set up a safe homeland for Jews in their ancestral land.

The Birth of Israel During World War I, the British won control of Palestine. They supported a Jewish homeland there. Most of the people living in Palestine, however, were Arabs who also claimed the area as their homeland. To keep peace with the local Arab population, the British began to limit the number of Jews entering Palestine.

During World War II, Germans killed millions of Europe's Jews and others. The mass imprisonment and slaughter of European Jews is known as the **Holocaust**. It brought worldwide attention to Jews. After World War II, many remaining Jews were left homeless. The number who wanted to migrate to Palestine increased.

In 1947 the United Nations voted to divide Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state. The Arabs in Palestine and in neighboring countries disagreed with this division. In May 1948, the British left the area, and the Jews set up the independent country of Israel in their part of Palestine. David Ben-Gurion (BEHN•gur•YAWN) became Israel's first leader.

War soon broke out between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The war ended in 1949 with Israel's victory. Many Palestinian Arabs fled to neighboring countries and became refugees. At the same time, many Jews from Europe and other nations began moving to the new state of Israel.

Israel later fought other wars with its Arab neighbors. In one conflict, Israel won control of neighboring Arab areas, such as the **West Bank** and the **Gaza Strip**. Palestinian Arabs, now left homeless, demanded their own country. During the 1970s and 1980s, many Palestinians and Israelis died fighting one another. Steps toward peace began when Israel and Egypt signed a treaty in 1979. Agreements made between Israel and Palestinian Arab leaders in 1993 and between Israel and Jordan in 1994 also moved the region toward peace.

Southwest Asia



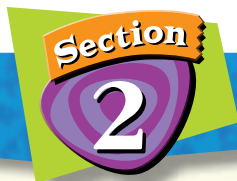
In the 1993 agreement, Israel agreed to turn over two areas to the Palestinians. The West Bank lies on the western bank of the Jordan River and surrounds **Jerusalem**. The Gaza Strip is located on the Mediterranean coast and shares a border with Egypt. Find these areas on the map on page 511. Palestinians now have limited control of some of these areas. Yet some Jews still live in these two regions, and tensions between the two groups remain. Many issues—particularly control of Jerusalem—need to be settled before Palestinians achieve independence. In addition, Palestinian Arabs have fewer freedoms and economic opportunities than their Jewish neighbors. In late 2000, violence erupted again because of the inability to resolve these issues.

Israel Today More than 90 percent of Israel's people live in urban areas. The largest cities are Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Yafo, and Haifa (HY•fuh). Israel proclaimed Jerusalem as its capital in 1950.

A single law—the Law of Return—increased Israel's population more than any other factor. Passed in 1950, the law states that Jews anywhere in the world can come to Israel to live. As a result, Jewish people have moved to Israel from many countries.

Israel is a democratic republic, which is a government headed by elected officials. A president represents the country at national events. A prime minister heads the government. The Israeli parliament, or Knesset, meets in a modern building in Jerusalem.

 **Reading Check** Over what two areas do Palestinians have limited control?



Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** kibbutz, moshav, Holocaust.

Recalling Facts

2. **Location** What is the lowest place on the earth's surface? What is its elevation?
3. **History** What is a Zionist?
4. **Place** What percentage of Israel's people live in urban areas? What percentage farm?

Critical Thinking

5. **Analyzing Information** What is the major disagreement between Israel and the Palestinians?
6. **Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think Israel has worked so hard to develop its agricultural and manufacturing industries?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** On a diagram like this one, list three things that helped Israel's agricultural success.

→ Israel's ability to feed its people



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Study the map on page 511. What country borders Israel to the north? To the northeast? To the east?

Section 3

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

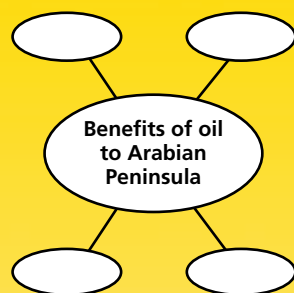
Money from oil exports has boosted standards of living in most countries of the Arabian Peninsula.

Terms to Know

- wadi
- desalinization
- caliph

Reading Strategy

Create a diagram like this one and give four examples of how oil has benefited the Arabian Peninsula.



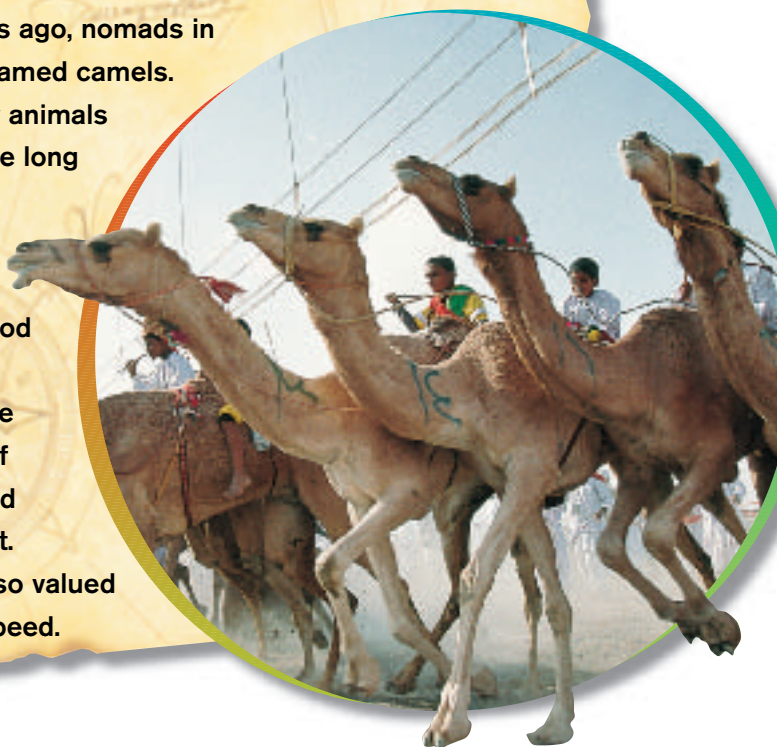
The Arabian Peninsula



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

Thousands of years ago, nomads in Arabia and Africa tamed camels. They were the only animals that could make the long journey across the desert, thanks to their ability to go for days without food or water. For centuries, camels were the main source of transport, milk, and meat in the desert. Today they are also valued for their racing speed.



Find the Arabian Peninsula on the map on page 503. Notice that its highest elevations are in the south. The mostly desert land in the north borders Iraq, then it slopes toward the **Persian Gulf**.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia, the largest country in Southwest Asia, is about the size of the eastern half of the United States. Vast deserts cover this region. The largest and harshest desert is the **Rub' al Khali**, or Empty Quarter, in the southeast. The Empty Quarter has mountains of sand that reach heights of more than 1,000 feet (305 m).

Because of the generally dry, desert climate, Saudi Arabia has no rivers or permanent bodies of water. Highlands dominate the southwest, however, and rainfall there irrigates fertile croplands in the valleys. Water sometimes comes from seasonal **wadis**, or dry riverbeds filled by rainwater from rare downpours. The desert also holds oases.

World Oil Reserves



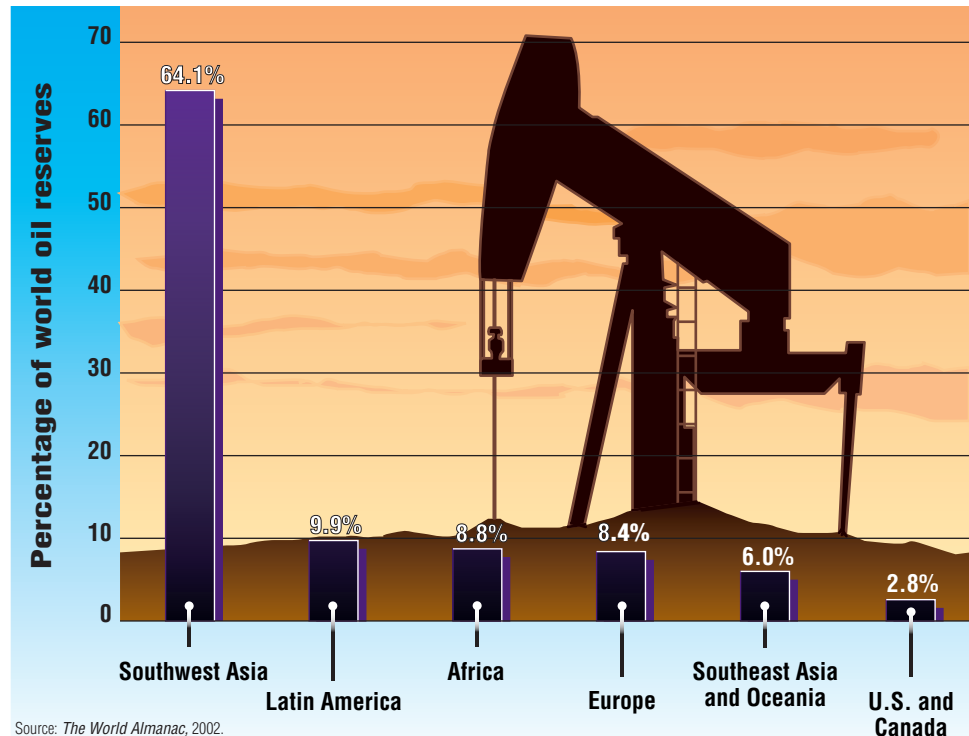
Analyzing the Graph

Southwest Asia has more known oil than all other regions of the world combined.

Region What percentage of the world's known oil reserves does Southwest Asia hold?

Textbook Update

Visit twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 18—Textbook Updates**.



An Oil-Based Economy Saudi Arabia holds a major share of the world's oil. This entire region is by far the world's leading producer of oil. The graph above compares the amount of oil reserves in Southwest Asia with those of other regions.

Since 1960 Saudi Arabia and some other oil producers have formed the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Together they work to increase income from the sale of oil. Today OPEC countries supply more than 40 percent of the world's oil. By increasing or reducing supply, they are able to influence world oil prices.

Oil has helped Saudi Arabia boost its standard of living. Money earned by selling oil has built schools, hospitals, roads, and airports. Aware that someday its oil will run out, Saudi Arabia's government has been trying to broaden the economy. In recent years, it has given more emphasis to industry and agriculture. To get more water and grow more food, the government has spent much money on irrigation and **desalinization**. This is a process that takes salt out of seawater.

Spread of Islam In Chapter 16, you learned about Muhammad and the holy Islamic city of Makkah, which is located in western Saudi Arabia. After Muhammad died in A.D. 632, his closest followers chose a new leader known as a **caliph**, or "successor." Caliphs were both political and religious leaders.

Under the early caliphs, Arab Muslims conquered neighboring lands and created a vast empire. By A.D. 750, Islamic expansion—shown on the map on page 518—included North Africa and what is

now Spain extending almost to India. As time passed, many of the conquered peoples accepted Islam and the Arabic language.

By the end of the A.D. 900s, the Arab Empire had broken up into smaller kingdoms. During the next few centuries, waves of invaders known as Mongols swept into the Muslim world from central Asia. The Ottoman Turks, as you learned in Section 1, later moved into the region. They created a Muslim empire that lasted until the early 1900s.

Between the 700s and 1300s, scholars in the Arab Empire made many contributions to mathematics, astronomy, chemistry, medicine, and the arts. They also preserved much of the learning of the ancient Greeks and Romans. When Arabic texts were translated into Latin, European scholars could study the ancient works they thought had been lost after the fall of Rome.

The People Today In 1932 a monarchy led by the Saud family unified the country's many clans. The Saud family still rules today. Most of the 24.1 million Saudis live in towns and villages either along the oil-rich Persian Gulf coast or around oases. The capital and largest city, **Riyadh** (ree•YAH'D), sits amid a large oasis in central Saudi Arabia. Once a small town, Riyadh now has skyscrapers and busy highways.


As in other Muslim countries, Islam strongly influences life in Saudi Arabia. Government, business, school, and home schedules are timed to Islam's five daily prayers and two major yearly celebrations. Much government attention has been given to preparing Makkah and Madinah for the several million Muslims who visit each year. Saudi customs concerning the roles of women in public life are stricter than in most other Muslim countries. Saudi women may work outside the home but only in jobs that avoid close contact with men.

 **Reading Check** What influences almost every part of Saudi Arabian culture?

The Persian Gulf States

Kuwait (ku•WAYT), **Bahrain** (bah•RAYN), **Qatar** (KAH•tuhr), and the **United Arab Emirates** are located along the Persian Gulf. Beneath their flat deserts and offshore areas lie vast deposits of oil. The Persian Gulf states have used profits from oil exports to build prosperous economies. Political and business leaders, however, are aware that oil revenues depend on constantly changing world oil prices. As a result, they have encouraged the growth of other industries. Their goal is to build a more varied economy.

The people of the Persian Gulf states once made a living from activities such as pearl diving, fishing, and camel herding. Now they have modern jobs in the oil and natural gas industries. They also enjoy a high standard of living. Using income from oil, their governments provide free education, health care, and other services. Many workers from other countries have settled in these countries. They work in the modern cities and oil fields to benefit from the economic boom.

 **Reading Check** How have the economies of the Persian Gulf states changed since the discovery of oil?



Social Studies **Online**

Web Activity Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 18—Student Web Activities** to learn more about the Islamic religion.



▲ A village in Oman

Oman and Yemen

At the southeastern and southern ends of the Arabian Peninsula are the countries of **Oman** and **Yemen**. Oman is largely desert, but its bare land yields oil—the basis of the country’s economy. Until recently, most of the people of Oman lived in rural villages. The oil industry has drawn many of these people—and foreigners—to **Muscat**, the country’s capital. Other natural resources include natural gas, copper, marble, and limestone. Agricultural products include dates, bananas, camels, and cattle.

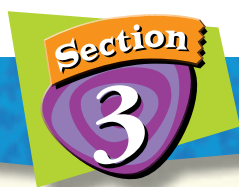
Oman’s location also has made the country important to world oil markets. The northern part of Oman guards the strategic Strait of Hormuz. Oil-bearing tankers have to go through this narrow waterway to pass from the Persian Gulf into the **Arabian Sea**.

Southwest of Oman lies Yemen, which is made up of a narrow coastal plain and inland mountains. In ancient times, Yemen was famous for its rich trade in fragrant tree resins such as myrrh (MUHR) and frankincense. Yemen’s capital, the walled city of **Sanaa** (sahn•AH), was once a crossroads for camel caravans that carried goods from as far away as China.

Today Yemen is the only country of the Arabian Peninsula that does not have large deposits of oil. Most of the people are farmers or herd sheep and cattle. They live in the high fertile interior where Sanaa is located. Farther south lies Aden (AH•duhn), a major port for ships traveling between the Arabian Sea and the Red Sea.



Reading Check What makes Yemen different from other countries in the Arabian Peninsula?



Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** wadi, desalinization, caliph.

Recalling Facts

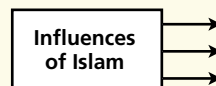
2. **Place** What is the Empty Quarter?
3. **Government** Who rules Saudi Arabia, and what is its form of government?
4. **Culture** What is the significance of the city of Makkah?

Critical Thinking

5. **Analyzing Information** Why is the Strait of Hormuz considered to be of such strategic importance?
6. **Drawing Conclusions** How do the nations of OPEC affect your life?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** On a diagram like this one, list three ways that Islam influences life in Saudi Arabia.



Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Graphs** Study the graph on page 514. Which region of the world has the second-largest reserves of oil?

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan have recently fought wars and have undergone sweeping political changes.

Terms to Know

- alluvial plain
- embargo
- shah
- Islamic republic

Reading Strategy

Create a chart like this one and list one fact about the people in each country.

Country	People
Iraq	
Iran	
Afghanistan	

Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

Exploring our World

Muslims approach this colorful Islamic mosque in Baghdad, Iraq, for dawn prayers. The Islamic religion strongly influences life in Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Government and religious leaders seek to influence people's behavior through laws and policies. Iran's leaders have reduced such policies over the years, and Afghanistan is now moving in the same direction.



Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan are located in a region where some of the world's oldest civilizations developed. This region has experienced turmoil throughout history and even today.

Iraq

As you read in Chapter 16, the world's first known cities arose between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. These rivers are the major geographic features of **Iraq**. Between the two rivers is an **alluvial plain**, or an area built up by rich fertile soil left by river floods. Most farming takes place here. Farmers grow wheat, barley, dates, cotton, and rice.

Oil is the country's major export. Iraq's factories process foods and make textiles, chemicals, and construction materials.

People and Government About 70 percent of Iraq's 24.2 million people live in urban areas. **Baghdad**, the capital, is the largest city.



Applying Map Skills

1. Which period of Islamic expansion included Egypt?
2. Did Islamic territory completely encircle the Mediterranean Sea?

Find NGS online resources @ www.nationalgeographic.com/maps

From the A.D. 700s to 1200s, Baghdad was the center of a large Muslim empire that made many advances in the arts and sciences. Muslim Arabs make up the largest group in Iraq's population. The second-largest group consists of another Muslim people, the Kurds, who want to form their own country.

Modern Iraq gained its independence as a kingdom in 1932. In 1958 the last king was overthrown in a revolt. Since then, military leaders have governed Iraq as a dictatorship. Dictator Saddam Hussein ruled with an iron hand from 1979 to 2003. In the 1980s, Iraq fought a bloody war with its neighbor Iran. Then in 1990, partly because of a dispute over oil, Iraq invaded neighboring Kuwait. This action led to the Persian Gulf War in 1991. A United Nations force led by the United States pushed Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

Saddam stayed in power despite losing the war. He refused to agree to demands from the United Nations that he give up his vast store of destructive weapons. As a result, the United Nations continued an embargo on trade with Iraq that it had introduced before the war. An **embargo** is an order that restricts trade with another country. This severely damaged Iraq's economy.

In the early 2000s, the United Nations sent experts into Iraq to search for weapons of mass destruction. The United States did not believe Saddam was fully cooperating. In March 2003, American and British forces invaded Iraq. Less than a month later, Saddam was overthrown, and plans were made to create a democratic government in Iraq. Then Saddam was captured by a U.S.-led coalition in December 2003.

✓ Reading Check What two rivers have influenced the history of Iraq?

Iran

Once known as Persia, **Iran** is slightly larger than Alaska. Two vast ranges—the **Elburz Mountains** and the **Zagros Mountains**—surround a central desert plateau. Iran is an oil-rich nation. The first oil wells in Southwest Asia were drilled here in 1908. Like Saudi Arabia, Iran is trying to promote other industries in order to become less dependent on oil earnings. Major Iranian industries produce textiles, metal goods, construction materials, and beautiful carpets valued worldwide. Farmers grow wheat, rice, sugar beets, and cotton. Some use ancient underground channels to bring water to their fields. Iran is also the world's largest producer of pistachio nuts.

The Iranian People Iran's 66.6 million people differ from those of other Southwest Asian countries. More than one-half are Persians, not Arabs or Turks. The Persians' ancestors migrated from Central Asia centuries ago. They speak Farsi, or Persian, the official language of Iran. Other languages include Kurdish, Arabic, and Turkish. About 65 percent of Iranians live in urban areas. **Tehran**, located in northern Iran, is the largest city and the capital. Iran is also home to about 2 million people from Iraq and Afghanistan who have fled recent wars. Nearly 98 percent of Iran's people practice some form of Islam.

Iran's Government About 2,000 years ago, Iran was the center of the powerful Persian Empire ruled by kings known as **shahs**. In 1979 religious leaders overthrew the last monarchy. Iran is now an **Islamic republic**, a government run by Muslim religious leaders. The government has introduced laws based on its understanding of the Quran. Many Western customs seen as a threat to Islam are forbidden here.

 **Reading Check** How do Iranians differ in ethnic background from most other Southwest Asians?

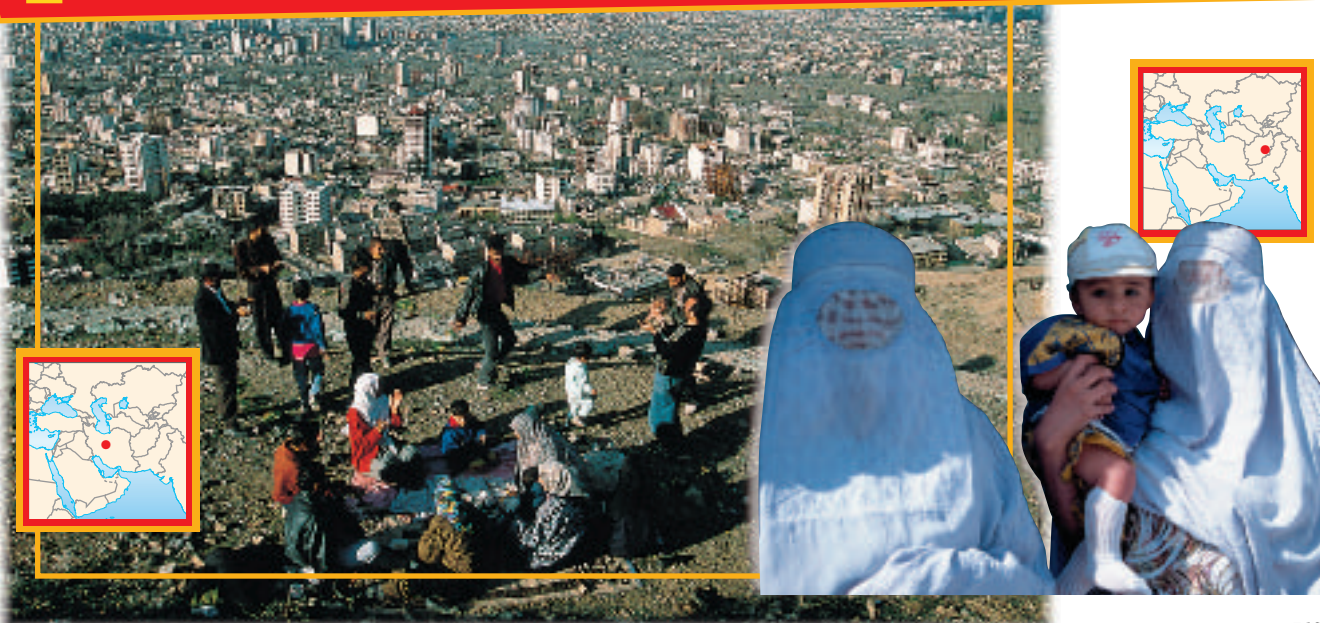
Iran and Afghanistan

An Iranian family picnics in the hills above Tehran (below left). Under the Taliban, women in Afghanistan were rarely allowed in public (below right).

Government What form of government does Iran have? What group led Afghanistan in the 1990s?

 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

On Location



Afghanistan

Landlocked **Afghanistan** (af•GA•nuh•STAN) is mostly covered with the rugged peaks of the **Hindu Kush** mountain range. The Khyber (KY•buhr) Pass cuts through the mountains and for centuries has been a major trade route linking Southwest Asia with other parts of Asia. The capital, **Kabul** (KAH•buhl), lies in a valley.

Afghanistan's 28.7 million people are divided into about 20 different ethnic groups. The two largest groups are the Pashtuns and the Tajiks. Almost 70 percent of the people farm, growing wheat, fruits, and nuts and herding sheep and goats.

A Country at War During the 1980s, the Afghan people fought against Soviet troops who had invaded their country. When the Soviets left Afghanistan in 1989, the Afghan people faced poverty, food shortages, and rising crime. The country collapsed into civil war. For leadership, many people turned to the Taliban, a group of fighters educated at Islamic schools in Pakistan. They set up very strict laws based on their view of Islam. For example, men had to grow beards, and women had to completely cover themselves in public and could not hold jobs or go to school. In October 2001, after the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, the United States accused the Taliban of supporting terrorists and began bombing Taliban forces. By mid-November, the Taliban government had collapsed. The United Nations then began working with local leaders to create a new government for Afghanistan.

 **Reading Check** What trade route cuts through the Hindu Kush?



Assessment

Defining Terms

1. **Define** alluvial plain, embargo, shah, Islamic republic.

Recalling Facts

2. **Economics** What is Iraq's major export?
3. **Culture** What are the two largest ethnic groups in Iraq?
4. **Government** What type of government does Iran have?

Critical Thinking

5. **Understanding Cause and Effect** Why did American and British forces invade Iraq?
6. **Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think the Afghan people turned to the Taliban for leadership after the Soviets left?

Graphic Organizer

7. **Organizing Information** Create a chart like this one for each of the following countries: Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. Then write one fact about the country under each heading.

Country		
Capital	Landforms	Agriculture
People	Religion	Government

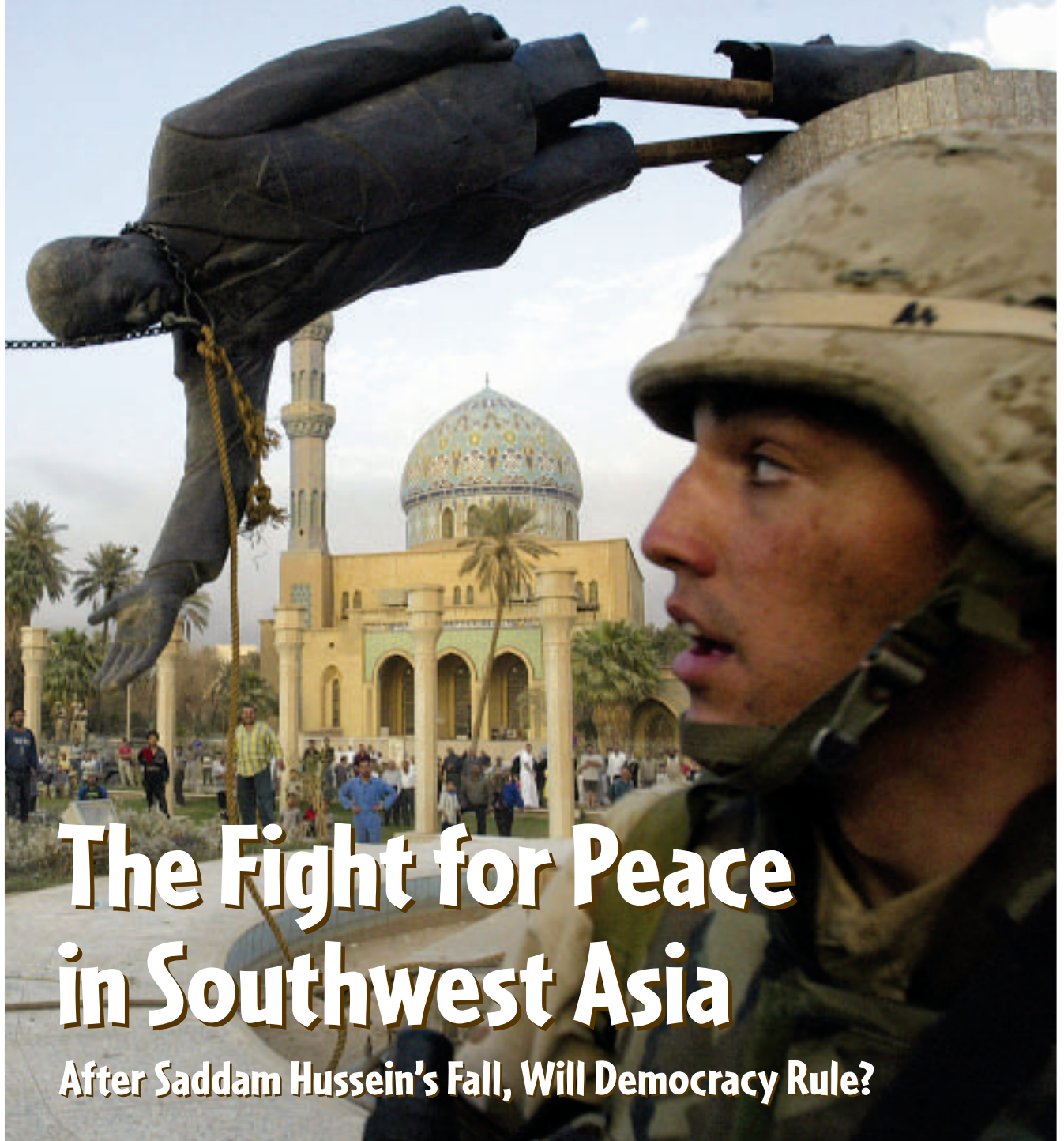


Applying Social Studies Skills

8. **Analyzing Maps** Study the map on page 503. Between what bodies of water is Iran located?

TIME REPORTS

FOCUS ON
WORLD
ISSUES



The Fight for Peace in Southwest Asia

After Saddam Hussein's Fall, Will Democracy Rule?

JEROME DELAY/AP

A Shi'ite confronts U.S. troops in An Najaf.

Oil is Iraq's biggest industry.

War Without End?

In early April 2003, a platoon of U.S. soldiers stood outside a mosque in the city of An Najaf, Iraq. They had been in Iraq since March 19, when troops from several nations, led by U.S. forces, invaded the country. By the end of April, the invaders accomplished their goal, ending the rule of Saddam Hussein, Iraq's cruel dictator.

But in early April, the fighting was still going on, especially in cities like An Najaf. An Najaf is one of Iraq's holiest cities. It is the burial place of Ali, the cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad,

the last and greatest prophet of Islam. Every year tens of thousands of **Shi'ite** (SHEE•EYET) **Muslims** travel to An Najaf to visit the **mosque**, or place of worship. Shi'ites (also called Shia) belong to one of the two main branches of Islam.

The American soldiers were searching for gunmen who had shot at U.S. troops from inside the mosque. Hundreds of Shi'ites blocked their way. The Shi'ites were ready to fight to protect their sacred house of worship. "In the city, okay," one man shouted in broken English. "In the mosque, no!"

Acting quickly, the platoon leader calmed them down. "Drop to one knee!" he ordered his troops. "Point your weapons at the ground. Now smile!"

The Iraqis smiled back. Some even laughed. A moment of danger had passed.

A Terrorist Act

Almost five months later, a bomb exploded outside the same mosque. It killed Ayatollah Mohammed Baqir al-Hakim, a key Shi'ite leader. Some Shi'ites hated al-Hakim. They thought he was too friendly with Americans. Small groups of **Sunni** (SOO•NEE) **Muslims** felt the same way. Sunnis are members of the second branch of Islam.

After Saddam Hussein fled, small bands of angry Sunnis continued to attack U.S. troops. They wanted to keep the United States and its major ally, the United Kingdom, from helping Iraqis rebuild their nation.

Where Iraq's Muslims Live



Making Inferences Why did most attacks against Americans by Sunnis take place between Baghdad and Tikrit? Where would you expect to hear Kurdish spoken?



Putting Iraq on Its Feet

Rebuilding Iraq meant two things. First, it meant fixing just about everything. Electric power plants, water pumping stations, roads, schools, and hospitals had all been in terrible shape for years. The oil industry, once Iraq's major moneymaker, had collapsed. The fighting that drove Saddam Hussein from power had left wreckage that had to be cleaned up. U.S. forces began tackling these problems in late April 2003, just six weeks after the war had begun.

The second part of rebuilding Iraq was more difficult. It required Iraqis to create a **democracy**, or government in which citizens vote for their leaders, from scratch. They had to agree on the shape of the new government. They had to draw up a **constitution**, or body of laws, that described how each part of the government worked. They had to hold free elections, appoint judges, and hire people to make the government function.

At the time, Afghanistan was struggling with similar problems. Freed from a cruel dictatorship in 2002, Afghanis were inventing their own democracy. Their constitution is a reminder of how important religion is in Southwest Asia. "No law," it says, "will be made that will oppose Islamic principles."

Fresh Air

The events in Iraq helped support moves toward more open government in the following countries.

- In 2002 voters in Bahrain elected their **parliament**, or lawmaking body, for the first time in 30 years.
- In 2003 men and women in Oman were given the right to vote in parliamentary elections.
- Qatar's new constitution, adopted in 2003, guarantees freedom of the press and women's voting rights.
- Kuwait's parliament approved a 2003 plan to let women vote and run for city offices.

These changes, small as they may seem, had a powerful impact on other nations in the area. Along with the Iraq war, they even convinced the princes who run Saudi Arabia to open the door to democracy slightly. Saudis will be able to elect some city officials in 2004.

In the fall of 2003, Jordan's King Abdullah II commented on the changes occurring in his country. "We are at the beginning of a new stage in terms of democracy and freedom," he said. He could just as easily have been speaking about all of Southwest Asia. ■

EXPLORING THE ISSUE

1. **Summarizing** What does the title of this entire feature mean?
2. **Making Generalizations** What do you think the subtitle "Fresh Air" says about this specific article?

Demand for Freedom in Iran

In 1979 Iranians had had enough of their **shah**, or king. In their eyes, he acted more like a European than an Iranian. Shi'ite Muslim **clerics**, or religious leaders, took control of the government. They turned the nation upside down. Women who held jobs and wore what they wanted, for example, could now do neither.

One of the women who lost her right to work was Shirin Ebadi, a devout Muslim and a judge. The clerics allowed only men to be judges. So Ebadi quit and began practicing law. She spent the next 20 years defending the rights of people who had been mistreated by the government.

The government and its supporters weren't happy to be challenged. Ebadi was thrown into jail for a short time and threatened with death. But she never looked back. "The beauty of life," she said, "is to fight in a difficult situation, like it is in Iran."

Pressure for Change

During the late 1990s, millions of Iranians couldn't find jobs. Political freedoms were nonexistent. Curfews and "morality police" limited even basic activities such as when people could go shopping, where they could meet, and what clothing they could choose to wear in public. Iranians demanded a stronger economy and more freedom. Ebadi became one of their leaders.



HASAN SARBAKHSHIAN/AP

▲ **Students gathered in Tehran, Iran's capital, to demand democracy.**

When the government failed to respond to the demands, some Iranians looked abroad for assistance. "Tell the Americans to help us, to liberate us like they did the Iraqis and Afghanis," a government employee begged an American reporter.

Shirin Ebadi wants peaceful change, a position that won her praise from around the world. In 2003 she was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace. "The prize does not just belong to me," she told a crowd of thousands who had come to cheer her. "It belongs to all the freedom-loving people who are working for democracy, freedom, and human rights in Iran." ■

EXPLORING THE ISSUE

- 1. Explaining** What did Shirin Ebadi do that made the government angry with her?
- 2. Cause and Effect** What led to the demands for freedom?

Road Map to Nowhere?

If Iraq remains free, the small nation of Israel will no longer be the lone democracy in Southwest Asia. It may even have a partner in its struggle for peace with the 3.6 million Palestinian Arabs who live on its borders. No two democracies in history have ever fought a war against each other.

The **Palestinians** are the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the 600,000 Palestinians who fled their homes during an Arab-Israeli war in 1948. They believe that Israel took their land, and they want it back. A violent cycle of revenge-attack-revenge began between the two peoples.

The Israelis argue that they didn't chase the Palestinians off their land. They point out that tens of thousands of Palestinians remained, and that their offspring are now Israeli citizens. The Israelis say they are willing to help Palestinians set up their own country on land next door to Israel. But first they want the Palestinians to agree that they have no right to Israel's land.

Keeping Hope Alive

Before the war in Iraq slowed down, the United States proposed a "road map for peace" between the Israelis and Palestinians. The goal was an independent Palestinian state by 2005. In early June 2003, both sides accepted the plan. But two months later the violence began again, and the road map reached a dead end.



RINA CASTELNUOVO/AP

▲ **Palestinian and Israeli signers of a 2003 peace pact with President Bush and Jordan's king (right)**

People on both sides refused to give up hope. In October 2003, a group of Palestinians and Israelis announced that they had worked out their own road map. Members of the group didn't represent their governments. They just wanted to prove that it was possible to find a way to peace through **negotiations**, or compromise.

"We were told over and over that there was no [Palestinian] to talk to," said an Israeli who helped work out the plan. "It now turns out that there is someone to talk to and something to talk about."

A Palestinian agreed. "In all previous negotiations with Israel," he said, "nobody could have hoped to have achieved this dream." Millions of Israelis and Arabs are hoping that such a dream will soon come true. ■

EXPLORING THE ISSUE

- 1. Making Predictions** How do you think the Arab-Israeli conflict will end?
- 2. Problem Solving** Identify problems that keep the conflict alive. What changes would you make to solve them?

Rebuilding Iraq: What Can One Person Do?

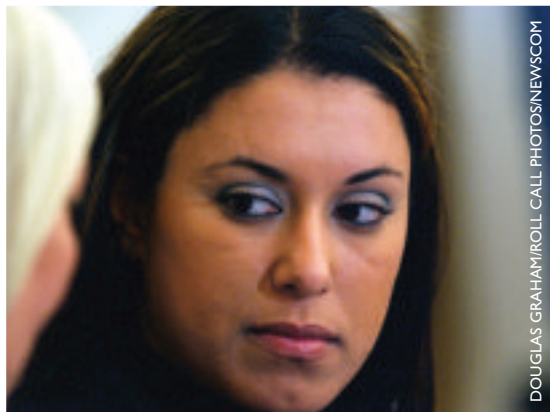
Putting Iraq back together is a job for experts. Right? Wrong! Volunteers from all over the United States are doing what they can to help Iraqis get back on their feet. Here are some examples:

Children in Platteville, Iowa, sent school supplies to the city of Tikrit, Iraq, where there's a shortage of pencils and paper. "We hear parents teach their children to hate Americans," said Dayna Andersen, 15. "If we do something good for them, maybe they will think differently." Dayna's brother, a U.S. soldier in Iraq, distributed the supplies.

Students in middle schools throughout the United States wrote essays in support of Operation Tribute to Freedom. OTF is a U.S. Defense Department program that encourages Americans to show appreciation for U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. For information, contact www.defenselink.mil/specials/tribute

In Salem, Oregon, Allison Pollard and 14 other teenagers raised \$5,000 to bring a 10-month-old Iraqi child to the United States for a life-saving heart operation.

Esra Naama, a graduate of Irvine High School in Irvine, California, is helping to raise money to set up an Internet café in Baghdad. An **Internet café** is a place where people can gather to rent computers and surf the Internet. "It'll help the Iraqi people learn about the world and how the world learns,"



DOUGLAS GRAHAM/ROLL CALL PHOTOS/NEWS.COM

▲ **Californian Esra Naama raised money to start an Internet café in Baghdad, Iraq.**

said Esra, who came to the United States from Iraq when she was 11 years old.

The United Nations has a big idea. It set up five-day soccer camps for teenagers from Iraq and three other Arab nations. Each team is made up of players from all four nations. The UN hopes that the camps will help build lasting bonds between people from each country. This sort of project is too elaborate for volunteers. But there's nothing to stop students from raising money for soccer balls and shipping them to children in Iraq. ■

EXPLORING THE ISSUE

- 1. Categorizing** What do these volunteer efforts have in common?
- 2. Making Inferences** What do you think motivates volunteers like Dayna Andersen and Esra Naama?

REVIEW AND ASSESS

UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE



1. Defining Key Terms

Write definitions for the following terms:

Shi'ite Muslim, mosque, Sunni Muslim, democracy, constitution, parliament, shah, cleric, Palestinian, negotiation, Internet café.

2. Writing to Inform In a 300-word article about Iraq, describe an emotional scene that you read about or saw on TV. Describe your reaction.

3. Writing to Persuade What is the most important thing that Americans should know about Iraq? Put your answer in a brief letter to the editor of your local newspaper. Support your letter with facts. Use at least four of the key terms above.

INTERNET RESEARCH ACTIVITY

4. Navigate to Columbia University's Middle East and

Jewish Studies site at www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/mideast/cuvlm. Scroll down to Middle East Resources by Subject. Click on the links until you find a site that interests you. Write two paragraphs explaining what the site taught you.

5. Navigate to www.cpa-iraq.org, the home page of the Coalition Provisional Authority. What is the Coalition doing to combat terrorism in Iraq? Make a list of the coalition's activities and title it, "The CPA's Job in Iraq." Share your list with your classmates. Go to www.baghdadbulletin.com for an Iraqi view of the rebuilding of Iraq.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

6. Visit your school or local library. Find out more about Islam, the world's second-largest religion. What event led to the split between the Shi'ites (or Shia) and the Sunnis?



REUTERS

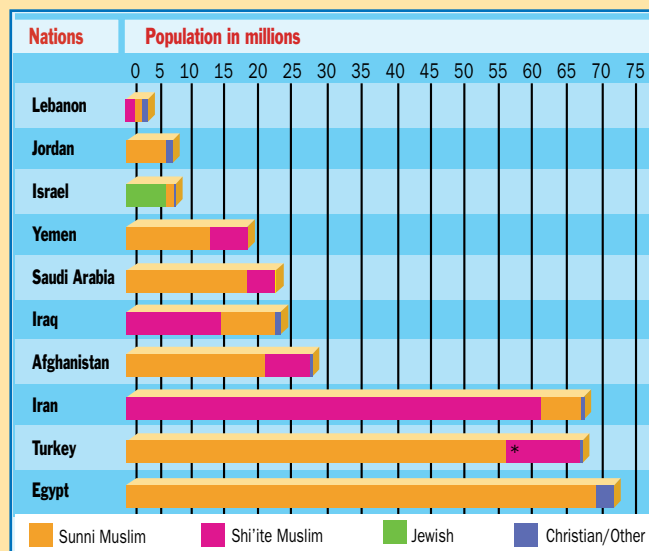
These Muslim boys study Islam at religious schools.

7. Research a country such as Iraq, Northern Ireland, or Bosnia where people have suffered from terrorist attacks. Find out how groups or individuals outside the government have tried to end the violence. Present your findings to the class.



Believers Who Share a Common Ground

Religion plays a big role in Southwest Asia and North Africa. This graph suggests why. It shows what religions are practiced in the region's 10 largest nations.



BUILDING GRAPH READING SKILLS

- Analyzing the Data** In how many of these nations are Sunnis the largest Muslim group?
- Making Inferences** Under Saddam Hussein, Sunnis held most of the power in the Iraqi government. Why might Iraqi Shi'ites feel they have more of a right than Sunnis to hold top government jobs today?
- Drawing Conclusions** Where might competition between Sunnis and Shi'ites be strongest? Where might it be weakest?

FOR UPDATES ON
WORLD ISSUES GO TO
www.timeclassroom.com/glencoe

Technology Skill

Evaluating a Web Site

The Internet has become a valuable research tool. It is convenient to use, and the information contained on the Internet is plentiful. However, some Web site information is not necessarily accurate or reliable. When using the Internet as a research tool, you must distinguish between quality information and inaccurate or incomplete information. You also must consider the source of the information and whether facts or opinions are presented.



▲ The Peace Corps Web site is government sponsored.

Learning the Skill

There are a number of things to consider when you are evaluating a Web site. Most important is to check the accuracy of the source and content. The author and publisher or sponsor of the site should be clearly indicated. You must also determine the usefulness of the site. The information on the site should be current, and the design and organization of the site should be appealing and easy to navigate.

To evaluate a Web site, ask yourself the following questions:

- Are the facts on the site documented?
- Does the site contain a bibliography?
- Is the author clearly identified?
- Does the site explore the topic in-depth or only provide generalizations?
- Does the site contain links to other useful and up-to-date resources?
- Is the information easy to access? Is it properly labeled?

Practicing the Skill

Visit the Peace Corps Web site listed below and answer the following questions.

1. Who is the author or sponsor of the Web site?
2. What links does the site contain? Are they appropriate to the topic?
3. What sources were used for the information contained on the site?
4. Does the site explore the topic in-depth? Why or why not?
5. Is the design of the site appealing? Why or why not?

Applying the Skill

Locate two Web sites about Iran. Evaluate them for accuracy and usefulness, and then compare them to the Peace Corps site listed below.

www.peacecorps.gov/kids/index.html

Chapter 18

Reading Review



Section 1

Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan

Terms to Know

migrate
bedouins

Main Idea

Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan lie at the crossroads of Europe and Asia.

- ✓ **Location** Turkey lies in both Europe and Asia.
- ✓ **Economics** Turkey is becoming more industrialized, with textiles and clothing as major industries. Tourism is also a growing industry.
- ✓ **Culture** Most of Turkey's people now live in cities or towns.
- ✓ **Economics** Farming is the main economic activity in Syria.
- ✓ **History** Lebanon is rebuilding and recovering after a civil war.
- ✓ **Place** Water shortages in Jordan restrict the land available for farming.

Section 2

Israel and the Palestinian Territories

Terms to Know

kibbutz
moshav
Holocaust

Main Idea

After years of conflict, the Jewish nation of Israel and neighboring Arab countries still struggle to achieve peace.

- ✓ **Culture** About 80 percent of Israel's population are Jews. They have moved to Israel from many countries.
- ✓ **History** Israel and its Arab neighbors continue to experience violent conflict over the issues that divide them.

Section 3

The Arabian Peninsula

Terms to Know

wadi
desalinization
caliph

Main Idea

Money from oil exports has boosted standards of living in most countries of the Arabian Peninsula.

- ✓ **Economics** Saudi Arabia is the world's leading oil producer.
- ✓ **Culture** The Islamic religion affects almost all aspects of life in Saudi Arabia.
- ✓ **Economics** The Persian Gulf states have strong economies based on oil.

Section 4

Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan

Terms to Know

alluvial plain
embargo
shah
Islamic republic

Main Idea

Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan have recently fought wars and have undergone sweeping political changes.

- ✓ **Economics** Iraq is recovering from an international trade embargo and war.
- ✓ **Culture** Oil-rich Iran is ruled by Muslim religious leaders.
- ✓ **Place** Afghanistan is mountainous and relatively undeveloped.

Assessment and Activities



Using Key Terms

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

A.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. migrate | 6. bedouins |
| 2. desalinization | 7. Holocaust |
| 3. alluvial plain | 8. kibbutz |
| 4. wadi | 9. embargo |
| 5. caliph | 10. shah |

B.

- taking salt out of seawater
- Iran's former monarch
- mass slaughter of European Jews
- nomadic, desert people
- to move from one place to another
- area built up from soil deposited by river floods
- Israeli farm or settlement where people share property
- restriction on trade
- dry riverbed filled by rainwater from rare downpours
- successor to Muhammad



Reviewing the Main Ideas

Section 1 Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan

- Place** What is Turkey's largest city?
- Place** What bodies of water form the Turkish Straits?
- Place** What makes Damascus an important city?
- History** Why was Beirut called "the Paris of the East"?

Section 2 Israel and the Palestinian Territories

- History** When was the modern nation of Israel created?
- Government** What is the Law of Return?

Section 3 The Arabian Peninsula

- Economics** What is OPEC?
- Place** What is the capital of Saudi Arabia?

Section 4 Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan

- Economics** Where does most of the farming in Iraq take place?
- Culture** How do the people of Iran differ from other Southwest Asian peoples?
- Place** What landform makes up much of Afghanistan?

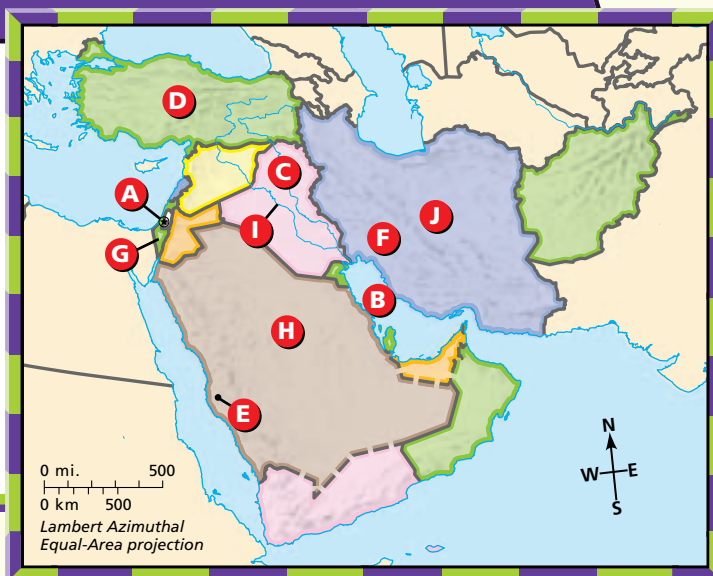


Southwest Asia

Place Location Activity

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

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Persian Gulf | 6. Israel |
| 2. Zagros Mountains | 7. Iraq |
| 3. Euphrates River | 8. Saudi Arabia |
| 4. Turkey | 9. Makkah |
| 5. Iran | 10. Jerusalem |





Social Studies Online

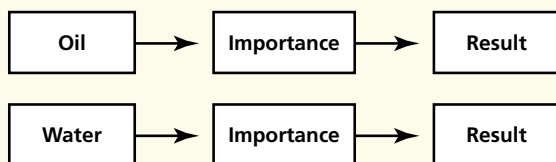
Self-Check Quiz Visit **The World and Its People** Web site at twip.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 18—Self-Check Quizzes** to prepare for the Chapter Test.



Critical Thinking

22. Evaluating Information Goods were moved from Southwest Asia to other parts of the world through several routes. How are goods brought to your community? Make a list of all the routes a product would take to get from Southwest Asia to your town.

23. Analyzing Information On a chart like this, list a reason for the importance of oil and water to Southwest Asia and one result of their abundance or scarcity.



Comparing Regions Activity

24. Culture For one week, count the number of stories in your local newspaper about countries in Southwest Asia. Then count the number of stories about European countries. Which number is greater? Why do you think this is so?



Mental Mapping Activity

25. Focusing on the Region Draw a simple outline map of Southwest Asia, and then label the following:

- Turkey
- Persian Gulf
- Red Sea
- Israel
- Mediterranean Sea
- Iran
- Saudi Arabia
- Yemen
- Iraq
- Afghanistan

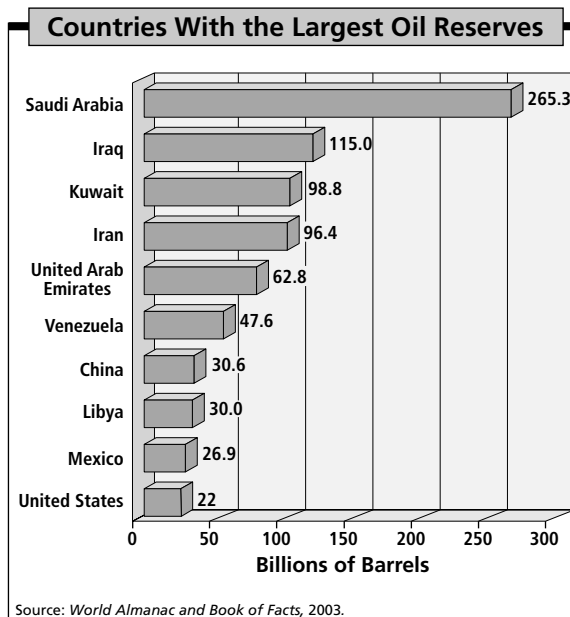


Technology Skills Activity

26. Using the Internet Search the Internet and find several newspapers that publish current events online. Research an event that took place in one of the countries of Southwest Asia. Create a poster about the event.

Standardized Test Practice

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



1. How many of the ten countries with the largest oil reserves are located in Southwest Asia?

- A one
- B three
- C five
- D seven

Test-Taking Tip: You need to rely on your memory as well as analyze the graph to answer this question. Look at each country, then think back to the countries you studied in Chapter 18. Which of those listed on the graph did you just learn about?