

Chapter 1 – Uncovering the Past



Section

- 1 Studying History
- 2 Studying Geography

Notes



Video

Archaeology, History, and
Geography



Quick Facts

Chapter 1 Visual Summary



Maps

Studying Maps: California
Teotihuacán, c. AD 500



Images

Studying the Past
Understanding the World
Clues from the Past
Geography



Previous



Next



Main
Menu



Exit



Studying History

The Big Idea

Historians use many kinds of clues to understand how people lived in the past.

Main Ideas

- **History** is the study of the past.
- We can improve our understanding of people's actions and beliefs through the study of history.
- Historians use clues from various sources to learn about the past.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Main Idea 1: History is the study of the past.

- Historians are people who study the past to **understand** people's **culture**.
 - **Culture** is the knowledge, beliefs, customs, and values of a group of people.
- **Archaeology** is the study of the past based on what people left behind.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Archaeology

- Archaeologists, or people who study archaeology, explore places where people once lived, worked, or fought.
- The things that people leave in these places can range from stone tools to computers.
- Objects can be examined to learn about the past and are clues to how people once lived.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Main Idea 2:
We can improve our understanding of people's actions and beliefs through the study of history.

History can...

- teach you about yourself
- teach you about other peoples and different cultures
- provide you with a better understanding of where you live



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Knowing Yourself

- Without your personal history, you would not have an identity.
- History is just as important for groups as it is for individuals.
- History teaches us about the experiences we have been through and the **values** we share.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Knowing Others

- History shows how cultures are similar and different.
- You can understand why people think the way they do by studying history.
- This knowledge promotes tolerance and can help build social harmony.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Knowing Your World

- History explains how today's events are shaped by past events.
- It also helps you develop mental skills, such as asking questions.
- History promotes good decision-making skills.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Main Idea 3: Historians use clues from various sources to learn about the past.

- **Fossils** and **artifacts** give information about early humans.
 - A **fossil** is a part or an imprint of something that was once alive.
 - **Artifacts** are objects created and used by humans.
- Writing is another important source of information.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Sources of Information

- A **primary source** is an account of an event that is created by someone who took part in or witnessed the event.
- A **secondary source** is information gathered by someone who did not take part in or witness an event.
- As historians review and reanalyze information, their interpretations can change.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit



Studying Geography

The Big Idea

Physical geography and human geography contribute to the study of history

Main Ideas

- Geography is the study of places and people.
- Studying location is important to both physical and human geography.
- Geography and history are closely connected.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Main Idea 1: Geography is the study of places and people.

- **Geography** includes the study of both physical and cultural features.
- Physical geography is the study of the earth's land and features.
- Human geography is the study of people and the places where they live.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Physical Geography

- **Landforms** are the natural features of the land's surface.
- **Climate** is the pattern of weather conditions in a certain area over a long period of time.
- Landforms and climate are part of a place's **environment**.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Human Geography

- Geographers study people and the places where they live.
- They also study how the environment affects people.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Main Idea 2: Studying location is important to both physical and human geography.

- Location is the exact description of where something is.
- To study various locations, geographers use maps.
- Learning about **regions** is another key part of studying geography.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Location

- Every place on the Earth has a specific location.
- No two places in the world are exactly alike.
- By comparing locations, geographers learn more about the factors that affect each of them.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Maps

- A drawing of an area
- Maps focus on different things, such as features, cities, or boundaries.
- Most maps have symbols to represent different things.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Regions

- An area with one or more features that make it different from surrounding areas
- The features of a region can be physical, such as forests or grassland.
- Human features, such as language or religion, also define regions.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Main Idea 3: Geography and history are closely connected.

- **Resources** in an area were critical to early settlement.
- Early people developed vastly different cultures because of their environments.
- Geography has helped shape history and has affected the growth of societies.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Resources

- Materials found in the earth that people need and value
- Essential early resources included water, animals, fertile land, and stones for tools.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Geography Shapes Cultures

- People developed different cultures based on their environment.
- Some people developed religious beliefs based on the geography of their area.
- Geography affected the growth of civilizations. The first societies formed along rivers.
- Some geographic features protected areas from invasion.



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit

Geography Influences History

- People in areas with many natural resources could use them to get rich and to build powerful cities.
- Geography causes weather-related problems such as floods and food shortages.
- People can affect geography by planting trees, building lakes, or creating wastelands.



Previous



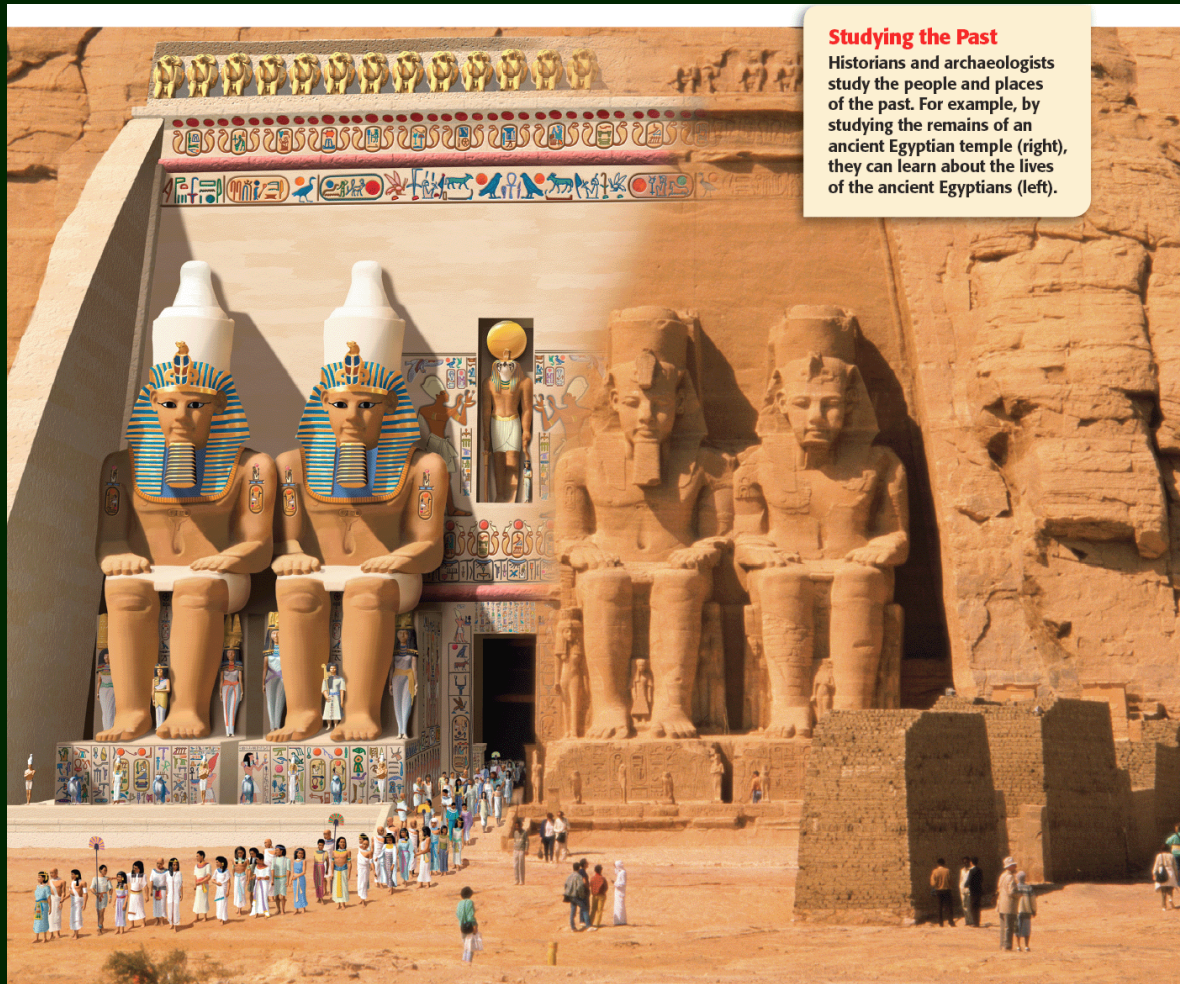
Next



Chapter
Menu



Exit



Studying the Past
Historians and archaeologists study the people and places of the past. For example, by studying the remains of an ancient Egyptian temple (right), they can learn about the lives of the ancient Egyptians (left).



Understanding the World

History can help us understand the world around us. For example, why do these buildings in San Francisco look the way they do? The answer is history. These buildings are in a neighborhood called Chinatown, where Chinese immigrants began settling in the 1800s.

Immigrants painted these houses bright colors like the houses in China. Chinese-style roofs and pillars were also added.

Chinese people who moved to California brought their language with them. By studying the languages spoken in a region, historians can learn who settled there.



Clues from the Past



This archaeologist is examining ancient pottery in Italy to learn about the past.

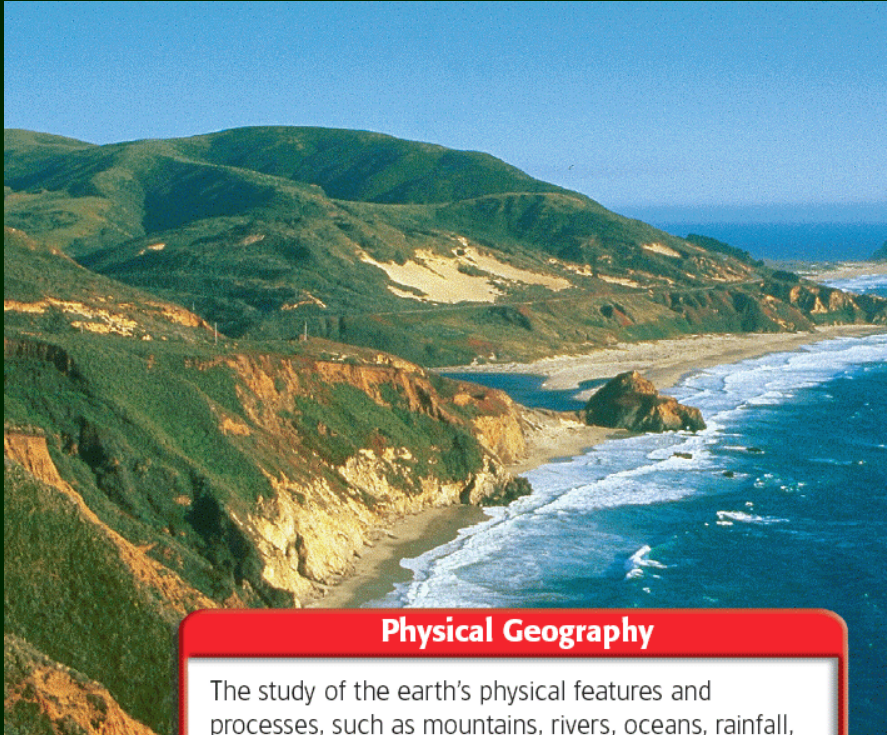


Written records, like this writing from a tomb in Egypt, are valuable sources of information about the past.



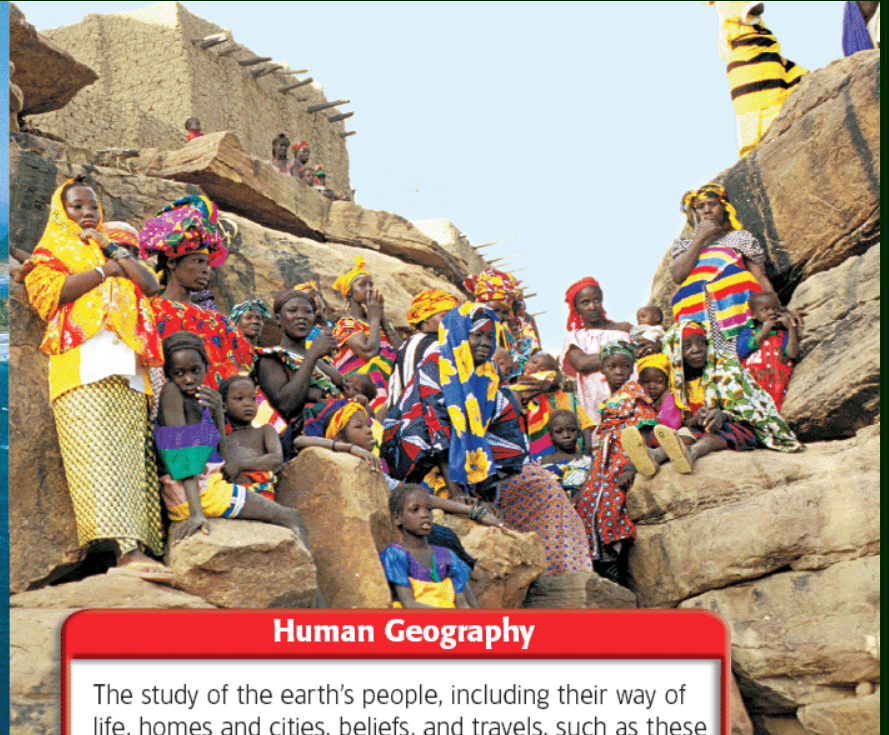
Sometimes, archaeologists must carefully reconstruct artifacts from hundreds of broken pieces, like they did with this statue of an Aztec bat god from Mexico.





Physical Geography

The study of the earth's physical features and processes, such as mountains, rivers, oceans, rainfall, and climate, including this section of California's coast



Human Geography

The study of the earth's people, including their way of life, homes and cities, beliefs, and travels, such as these members of the Dogon people in the country of Mali

Geography

The study of the earth's physical and cultural features



Previous



Next



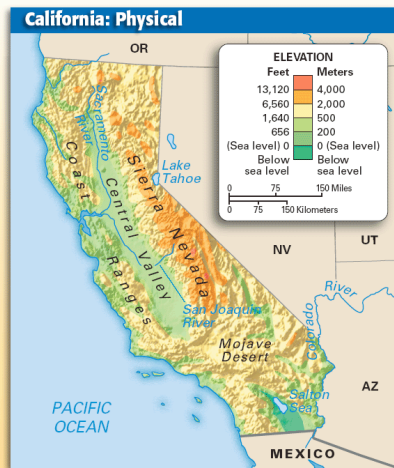
Chapter
Menu



Exit

Studying Maps

By studying and comparing maps, you can see how a place's physical and human features are related.



1 What are some of California's main physical features? Where are the state's highest mountains?



2 What climates are found in California? How are the climate regions related to California's physical features?

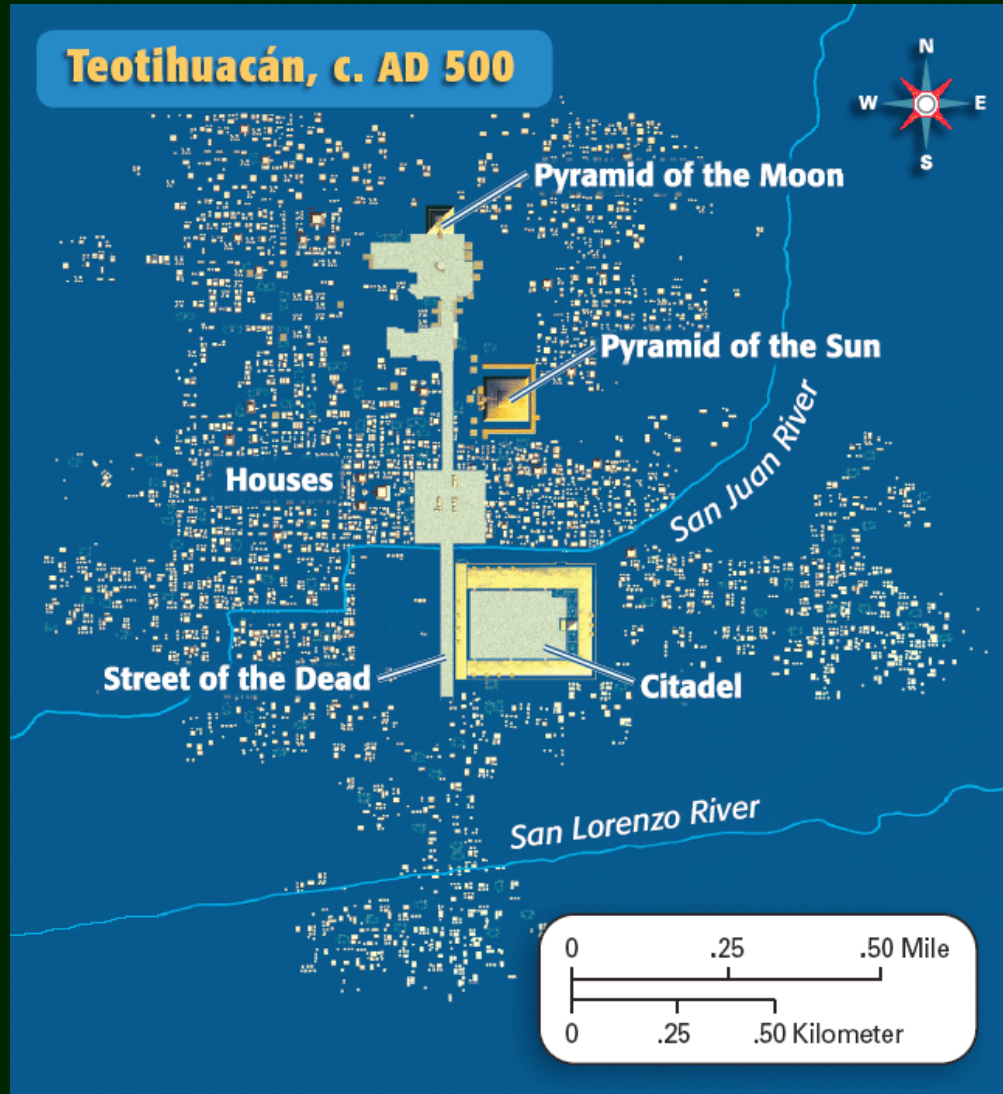


3 Where are California's two main population centers? What kind of climate is found in these areas?



4 How are California's roads related to its physical features? How are they related to its population centers?

Teotihuacán, c. AD 500



Previous



Next



Chapter
Menu

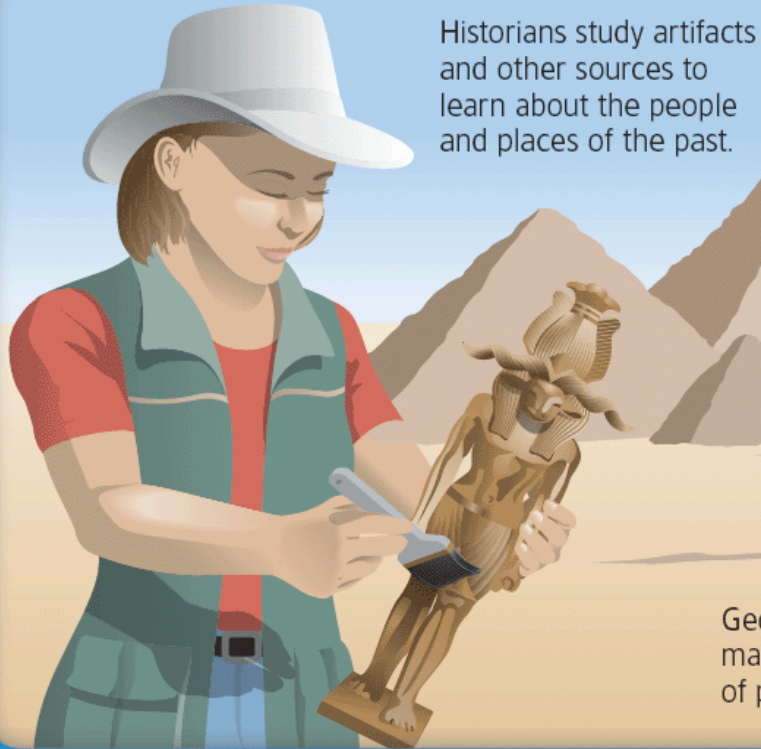


Exit

Visual Summary

Use the visual summary below to help you review the main ideas of the chapter.

QUICK FACTS



Historians study artifacts and other sources to learn about the people and places of the past.

Geographers use maps to study the locations of people and places.



Previous



Next



Chapter Menu



Exit