

CH 5.1 Review: Geography of Africa

- (Fill in your notes sheet as you watch the slide show)



The Sahara Desert



- World's largest desert, over 3,500,000 square miles (30% of Africa)
- Has one of the harshest climates in the world
- Few can survive in such harsh conditions



The Sahara

- Camels were introduced to Africa by early Roman traders
- Before camels, travelers could only make short trips from oasis to oasis using horses
- Camels allowed people to cross the Sahara in two months
- Berbers used their knowledge of the desert to lead caravans through the Sahara
- ***Look at page 299 in book***
- **READ PAGES 302-303**



Adaptation to the Sahara

- How do people adapt to living in a desert region?
- How would technology make living in the desert easier?



The Sahel



- Semi-arid strip of land that divides the desert from wetter areas
- Located between the Sahara and the savannah
- Very hot temperatures for most of the year



The Sahel

- Life revolves around water
- Agriculture is only possible near oases, wells and rivers that may run through it
- The Niger allows for plant life to grow such as small thorny bushes and mainly drought resistant plants
- Some pasture lands, fishing and trading
- Dried up lake beds create salt flats that are mined for trading
- READ PAGES 306-307



Cattle in the Sahel



Salt harvesting in Senegal

Adaptation to the Sahel

- What is desertification?
- How do people adapt to life in the Sahel?



The Savannah



- Has seasonal climate and is located between the Sahel and rain forest
- Spreads north and south
- Has one wet season and one dry season



The Savannah

- Has drought resistant plants, grasslands, and scattered trees
- Huge herds of migrating animals; species include zebras, gazelles, giraffes, lions, and cheetahs
- Most heavily human populated region
- Important area for food production such as farming as well as hunting
- Animals are always on the move in search of water and grazing areas
- Livestock (such as cattle) are important for milk, meat, hides, and represent wealth and status
- Nomadic lifestyle
- READ ATTACHED PAGE TO NOTES

Adaptation to the Savannah

- How do people adapt to life in the Savannah?
- What are the Savannah seasons like?



Tropical Rainforest



- Covers 8% of Africa
- Runs along the equator in West Africa
- Receives more than 60 inches of rain per year
- Temp. average 70 to 90 degrees
- Towering trees and thick vegetation

Rainforest



- Trees: Teak and mahogany
- Variety of fruits, nuts, seeds, leaves and flowers
- Attracts a variety of animals (many live in high forest treetops)
- Few hoofed animals (horses, cattle, deer) because of the tsetse fly (**see-tsee**) – harmful to humans and fatal to most hoofed animals
- Small scale farming for root crops, fishing, hunting and trade



Adaptation to the Rainforest

- How do people adapt to life in the rainforest?
- Explain the relationship between a rainforest family and a village family.

