

SS6G8: The student will be able to locate selected features of Europe.

a. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: the Danube River, Rhine River, English Channel, Mediterranean Sea, European Plain, the Alps, Pyrenees, Ural Mountains, Iberian Peninsula, and Scandinavian Peninsula.

b. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map the countries of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, and United Kingdom.

Location in the world

- Northern and Eastern Hemispheres
- Atlantic Ocean on the eastern side, & Pacific Ocean on the far western side (Russia). The Mediterranean Sea is to the south, and the Arctic Ocean is to the north.
- Physically attached to Asia
- Above Africa, but not attached

The Continent of Peninsulas (Europe is a Peninsula with lots of Peninsulas)

- Several large peninsulas are located in Europe. A peninsula is a piece of land surrounded by water on 3 sides
- Even the continent of Europe is surrounded by water on 3 sides. It is a giant peninsula.

Peninsulas of Europe you need to know about

- **Scandinavian Peninsula:** The western coast is deeply indented by fjords, while long parallel rivers and numerous lakes are found in the east. (*Fjords are long, narrow, deep inlets of the sea between high cliffs. Usually these are created by glaciers. They form U-shaped valleys.*)
- **Iberian Peninsula:** Coastal lowlands. The site of the major industrial cities. Hot summers, cold winters, and limited precipitation. Five major rivers drain the peninsula. At the nearest point, it is only 5 miles (8km) from the continent of Africa.

Waterways

- **Danube River:** 2nd longest in Europe. Starts in Germany & flows East through many countries. 300 tributaries of which only 30 are usable for trade and travel. Most important river running into the Black Sea. (**Longest River in Europe is the Volga in Russia.*)
- **Rhine River:** Begins at a glacier in Germany & flows North West into the English Channel. Has 4 different names. More castles on its shores than anywhere else in the world.
- **English Channel:** Width gradually narrows from 112 miles to a minimum of 21 miles, while its average depth decreases from 400 to 150 feet. Smallest of the shallow seas covering the continental shelf of Europe. Has a high military importance.

- **Mediterranean Sea:** almost completely enclosed by land: on the north by Europe, on the south by Africa, and on the east by Asia. Tourist Attraction. Has had many shipwrecks!

Mountains-

- **Alps:** stretch across much of the continent of Europe. The largest mountains in Europe. Located just above the country of Italy. Tourism is a big industry here.
- **Pyrenees:** Pyrenees border the Iberian Peninsula. They are in France and Spain. They completely engulf the tiny nation of Andorra. They create an important geographical barrier.
- **Ural Mountains:** system of mountains which extends from the Arctic Ocean southwards nearly to the Caspian Sea. Important as security throughout history. They separate Europe from Asia.

European Plain: primarily a rolling plain with an average elevation of about 180 m (about 590 ft). Agriculture! The west has a maritime climate very favorable to agriculture. It has enough rain in all seasons to keep fields green. Summers are warm but not hot, and winters are cold but not freezing.

Black Forest:

- European folk or fairy tales often take place in a deep, dark forest. They were a major part of the European landscape centuries ago.
- Most famous collection of folk tales in our life was that of Brothers Grimm.

SS6G10

SS6G10a: Compare how the location, climate, and natural resources of the United Kingdom and Russia affect where people live and how they trade.

SS6G10b: Compare how the location, climate, and natural resources of Germany and Italy affect where people live and how they trade.

United Kingdom

- Country of islands off the mainland of Europe
- Consists of Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales
- Center of Trade for Europe-10 ports and 7 airports
- Trading partners: France, Scandinavian Peninsula, Scotland, and US (#1)
- Mild **Climate**: rainfall throughout the year, warm-water ports (**Gulf Stream**), good farmland
- **Natural Resources** consists of coal, petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, lead, zinc, gold, tin, limestone, salt, clay, chalk, gypsum, potash, sand and slate
- 80% of residents work in service industries
- Most people live in urban (city) areas
- There are some areas of farming, but Great Britain has to import 1/3 of its food.
- Great Britain's capital, London, is a world center for trade and banking
- Great Britain also has manufacturing industries such as iron and steel and electronics that affect where people live.

Russia

- Covers 2 continents (Europe and Asia)
- Large nation and shares a border with 15 other nations
- It is home to over 5 million people
- Moscow, capital, is the busiest city
- Largest river is the Volga River- ½ of cities are built along this river
- Very cold in Russia because of its **location** near the Arctic Ocean, summers are mild
- The **Gulf Stream** does not affect Russia; therefore, due to its location, Russia's **climate** is severe in many areas.
- Russia does not get a lot of rainfall.
- Only about 10% of Russia's total land is suitable for agriculture.
- In some areas it is so cold that the soil is permanently frozen (**permafrost**) which hinders farming and economic development.
- Russia is unfavorably located in relation to major sea lanes of the world which further inhibits trade.
- **Natural Resources** are timber, gold, aluminum, coal, iron ore, and water which produces hydroelectric power

- It is difficult and expensive to harvest and transport these resources because of the harsh **climate** and remote **locations**.
- The lack of access to natural resources due to climate, terrain, and distance hinders trade.
- Russia's mining, manufacturing, and fishing industries are fueled by the country's **natural resources**.
- Many goods are transported by railroad because rivers and major ports are blocked by ice in the winter.
- Most citizens live in western Russia on the European Plain
- Russia's major cities, farms, grazing land for livestock, and the country's warmest temperatures are located in western Russia.

Germany

- Located on the European Plain; land is divided in three zones: the Alps Mountains in the South, the hills in the middle and the Plains in the north
- The Rhine River is the main river for trade; has an excellent highway system and has built many tunnels and bridges to improve trade
- The Rhine River allows Germany to transport goods to the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean
- Germany has 8 major ports and 14 major airports
- Due to Germany's **location**, its **climate** is moderate, mild summers & cool summers
- The **climate & location** are good for Germany's agriculture industry, which uses about half of Germany's land.
- Germany is in central Europe, so it can trade easily with other European countries
- Germany has enormous deposits of coal and iron ore that fuel a huge manufacturing industry known for steel production, automobiles, building materials, and many other items.
- These products are then transported to the Rhine River (Germany's major commercial waterway), and then on to the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean for trade.
- Most Germans live in western Germany
- The Ruhr Valley, in western German, is the most densely populated area in the country filled with factories, cities, and towns

Italy

- Located in southern Europe (boot-shaped); Northern border is the Alps and the Apennine Mountains run throughout the middle; its 2x the size of the state of Georgia, yet 7x as many people live there
- 2 islands belong to Italy: Sicily and Sardinia
- It has 7 airports and 8 ports, along with a very reliable system of roads, bridges, and tunnels
- Due to Italy's **location**, its **climate** is moderate with cool winters (colder in mountain regions) & warm winters

- Since Italy is close to central Europe, the northern cities can trade easily with other European countries.
- Since most of Italy is surrounded by water, it has many ports to ship and receive goods.
- Mountains cover about 70% of the country.
- Agriculture is strongest in the northern part of the country.
- Grapes grown in vineyards along the sides of mountains are Italy's most valuable crop. Italian grapes have made Italy the largest wine producer in the world.
- Italy has few mineral resources
- Italy has to import most of its raw materials for industry
- Tourism is the most important industry in Italy.
- Most people live in the northern part of Italy where most of Italy's industry and agriculture is located.