

**HOW DO THE  
PHYSICAL  
CHARACTERISTICS,  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES, AND  
CLIMATE IMPACT  
WHERE PEOPLE LIVE  
IN THE MIDDLE  
EAST?**

## **Standards:**

**SS7G7a. Explain how the distribution of oil has affected the development of Southwest Asia (Middle East).**

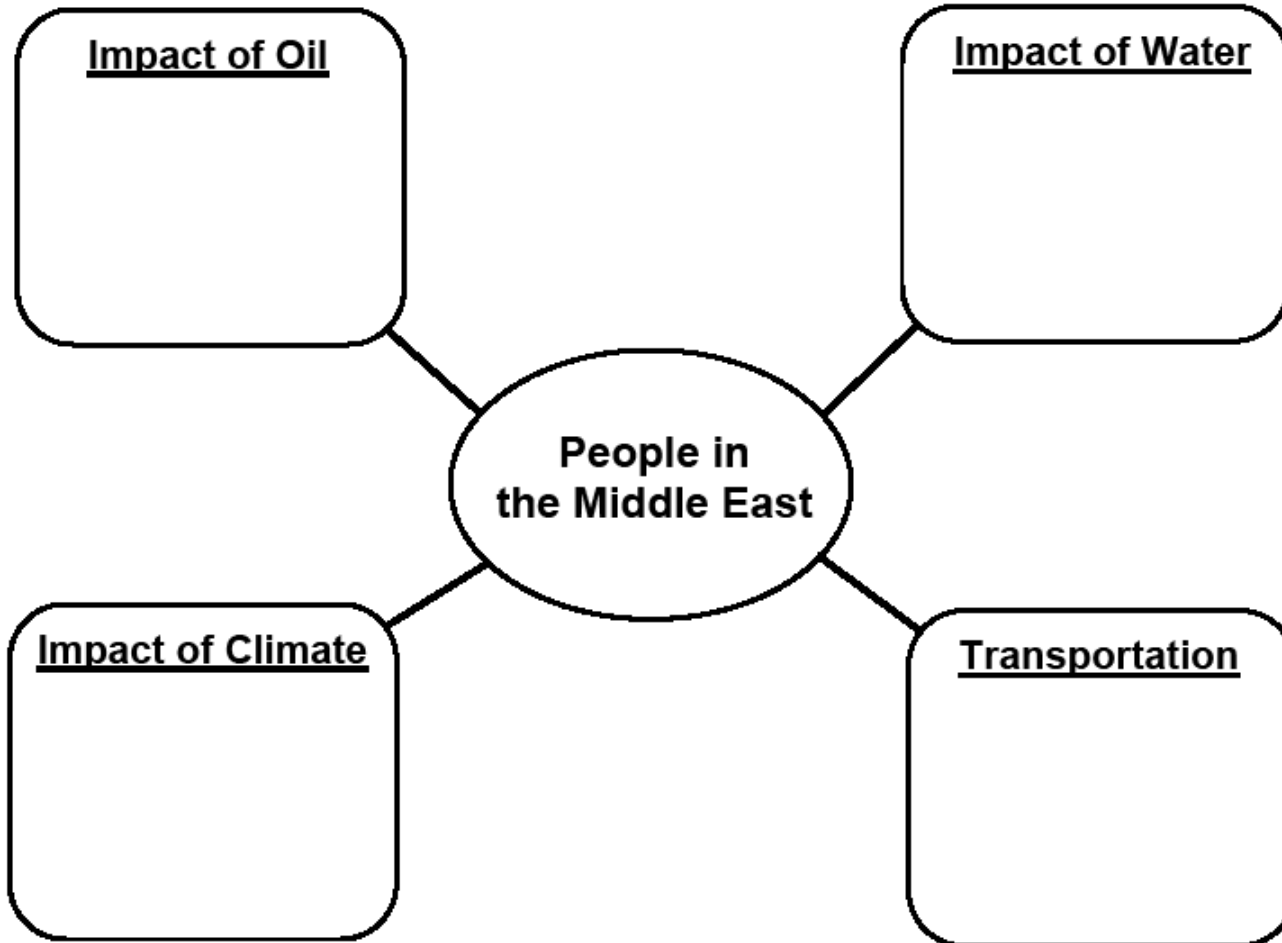
**SS7G7b. Describe how the deserts and rivers of Southwest Asia (Middle East) have affected the population in terms of where people live, the type of work they do, and how they travel.**

**SS7E7c. Explain the role of oil in these countries' economies.**

# IMPACT OF OIL AND PHYSICAL FEATURES ON THE MIDDLE EAST

Impact of Oil and Physical Features on the Middle East

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_



# PART I: CLIMATE IN THE MIDDLE



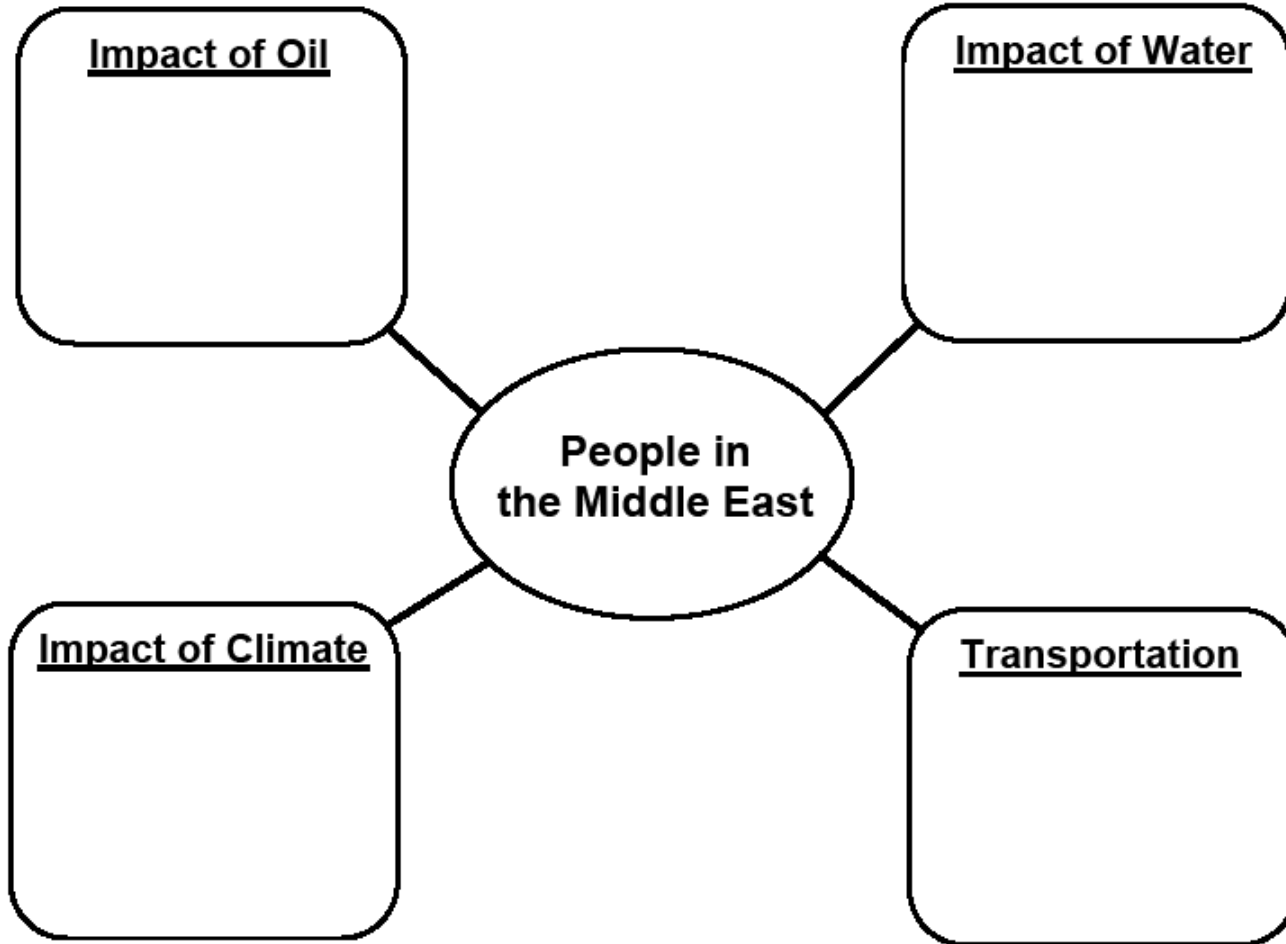
# HOW DOES CLIMATE AFFECT PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

- Much of the Middle East is desert or very dry land; therefore, most cities and people are located near water.
- There is little rainfall in the Middle East. Evaporation exceeds precipitation which makes the scarcity of water more serious.
- There are huge stretches of desert where few people live or work.

# IMPACT OF CLIMATE

Impact of Oil and Physical Features on the Middle East

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# PART II: TRANSPORTATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST



# TRANSPORTATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- Getting around the Middle East is often challenging. Many means of transportation have been adapted for different conditions.
- Many countries use buses. However, the extent and condition of public transportation varies by country. Turkey has a more modern bus system whereas Iraq has an outdated system.



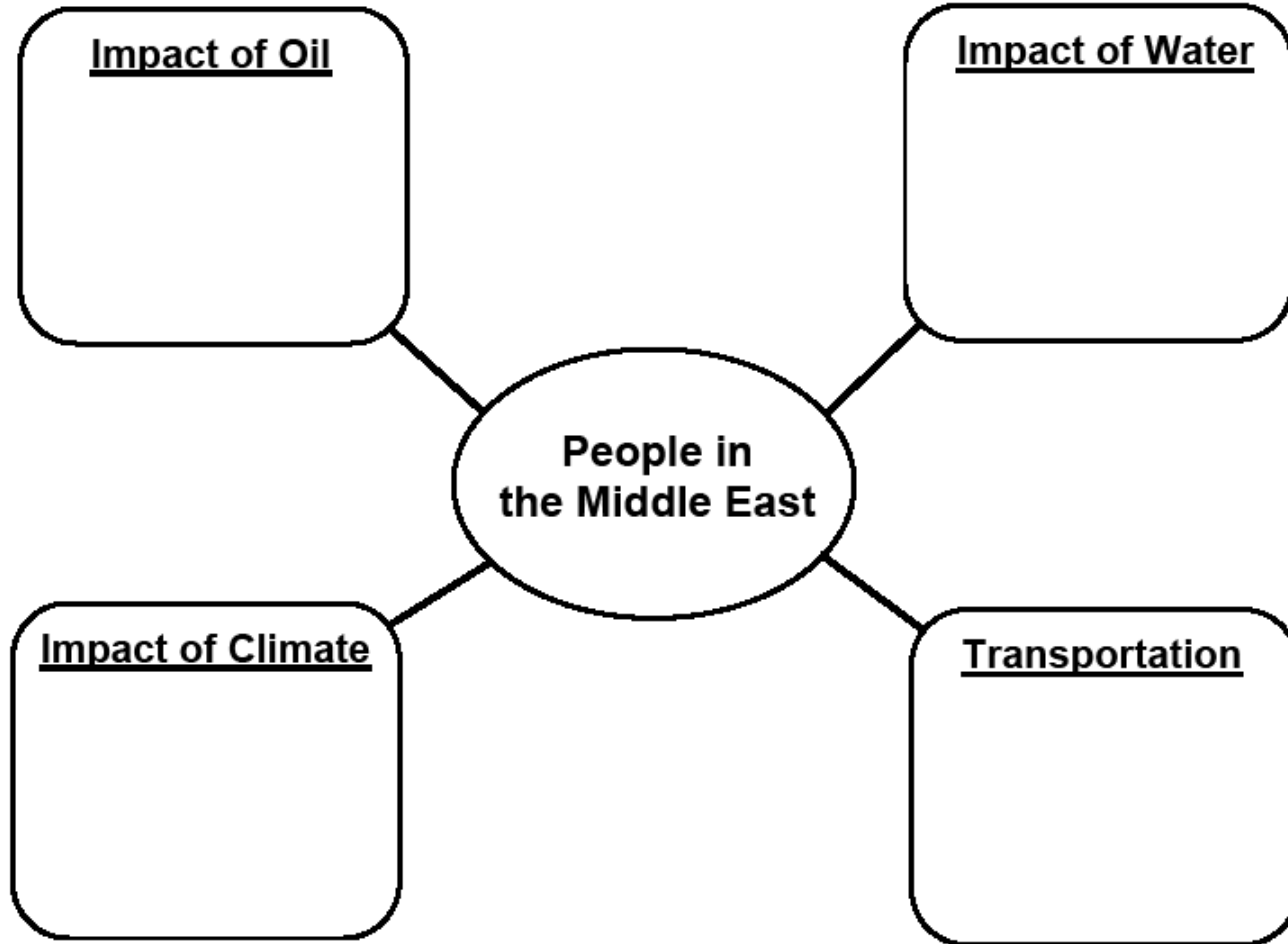
# TRANSPORTATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- In several countries, cars are used most frequently. In fact, countries such as Israel and Iraq have had to develop plans to deal with traffic jams and pollution from cars.
- Turkey and Iran have extensive road systems and train systems that connect cities.
- Afghanistan has the least modernized system of transportation. Most cities lack public transportation. People ride on bicycles, pile into buses or trucks [even on the roofs], walk, or

# TRANSPORTATION

Impact of Oil and Physical Features on the Middle East

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# PART III: WATER IN THE MIDDLE EAST



# WHAT IS THE LINK BETWEEN WATER AND POPULATION DENSITY?



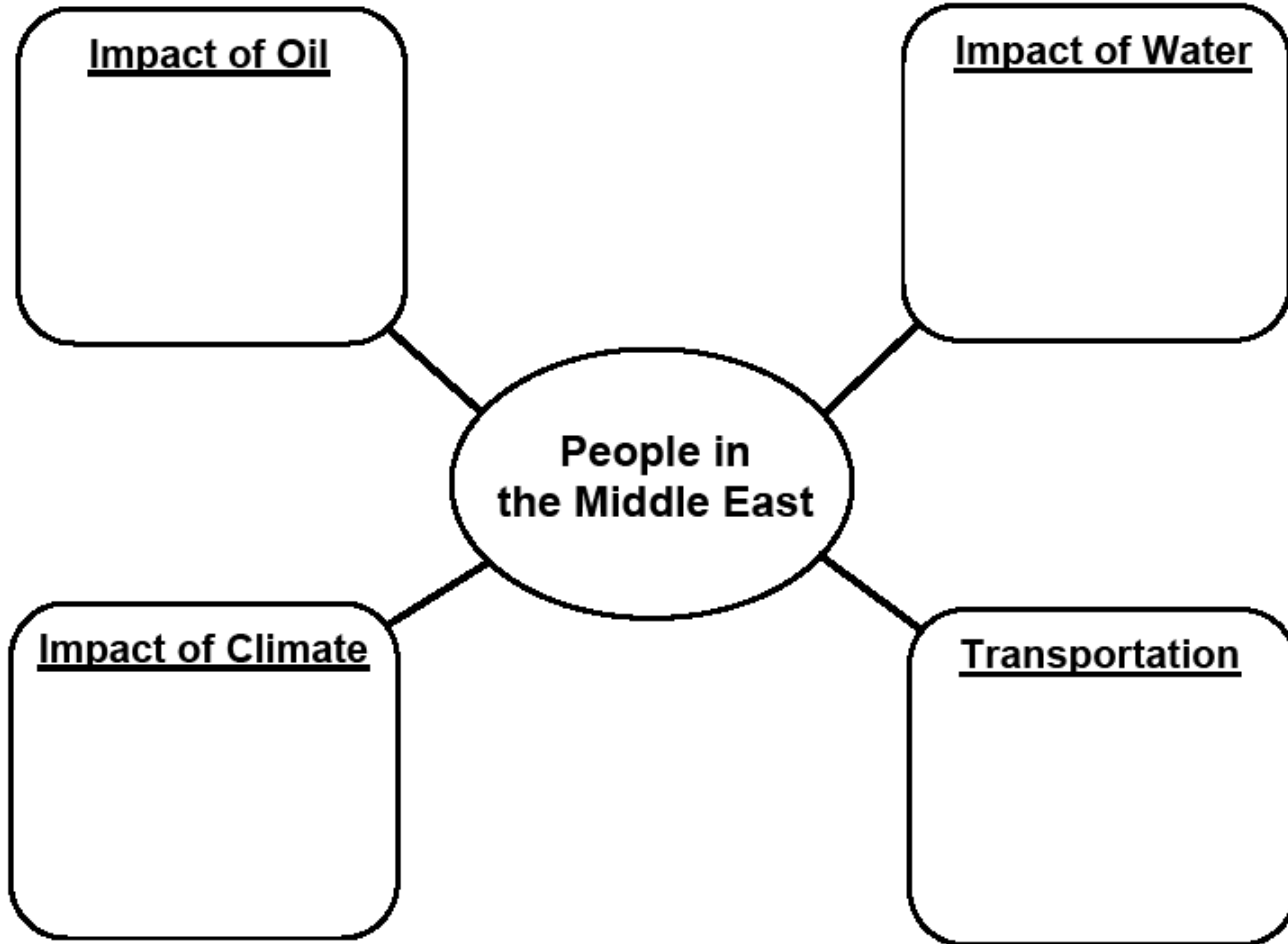
# WATER IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- The Middle East is mostly dry (arid) land or desert; therefore, the majority of people live near a source of water.
- Large cities have grown near water sources such as rivers or along the coast.
- Populations have grown around port cities as well because of employment opportunities in transportation, ship building, and repair.
- There is little land for farming. If farming occurs, it occurs near rivers and river valleys or extensive irrigation is used.

# IMPACT OF WATER

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# PART IV: DISTRIBUTION OF OIL



# WHY IS OIL IMPORTANT?

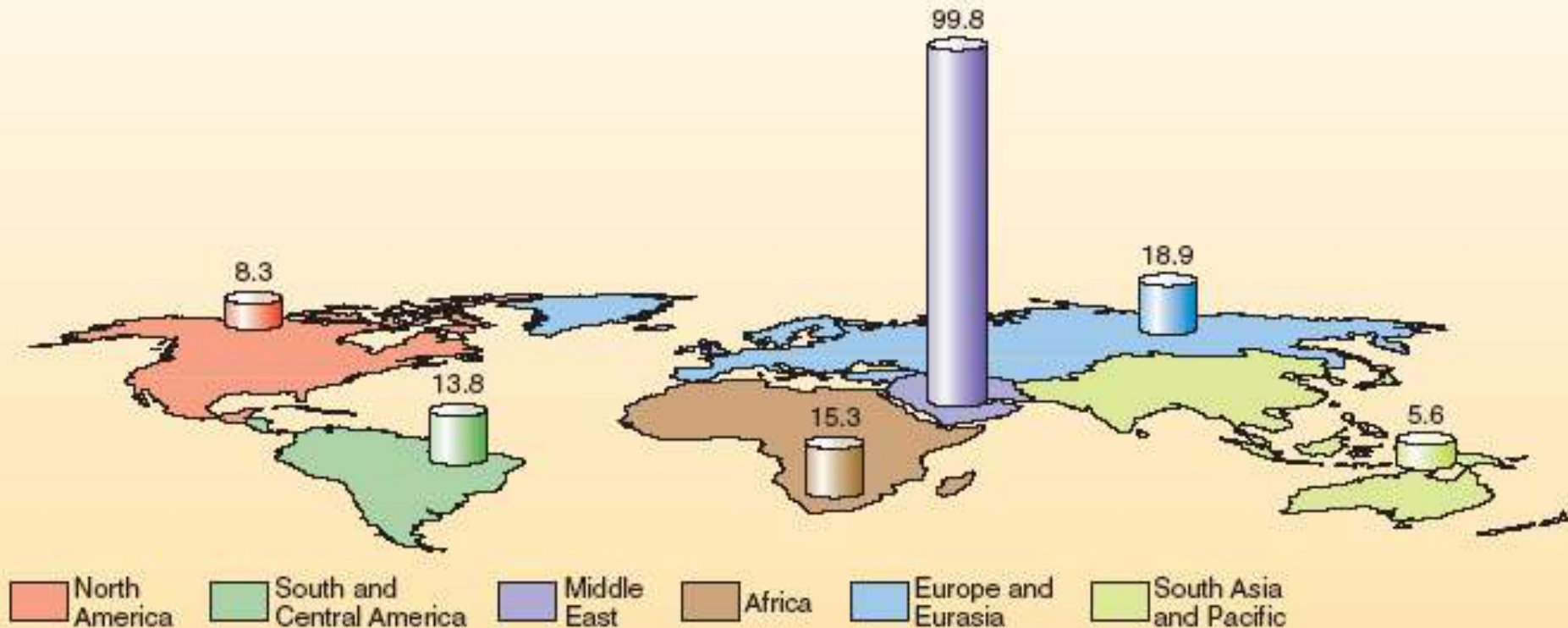
<http://www.theatlantic.com/video/archive/2013/08/whats-in-crude-oil-and-how-do-we-use-it/278645/>

**How would our lives  
be different if we  
didn't have oil?**

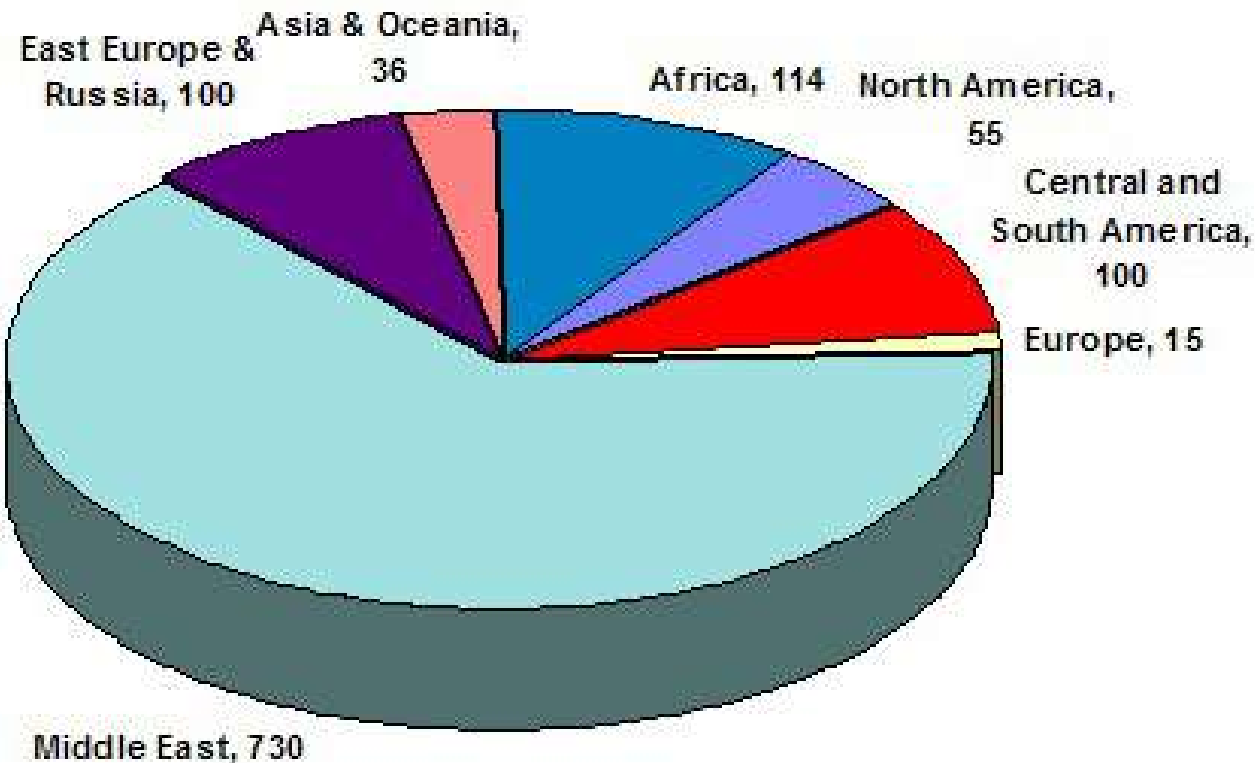


**According to the image below, 99.8% of the world's oil comes from the Middle East.**

*What does this mean for countries in the Middle East? What is the problem then?*

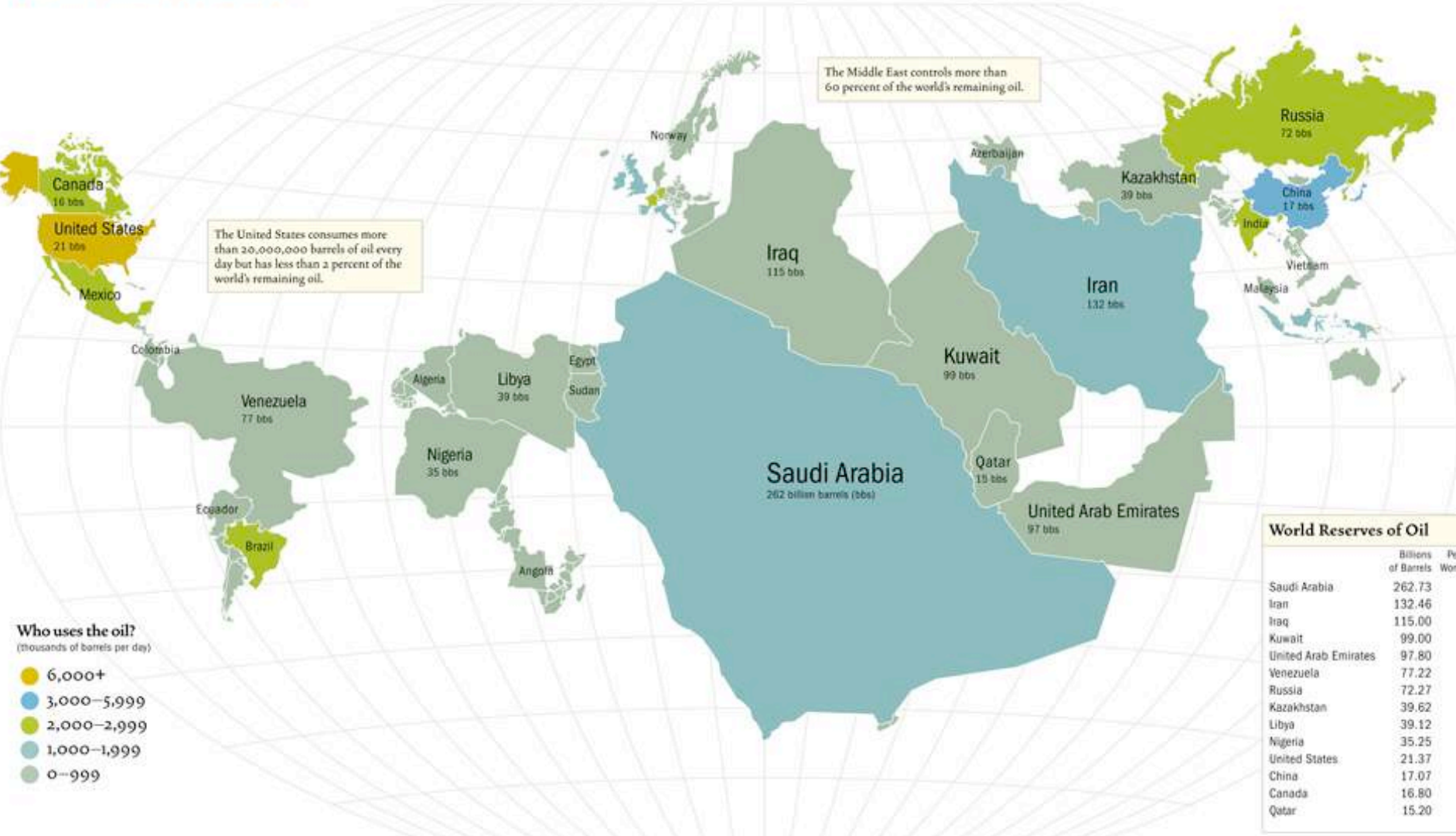


## World Crude Oil Reserves (Billions of Barrels)



World Total Petroleum Consumption: 83 million barrels/day  
US Petroleum Consumption: 20 million barrels/day

# Who has the oil?



Each country's size is proportional to the amount of oil it contains (oil reserves); Source: BP Statistical Review Year-End 2004 & Energy Information Administration

# OIL IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- Oil is not distributed equally in the Middle East. Some countries have a lot of oil and some countries very little oil.

*Identify a country in the Middle East that has a lot of oil.*

*Identify a country in the Middle East that has very little oil.*

*Is the oil concentrated in a particular area in the Middle East?*

*Do you THINK people would live in a place with oil even if it doesn't have the best physical features (including access to fresh water)? WHY?*

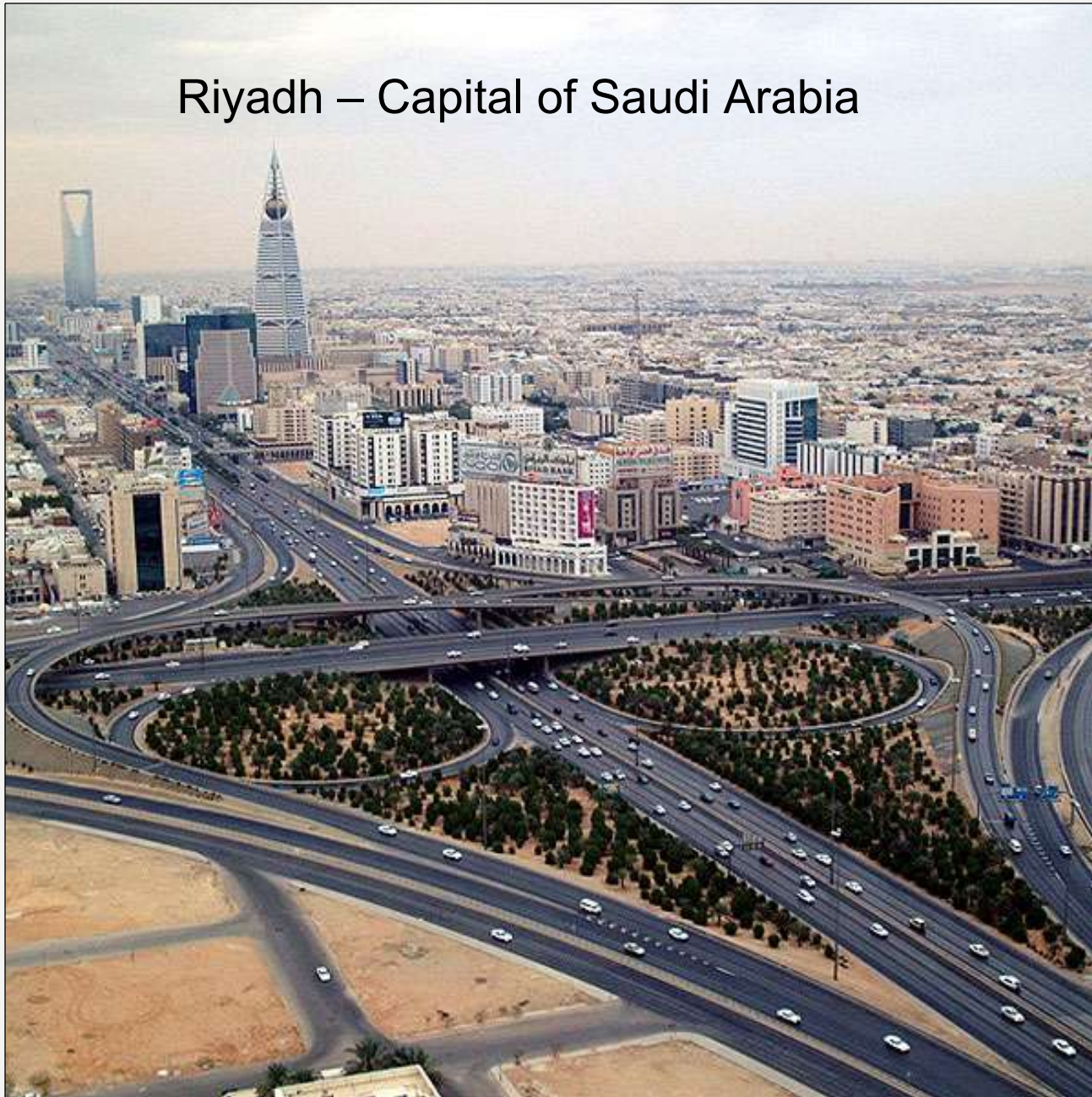
# WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF HAVING OIL?

- Oil-producing countries have enjoyed tremendous growth in national wealth and an improved standard of living.
  - Citizens that live in these countries may have the access to quality houses, food, health care, education, jobs, transportation, communication, and luxury items.
- The countries have used the money to build modern buildings, schools, factories, hospitals, etc.
  - Also, they have been able to pave old roads and build new ones.
- The life expectancy in these countries has increased by over 15 years because of advancements in healthcare, hospitals, medicines, education, etc.

# OIL IN THE MIDDLE EAST

- The sale of oil has earned extraordinary amounts of money for oil rich countries; however, not all countries have prospered.
- Oil rich Iran and Iraq have suffered from war and the mismanagement of oil money; whereas, Saudi Arabia has used money from oil to transform from a poor society to a wealthy one.

## Riyadh – Capital of Saudi Arabia



# Kuwait City – Capital of Kuwait





# Kabul – Capital of Afghanistan





School in Kabul, Afghanistan

# HAVE

# VS.

# HAVE NOT



# WHAT IS THE LINK BETWEEN OIL FIELDS OR REFINERIES AND POPULATION DENSITY?



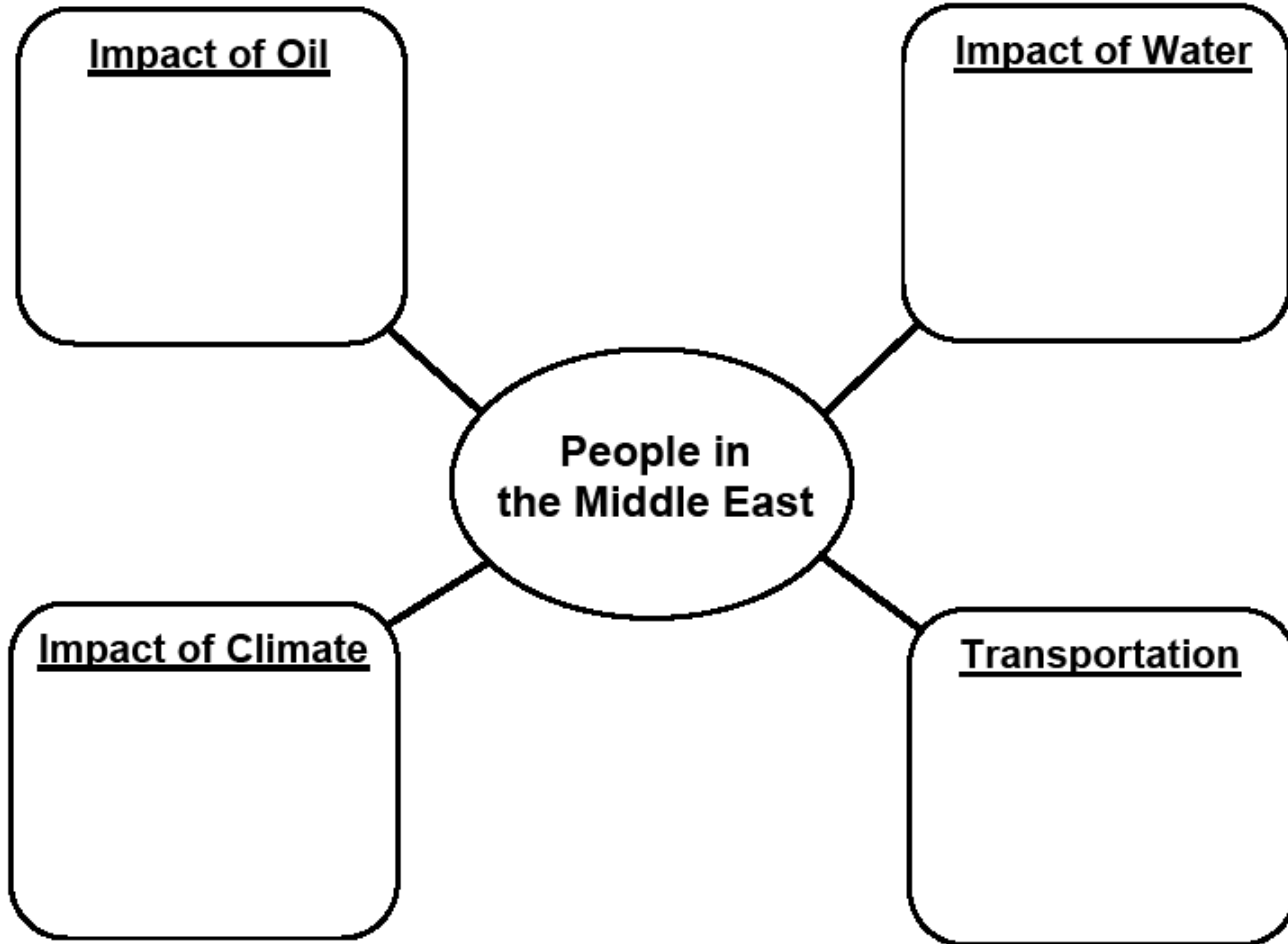
**POPULATIONS  
ARE LARGER  
NEAR OIL FIELDS  
OR REFINERIES.  
CITIES GROW IN  
THESE AREAS  
AND MORE JOBS  
ARE AVAILABLE.**



# IMPACT OF OIL

Impact of Oil and Physical Features on the Middle East

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# Tweet All About It

Write a tweet about today's lesson. Keep it short and to the point, but include enough information to prove you understand the concept.



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