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Africa Unit: Part I & II

In this packet we will explore Africa by looking at its geography, movements of people, creation of civilizations, and spread of religious views

Part 1: Geography

Directions: For this section as a group you will read through the documents. Underline important information in each document. One all of the documents are read answer the question, how did Africa's geography impact its early people? Did it help or hinder them?

Document 1 -

Africa Spread across the equator. It includes a broad range of Earth's environments – from steamy coastal plains to snow-capped mountain peaks. Some parts of Africa suffer from constant drought, while others receive over 200 inches of rain a year. Vegetation varies from sand dunes and rocky wastes to dense green rain forests. Interaction with the African environment has created unique cultures and societies. Each group found ways to adapt to the land and the resources it offers.

Document 2 -

The Continent now known as Africa is a very large landmass located to the south of Western Europe and to the southwest of what we now call the 'Middle East.' It is bordered in the north by the Mediterranean Sea, in the east by the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, and in the west by the Atlantic Ocean. The Continent has many environments, ranging from the most arid of desert wastes to tropical rain forest, savanna, vast swamps, and even snow-capped mountains.

Document 3 -

Each African environment offers its own challenges. The deserts are largely unsuitable for human life and also hamper people's movements to more welcoming climates. The largest of the deserts are the Sahara in the north and the Kalahari in the south. Stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red sea, the Sahara covers an area roughly the size of the United States. Only a small part of the desert contains sand dunes; the rest is made up of flat, grey wasteland of gravel.

Document 4 -

Another very different region of Africa is the rain forest. With trees as tall as 150 feet and deadly insects, it was not an area of habitation. Africa's rain

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forests have a rich variety of animal life; a 6-kilometer (4-mile) patch could contain up to 400 bird species, 150 butterfly species, and 60 species of amphibians. Important mammals include African forest elephants, gorillas, the black colobus monkey, and the okapi, a donkey-like giraffe. The driver ant is one of Africas most aggressive rain forest species. Driver ants move in columns of up to 20 million across the rain forest floor, and will eat anything from toxic millipedes to reptiles and small mammals.

Document 5 -

The northern coast and the southern tip of Africa have welcoming Mediterranean-type climates and fertile soil. Because these coastal areas are so fertile, they are densely populated. However, most people live on the savannas, or grassy plains. Africa's savannas are not just endless plain. They include mountainous highlands and swampy tropical stretches.

Document 6 -

Africa's earliest people were nomadic hinter-gatherers; however they eventually learned to domesticate plants and animals around 6000 BC. To survive, many early farmers living in the East near the Nile River Valley. Agriculture drastically changed the way Africans lived. Growing their own food enabled them to build permanent shelters in one location. Settlements expanded because reliable food supplies led to longer, healthier lives and an increased birthrate. The increased food supple also freed some member of the community to practice activities such as working metal, making pottery and crafting jewelry.

Answer, How did Africa's geography impact its early people? hinder them? (7-10 Sentences)	Did it help or

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Part 2: Migration

Directions: For this part of the packet please get a textbook. As a group read pages 220 – 224 then answer the following questions:

1.	Define: Migration			
2.	What are "push-pull factors"?			
3.	Give 3 examples of push factors: a. b. c.			
4.	Give 3 examples of pull factors: a. b. c.			
5.	Which cause, push or pull, is most important in MODERN migrations? Why?			
6.	What are some effects migration has newly populated areas?			
7.	Who were the Bantu people? Why did the migrate? What impact did their migration have on Africa?			

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8.	. How does migration impact our world today? If Syria have been migrating. Is this because of factors? What are some positive impacts of the some negative impacts of this migration? (At I	push factors or pull is migration? What are	
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