Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

West Africa Notes

**West Africa: Plains and Rivers**

* Vast Plains
* Niger River: Most \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ River
	+ 2,600 Miles Long
	+ Empties into Gulf of Guinea
	+ Brings Life Giving Water
	+ Important Transportation Route
	+ Inland Delta

**West Africa: Climate and Vegetation**

* **Zonal** Climate Region
	+ (Organized by Zones)
* From North to South
	+ Sahara Desert
	+ Steppe
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**:(an area of tall grasses and scattered trees and shrubs)
	+ Humid Tropical

**West Africa: The Sahel**

* **The Sahel**:
	+ A narrow strip of land that divides the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from wetter areas
* Steppe Climate
	+ Rainfall Varies Greatly from Year to Year
	+ In Some Years it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rains
* Becoming more like the Sahara Desert

**The Spread of the Desert**

* Causes:
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Cutting Down Trees
* Without Plants Wind Blows Soil Away
* **Desertification**: (the spread of desert like conditions)

**West Africa: Resources**

* **Agricultural**
	+ Cacao
		- Ghana is World’s Leading Producer of
	+ Coffee, Coconuts, and Peanuts
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** = Most Valuable Resource of West Africa
* **Minerals**
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Gold, and Iron Ore
	+ Bauxite (used to make aluminum)

**West Africa History: Empires**

* Kingdom of Ghana
	+ 800 AD
	+ Controlled Gold and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Trade
* Kingdom of Mali
	+ 1300 AD
	+ Controlled \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Supported Artists and Scholars
* Kingdom of Songhai
	+ 1500s AD
	+ **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
	+ Weakened by Invasion

**West Africa History: Atlantic Slave Trade**

* Began by Europeans in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* European colonies in America needed labor to work large \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Families split apart
* Millions of Africans taken from their home
* Ended in 1800s

**West African History: European Colonization**

* European countries claimed West Africa in 1800s
* Controlled until World War II
* All countries became independent by 1974

**West African Culture**

* Influences
	+ African
	+ European
	+ Islam
* Hundreds of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Western-style and Traditional Clothing
* Houses
	+ Mud and Straw
	+ Extended Families

**West Africa Religions**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ North
* Christianity
	+ South
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Traditional religions
	+ Natural Objects have Spirits
		- Water, animals, trees

**Nigeria**

* Largest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Africa
* Capital moved from Lagos to Abuja
* Oil is most important resource
* Lagos
	+ Industrial center
	+ Most Populous city in West Africa
* Poverty
	+ High Birth Rate
	+ Corrupt Government

**Coastal Countries**

* Small Countries
* Struggle to develop \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and stabilize governments
* Senegal and Gambia
	+ Produce peanuts
	+ Tourism
* Guinea
	+ Bauxite

**Coastal Countries**

* Guinea-Bissau
	+ Undeveloped \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ resources
* Cape Verde
	+ Democratic Government
* Liberia
	+ Founded by freed slaves
* Sierra Leone
	+ Civil War
* Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire
	+ Rich Natural Resources
		- Gold, timber, agriculture

**Sahel Countries**

* Problems Faced by Sahel Countries
	+ Expanding Desert
	+ Difficulty feeding people
* Mauritania
	+ Ethnic tensions
	+ Crowded into cities
* Niger
	+ Very little farmland

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** caused by drought and locusts

**Sahel Countries**

* Chad
	+ Depends on farming and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Lake Chad
	+ Lake is evaporating
* Mali
	+ Mostly desert
	+ One of the poorest countries in the world
* Burkina Faso
	+ Poor, few resources
	+ Conflicts hurt economy

**Biography: Kwame Nkrumah**

* Politician from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Founder of Pan-Africanism
* Declared Ghana’s independence in 1957
* Leader of Ghana for 9 years as President for Life
* Overthrown in Coup, forced into exile