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