



# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **9th Grade** | Unit 7

---

# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 907

## Regions Of The World

INTRODUCTION |3

### 1. REGION: A DEFINITION 5

---

NATURE OF REGIONS |6

TYPES OF REGIONS |6

RELATIONSHIPS OF REGIONS |7

SELF TEST 1 |10

### 2. WORLD REGIONAL PATTERNS: A SURVEY 13

---

GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS |15

CLIMATIC REGIONS |23

RACIAL REGIONS |24

RELIGIOUS REGIONS |27

SELF TEST 2 |40

### 3. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REGIONS 41

---

POLITICAL REGIONS |41

ECONOMIC REGIONS |45

THE EUROPEAN UNION |46

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION |49

NAFTA |50

ASEAN |50

GATT |51

SELF TEST 3 |53



**LIFEPAC Test is located in the center of the booklet.** Please remove before starting the unit.

**Author:**

Elizabeth von Dohlen

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Richard W. Wheeler, M.A.Ed.

**Editor:**

Richard Morse

**Consulting Editor:**

Howard Stitt, Th.M., Ed.D.

**Revision Editor:**

Alan Christopherson, M.S.

**Westover Studios Design Team:**

Phillip Pettet, Creative Lead

Teresa Davis, DTP Lead

Nick Castro

Andi Graham

Jerry Wingo



**804 N. 2nd Ave. E.**

**Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759**

© MCMXCVI by Alpha Omega Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. LIFEPAK is a registered trademark of Alpha Omega Publications, Inc.

All trademarks and/or service marks referenced in this material are the property of their respective owners. Alpha Omega Publications, Inc. makes no claim of ownership to any trademarks and/or service marks other than their own and their affiliates, and makes no claim of affiliation to any companies whose trademarks may be listed in this material, other than their own.

# Regions Of The World

---

## Introduction

To understand the world and its people, we must consider how it is divided. Then we should think of physical barriers: mountains, oceans, and deserts. These physical barriers are not the only barriers, however. Others are often just as impossible: culture, climate, race, politics, and economics, for example.

In this LIFEPAAC®, we will consider these other barriers. As you work through the LIFEPAAC and ponder the implications of the facts it contains, try to analyze each type of barrier and decide whether it is God-given or the result of man's sinful nature. This study will give you insights into today's world and will be of great assistance in communicating the Gospel effectively despite artificial barriers.

## Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Define a region.
2. List six major types of regions.
3. Explain how types of regions are related to each other.
4. List the major geographical regions.
5. Describe the major climatic regions.
6. Name the major races and racial regions.
7. Describe five major religious regions.
8. Explain the current political system and the breakdown of the three-bloc system.
9. Describe the major economic regions.
10. Discuss the growing free trade movement.

Survey the LIFE PAC. Ask yourself some questions about this study and write your questions here.

A large rectangular area with horizontal green lines for writing questions. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box.

# 1. REGION: A DEFINITION

In this section, you will have an overview of six major divisions of the earth and how they are interrelated. This overview may raise more

questions at first than it answers; however, these questions will be covered in subsequent sections of the LIFEPAAC.

## SECTION OBJECTIVES

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Define a region.
2. List five major types of regions.
3. Explain how types of regions are related to each other.

## VOCABULARY

**Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.**

**animism** (an' u miz um). A belief that lifeless objects have spirits.

**climate** (kli' mit). The average weather of a region over a long period.

**continent** (kon' tu nunt). A large land mass.

**desert** (dez' urt). A barren region that has little or no rainfall.

**equator** (i kwā' tur). The imaginary line dividing the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere.

**middle latitudes** (mid' ul lat' u tüdes). A climatic region halfway between the equator and the poles.

**interdependent** (in ter' di pen' dent) Unable to work or function without each other within a group.

**Islam** (is' lām). The religion founded by Muhammad.

**Judeo-Christian** (jü dē' ō kris' chun). The culture of the Western world.

**nationalism** (nash' u na liz em) The belief that a nation would be better off acting alone rather than with other nations; Devotion to the interests of the nation.

**prime meridian** (přim mu rid' ē un). The imaginary line that separates the Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere.

**region** (rē' jun). An area having a dominant characteristic.

**secular ideologies** (sek' yu lur ī dē ol' u jēz). Nonreligious ways of looking at the world.

**superficial** (sü' per fish' ul) On the surface, trivial, not significant.

**tropics** (trop' ıks). The hot region near the equator.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, ĩce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʒh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## NATURE OF REGIONS

Each area of the world where a certain characteristic is common to the people who live there is termed a **region**. The list of possible characteristics is almost endless. One who wanted to divide the world arbitrarily into regions could choose any characteristic he wished. For example, he could find out where people chew bubble gum, regular gum, sugarless gum, or no gum at all. If he found fairly large areas of the earth where only one type of gum was chewed, he could develop a region of gum chewing based on his findings. Such a procedure sounds

a bit ridiculous, but it serves to illustrate the way in which regions can be designated.

Only a very few characteristics are important enough to make an area a major region. To be worth extensive study, a regional characteristic must have a significant effect upon a majority of its population. Since most regional characteristics serve to isolate one region from others, they are of such importance that we must accord them our thoughtful consideration.

As we begin our study of the regions of the earth, let us carefully consider the meaning of each characteristic.



### Complete these sentences.

- 1.1 Mountains and oceans are examples of \_\_\_\_\_ barriers.
- 1.2 Understanding regions should help us communicate the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.3 A region is an area in which a certain \_\_\_\_\_ is dominant.
- 1.4 To be worth studying, a characteristic must have a \_\_\_\_\_ upon a majority of the people of a region.
- 1.5 Most regional characteristics \_\_\_\_\_ one region from others.

## TYPES OF REGIONS

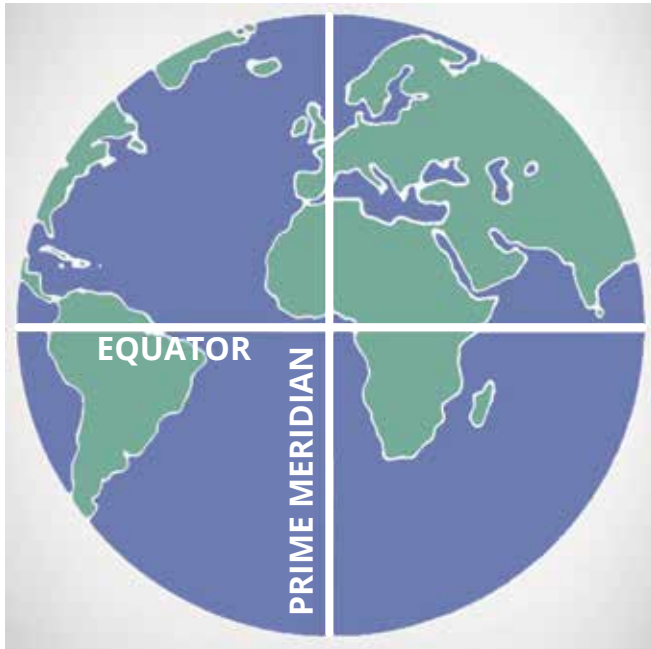
In this LIFE PAC, we will consider six major types of regions with the most important features of each one. Then, we will do an in-depth study of one of them.

**Geographic.** The most obvious regions of the world are those created by physical barriers such as mountains and oceans. For centuries, these barriers were very difficult for man to cross. Rarely could he journey across oceans or mountain ranges. Today, the barriers between men are based more on attitudes than on geographic features.

The globe is divided geographically in several ways: through the **equator** into the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere, or

through the **prime meridian** into the Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere. The Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere have importance mainly to the study of **climate**. The Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere are important for both political and economic considerations. Geographically, they are relatively minor divisions.

The major geographic divisions are the four land regions: Europe-Asia-Africa, North America-South America, Australia, and Antarctica. For ease of study, these divisions have been broken down even further into seven **continents**: Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, North America, South America, and Antarctica. We will consider



the geographical makeup of each continent in a later section.

**Climatic.** The climate of the entire earth before the Great Flood is believed to have been similar to the warm, humid atmosphere in a greenhouse. With the breaking up of the dense cloud cover, variations occurred which divided the earth into climatic regions. We will consider four of these climatic regions: the **tropics**, the **middle latitudes**, **deserts**, and polar areas. Each of these regions has a profound effect on the people who inhabit it.

**Racial.** The people of the earth can be classified into different groups based on their physical characteristics and the geographic origin of their ancestors. These divisions are called races. They are **superficial** divisions because all of humanity is descended from Adam and, therefore, of one family. These divisions allow us to classify people in order to discuss their differences and similarities. Traditionally, western scholars have classified humans into three races: Caucasoid, Mongoloid, and Negroid. However, modern methods of blood analysis have resulted in several new divisions, one of

which, a nine-fold division, will be presented in this LIFEPAAC.

**Religious.** The main religious divisions are **Judeo-Christian**, **Islam**, Eastern religions, **animism**, and **secular ideologies** (non-religious ways of looking at the world). Many smaller religious divisions exist, but these main religious divisions provide an adequate base from which to consider them and the various cultures founded upon them in the world.

**Political.** Between World War II and 1991, the world was essentially divided into three main political regions called *blocs*: the Free World Bloc, the Communist Bloc, and the Third World Bloc. The fall of Soviet power and the discrediting of communism shattered this simple model and ended the era known as the Cold War. In its aftermath, the world has divided into nations, some of which maintain loosened ties to each other. The unity that came from the communist-free world conflict has been lost. The new world political system can best be described as **nationalism**.

**Economic.** Modern transportation and communication have brought about a tremendous increase in international trade. Nations have become more **interdependent** as trade has increased. One nation will now specialize in certain trade goods and depend upon another nation for what they do not produce themselves. As this mutual dependence has grown, nations have begun to form economic spheres or regions. The nations within these spheres have fewer trade restrictions between themselves than they do with outsiders. These free-trade zones or economic spheres are a growing trend in our world today.

## RELATIONSHIPS OF REGIONS

No region exists in isolation. All regions are related to one another. Each one has an effect on the others.

Geography and climate are closely related. Some mountain ranges, for example, cause certain types of climate. Climates affect the people



who live in them. According to the type of climate, people develop certain lifestyles. These modes of living become a part of the culture of a particular area.

Politics and economics play an important role in the culture of a region. What kind of economic political ideology a person holds affects how he lives. We should bear in mind that none of these factors exists in a vacuum, totally isolated from all the others.



**Answer these questions using complete sentences.**

**1.6** What kinds of barriers are mountains and oceans? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.7** What are the four hemispheres? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.8** What are the four basic land divisions of the globe? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.9** What are the seven continents? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.10** What was the climate of the world like before the Great Flood? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.11** What four climatic regions will be covered in this LIFE PAC? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Complete these sentences.**

- 1.12** Racial classifications are based on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.13** The three traditional racial divisions are \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.14** \_\_\_\_\_ is the new political system since the collapse of communism.
- 1.15** The five religious divisions covered in this LIFE PAC are:
- a. \_\_\_\_\_                      b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_                      d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.16** The collapse of the Soviet Union's power ended the era known as \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.17** \_\_\_\_\_ are a growing trend as nations increase their economic interdependence.
- 1.18** Between World War II and 1991, the world was divided into three political blocs: \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.19** Racial divisions are \_\_\_\_\_ because all men are descended from Adam.

**Answer true or false.**

- 1.20** \_\_\_\_\_ The different types of regions have little or no effect upon each other.
- 1.21** \_\_\_\_\_ Geography and climate are closely related.
- 1.22** \_\_\_\_\_ A person's life style is affected both by the climate and his ideological beliefs.
- 1.23** \_\_\_\_\_ Each regional characteristic exists in a vacuum having no relationship with any other characteristic.



**Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test.** The Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

# SELF TEST 1

**Match these terms** (each answer, 2 points).

- |             |   |                 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>1.01</b> | _____ We live in the Free-World bloc.     | a. geographical |
| <b>1.02</b> | _____ We have much rain in our region.    | b. racial       |
| <b>1.03</b> | _____ We are Negroid.                     | c. political    |
| <b>1.04</b> | _____ We live in the Southern Hemisphere. | d. climatic     |
|             |   | e. religious    |

**Complete the following sentences using these terms** (each answer, 3 points).

- |            |          |                |
|------------|----------|----------------|
| attitudes  | Gospel   | prime meridian |
| continents | climates |                |

- 1.05** The Eastern Hemisphere is separated from the Western Hemisphere by the \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.06** Barriers can be \_\_\_\_\_ as well as mountains, oceans, or climates.
- 1.07** The land of the earth is divided into seven \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.08** Understanding regions should help us communicate the \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Answer these questions** (each question, 5 points).

- 1.09** What is a region? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.010** How do we know if a regional characteristic is worth studying? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.011** What are the four hemispheres?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. \_\_\_\_\_

**1.012** Name four of the characteristics used to divide the world into regions for this LIFEPAK.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. \_\_\_\_\_

**Write the letter of the correct answer on each line** (each answer, 2 points).

**1.013** Climate affects a person's \_\_\_\_\_ .

- a. race                      b. lifestyle                      c. religion

**1.014** The Northern Hemisphere is divided from the Southern Hemisphere by the \_\_\_\_\_ .

- a. equator                      b. prime meridian                      c. Atlantic Ocean

**1.015** The new political system since the collapse of the Soviet Union can be described best as \_\_\_\_\_ .

- a. nationalism                      b. communism                      c. chaos

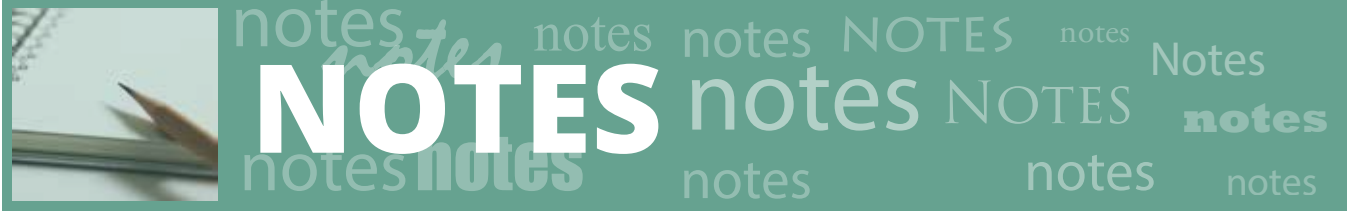
**1.016** Two global regions which are very closely related are \_\_\_\_\_ .

- a. political and climatic                      b. geographical and racial  
 c. geographical and climatic

**1.017** A significant regional characteristic would be \_\_\_\_\_ .

- a. whether people have long or short fingernails  
 b. whether people are mostly Roman Catholic or Protestant  
 c. whether more people live in one room or six room houses

40 50	<b>SCORE</b> _____	<b>TEACHER</b> _____	initials	date
----------	--------------------	----------------------	----------	------





HIS0907 - May '14 Printing

ISBN 978-0-86717-587-5



804 N. 2nd Ave. E.  
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

800-622-3070  
[www.aop.com](http://www.aop.com)