

Africa—South of the Sahara

- A. Size and diversity of geographic features have greatly affected Africa's past and present.
 - 1. Deserts have to some degree isolated sub-Saharan Africa from the outside world.
 - 2. The narrow coastal plain, jungles, and a steep escarpment have prevented greater contacts between Africa and the world.
 - 3. The rivers serve as centers of development and population, but, by their nature, have not been useful for transportation and communication.
 - 4. The Great Rift Valley has divided Africa from itself.
 - 5. Africa's vast size has led to the development of varied cultures and civilizations.
 - 6. The regular coastline has retarded the development of harbors, trade, and a seafaring tradition, thus furthering isolation.
 - 7. There are at least five distinct climatic regions: tropical rain forest, savanna, steppe, desert, and Mediterranean.
- B. African cultures and societies are varied and complex.
 - 1. People of many races, religions, languages, and cultures live in Africa.
 - 2. Tribal society is central to the social structure, political organization, and economic activity of Africa.
 - 3. Tribal structure is based on family and kinship relationships.
 - 4. Tribal societies have played an important role in Africa's history.
 - 5. African art is rich and varied in terms of form, style, and technique.
 - 6. The transition from tribal to modern, industrial society is changing African traditions and institutions rapidly. Great problems have also resulted.
- C. The history of sub-Saharan Africa has been a long and continuous process.
 - 1. European and American awareness of African history is filled with myths, such as their "backwardness."
 - 2. There is some archeological evidence that the earliest humans made their home in Africa.
 - 3. Much of the story of Africa and its heritage has been transmitted orally.

4. Ancient Egyptian civilization influenced, and was influenced by, the rest of Africa (religion, government, economy, technology, language).
5. Ancient empires flourished in Africa (Kush and Axum).
6. Outside influences have had great effects on African culture and society (Islam, as a religion and way of life; the impact of Western imperialism on African culture and development).
7. Empires such as Ghana, Mali, Songhai, and Zimbabwe flourished in Africa.
8. The European slave trade reduced the population of the continent and weakened the economic, cultural, and political institutions. It greatly speeded up the decline of African kingdoms.
9. The scramble for African colonies by the Europeans in the 19th and 20th centuries led to a partition of Africa among these Europeans.
10. Nationalism in Africa resulted from Western influences, and led to the development of independence movements.
11. World War I and World War II speeded up the movement toward independence.
12. Since World War II, European nations have given up all their colonies in Africa.

D. Economic development is the key to the future of Africa.

1. Agriculture is the most important economic activity in Africa. Mining is the most important industry.
2. Few areas in Africa possess good soil.
3. Agriculture is divided between subsistence and plantation (cash crop) farming.
4. Natural resources are varied and in excellent supply. Only coal and oil are lacking in great quantities.
5. Resources have not been developed to their greatest potential.
6. Soil erosion and lack of sufficient rainfall have caused famine in Sahel, Ethiopia, and Somalia.

E. Sub-Saharan Africa faces all of the problems that developing nations have.

1. African expectations are rising from a life of mere survival to expectations of a modern life of abundance.
2. Modern political patterns of Africa reflect colonial rule by Europeans. Political divisions were made with little understanding of or regard for local conditions, customs, and traditions.
3. Tribalism and nationalism have caused conflicts in many African states (e.g., Nigeria, Ghana, Sudan, Ethiopia).
4. Political life in many African nations is controlled by one political party.
5. The lack of political stability is a grave problem for African nations.

F. African nations play a vital role in world affairs.

- 1. The many nations of Africa have great influence in the United Nations.**
- 2. The nations of the West and the former Communist nations tried to gain the support of African states by giving economic and military assistance.**
- 3. Apartheid has become an international issue resulting from the subjugation of a majority, black African group by a minority, white African group in South Africa.**
- 4. Draught and famine in the Sahel and East Africa (Ethiopia and Somali) have created the need for international efforts to relieve the situation.**

AREA: TROPICAL OR SUB-SAHARIAN AFRICA
(HOT)

GEOGRAPHIC	POLITICAL	ECONOMIC	CULTURAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RIFT: CRACK WITH WATER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - L. VICTORIA IS NILE RIVER SOURCE - L. TANGANYIKA - L. NYASA (MALAWI) - ESCARPMENT- S.E. COAST - TILTED PLATEAU - RIVERS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NILE - ZAIRE (CONGO) HEART OR CENTRAL AFRICA - ZAMBESI (VICTORIA FALLS) - NIGER IN THE BULGE - MAP: - SAVANNAH- HIGH GRASS SEASON OF BURNING FEET - SAHEL- SHORT GRASSLAND ON EDGE OF SAHARA - DARK AFRICA- WHY? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RAPIDS: - WATERFALLS: ANS. - CLIMATE: HARD TO - DISEASE: EXPLORE, - STRAIGHT: LATE TO - COASTLINE: DEV. - TRIBES: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TRIBES- DECENTRALIZED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ETHNIC MOSAIC - COLONIALISM- EXPLORERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MISSIONARIES - LIVINGSTON - STANLEY - 3 GOLD'S : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IVORY - SLAVES (ABOLITION) - GOLD - BERLIN CONFERENCE- EURO-PEANS DRAW BOUNDARIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DIVIDE TRIBES - UNITE ENEMIES - EXAMPLES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NIGERIA- MINORITY 180'S = BIAFRAN CIVIL WAR - RWANDA- HUTU VS. TUTSI "GENOCIDE" - BELGIUM KING LEOPOLD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MERCANTILISM - PATERNALISM - IMPERIALISM "CAPE TO CARIO" - PROMISE OF ATLANTIC CHARTER ? SELF DETERMINE - NATIONALISM POST W.W.2 - TYPICAL LEADERS: ----- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAR HERO, SINGLE PARTY, SONS OF TRIBAL CHIEFS, RULE OF THE RIFLE, COUP, DICTATORSHIP, COLD WAR, 3RD WORLD NON-ALIGNED, NEPOTISM & PATRONAGE. - PAN AFRICANISM - O.A.U. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NEGRITUDE - R.S.A.- DUTCH P. KRUGER VS. BR. C RHODES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GREAT TREK, BOER WAR & APARTHEID - AFRIKARNERS BOTHA & DEKLERK VS. MANDELA (A.N.C.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CU IS KING IN CENTRAL - CASH CROPS: CACAO, BANANAS, COFFEE, PEANUTS, ETC. - OFTEN UNDERDEVELOPED BECAUSE OF RISING POP. LACK OF: CAPITAL TECHNOLOGY MIDDLE CLASS - URBANIZATION - HYDRO : NEW WHITE GOLD - BARTER VS. CURRENCY - "GOD DID MINERAL BANKING IN AFRICA" - UNFAVORABLE BALANCE OF TRADE-- RAW FOR FINISHED - GREEN REVOLUTION - BUSH FALLOWING LEADS TO LEACHING - NEOCOLONIALISM - CONTROL ECONOMY CONTROL THEM, EXAMPLE LOANS. - REVOLUTION OF RISING EXPECTATIONS -- PEOPLE DEMAND A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING FROM THEIR LEADERS ! - DIVESTITURE - URANIUM - DIAMONDS - GOLD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EXTENDED & JOINT FAMILIES - CLANS - TRIBES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CONSENSUS - TOTEM- SYMBOL OF CLAN - AGE SET BOND - PUBERTY INITIATION - REBIRTH - POLYGYNOUS - ARRANGED MARRIAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DOWRY - BRIDE WEALTH - FETISH - DIVINER - MARGINAL PEOPLE -- CAUGHT IN TWO WORLDS, PAST & PRESENT - MEDICINE MAN - ANIMISM = EVERYTHING HAS SPIRIT-- POLYTHEISM - CHANGE C/O MISSIONARIES & URBAN MIGRATION - ANCIENT CRADLES OF CIV. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BULGE - SONGHAI - MALI - GHANA - S.E. - ZIMBABWE