

Student Response Worksheet

Saharan Caravan Routes

NAME _____

1. What is the objective for today?

2. List three qualities that help camels survive in the desert.



3. Who was Ibn Battuta?

4. EXIT TICKET

Student Response Worksheet

Map Quest:

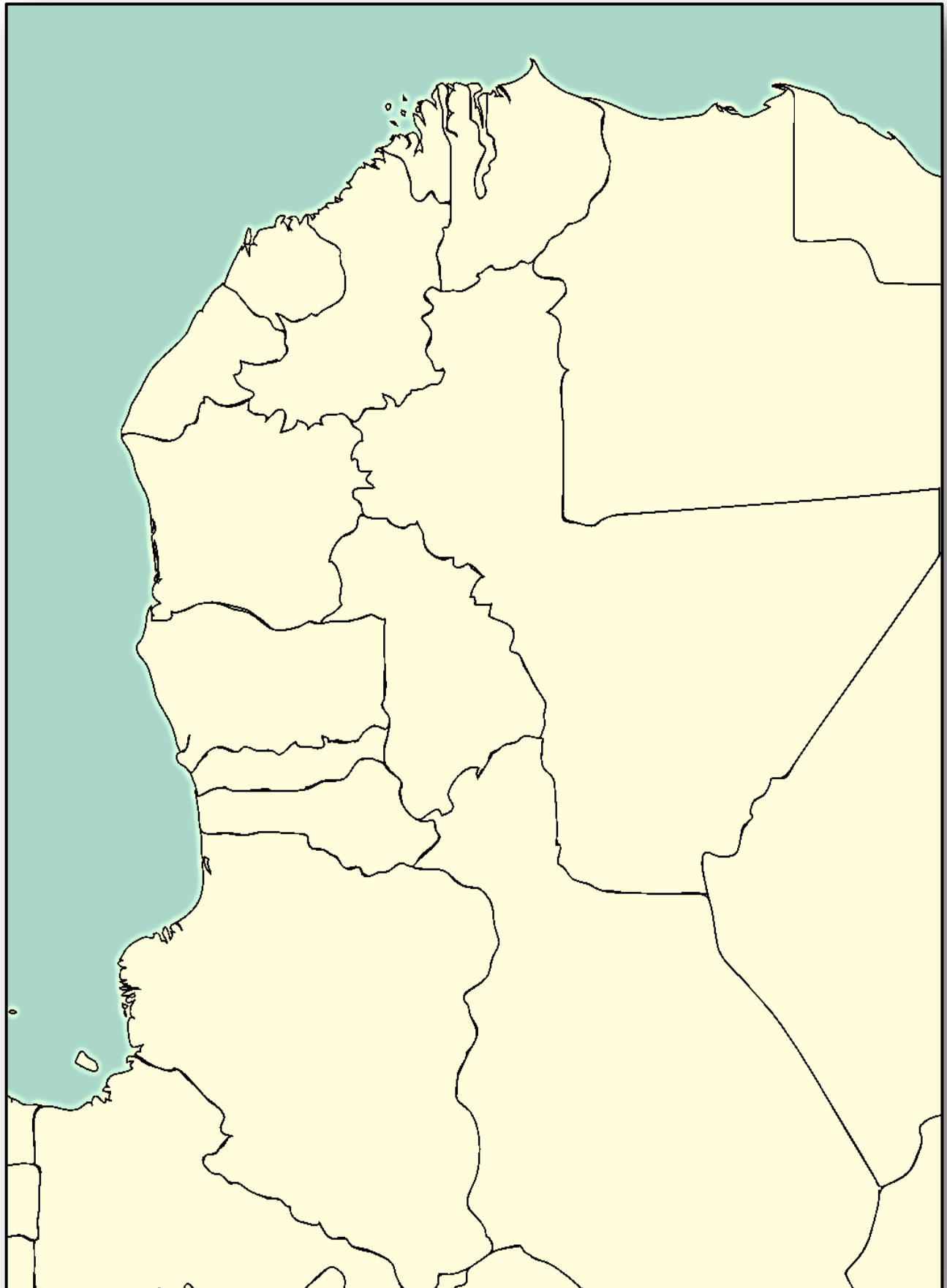
Create a map showing the features of West Africa

INSTRUCTIONS: Using the map on the PowerPoint presentation, Identify and draw the following features of West Africa on the map below.

- Start by drawing the four great West African kingdoms
- Then, using the KEY on the bottom right side of the map, find and draw the products that were produced in various regions of West Africa.
- Finally, the dotted lines are the trade routes across the Sahara Desert.
Draw in the trade routes.

Kingdoms	Trade Products	Caravan Routes
1. Outline the borders of the kingdoms	2. Draw/Label trade products	3. Draw the caravan routes
Mali (outline borders in red) Ghana (orange) Songhai (purple) Bornu (green) Benin (blue)	Dried fruits, Horses, Salt, Copper, Cloth, Slaves, Gold, Kola nuts, Manufactured goods	

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Create your map on this blank map of West Africa.

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Interesting Facts About the Sahara Desert

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read the essay about the Sahara Desert
2. Answer the questions at the end of this essay.

The Sahara Desert is the world's largest hot desert and the third largest desert behind Antarctica and the Arctic. Located in North Africa, it covers large sections of the continent - covering 9,200,000 square kilometers which is comparable to the size of China or the US!

How Hot Is the Sahara Desert?

The Sahara is the hottest desert in the world – with one of the harshest climates. The average annual temperature is 30°C, whilst the hottest temperature ever recorded was 58°C. The area receives little rainfall, in fact, half of the Sahara Desert receives less than 1 inch of rain every year.

Despite many thinking of the Sahara as a constantly hot climate, temperatures drop dramatically at night, due to the lack of humidity, and can reach lows of -6°C. Snow falls regularly on several mountain ranges, but nowhere else in the Sahara.

How Big Is The Sahara Desert?

The Sahara Desert is the largest hot desert in the world, and the third largest overall after the Antarctica and the Arctic. The Sahara Desert covers an incredible 9.2 million km², which is almost the same size as China, and a total of 8% of the earth's land area. Impressive!



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What Can Be Found In The Sahara Desert?

The Sahara is much more than just sand – in fact, the majority of the Sahara is made up of barren, rocky plateaus, as well as salt flats, sand dunes, mountains and dry valleys. The rivers and streams found in the Sahara are all seasonal, apart from the River Nile.

There are over 20 lakes in the Sahara, most of which are saltwater lakes. Lake Chad is the only freshwater lake in the desert.

How big are the sand dunes in the Sahara?

In east-central Algeria lies the Isaouane-n-Tifernine Sand Sea, with sand dunes as high as 450m – some of the tallest in the world!

The largest dunes in Morocco are the Erg Chigaga – with some dunes reaching a massive 300m. The Chigaga dunes are hard to reach, with access only permitted by 4x4, camel or foot. These dunes are a relatively untouched part of the Sahara.



Has The Sahara Desert Changed Over The years?

Yes - dramatically! The Sahara has changed immensely! It used to be lush and green, home to a variety of plants and animals. The change came approximately 5000 years ago, due to a gradual change in the tilt of the earth. It is thought that the Sahara Desert will become green again at some point in the future.

Source: <https://www.globaladventurechallenges.com/journal/facts-about-sahara-desert>

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QUESTIONS:

3. Compare the size of the Sahara Desert to the United States. Is it bigger or smaller or about the same size?
4. The Sahara Desert makes up what percentage of the world's land mass?
5. There is only one river that flows year-round in the Sahara Desert. What is the name of that river?
6. The tallest sand dunes in the Sahara are over 300 meters tall. 1 meter is equal to 3.2 feet or roughly one large step. Starting from your front door, take 300 steps around your house. How many laps did you complete?
7. Describe what the Sahara looks like today? What did it look like 5,000 years ago?