

SKILLS: CLIMATIC REGIONS

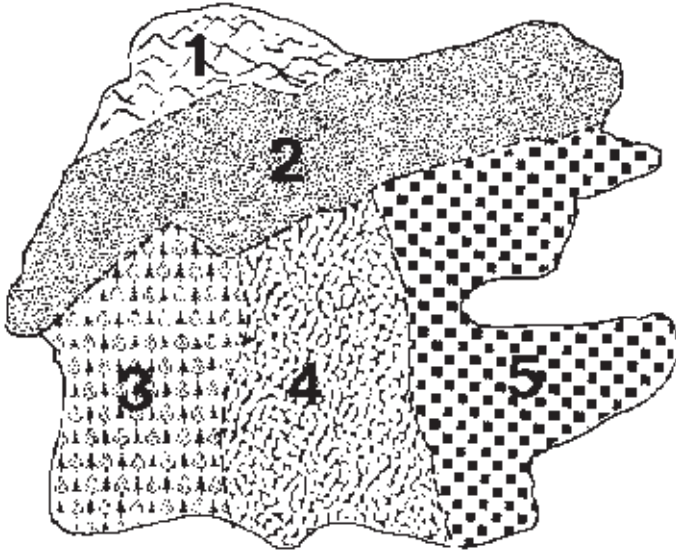
Climate is the make-up of weather conditions averaged over a long period of time. It is possible for one climatic region to cover several countries. We can gain knowledge about a group of countries located together by examining various climatic regions. Climatic regions are very important in the history and development of any country on any continent. The climate remains the same even if a change in government occurs. Although governments, languages, and cultures of peoples in different countries are not identical, people living in the same climatic regions are alike in many ways. A given climatic region will sustain similar crops and may lead to similar occupations for people.

Directions: Use the **Climatic Regions Chart** to help you draw maps of your country. Before you begin any map, assign a different color to each climatic region and record the color in the *Color Key* column.

Climatic Regions Chart

<i>CLIMATIC REGION</i>	<i>COLOR KEY</i>	<i>CLIMATE</i>	<i>CROPS AND OCCUPATIONS</i>	<i>VEGETATION</i>
Polar Marine (tundra)		Short, cool summers, with long, dark, cold winters	Fishing, hunting, trapping	Shrubs, lichens, mosses
Northern Forest (taiga)		Short, warm summers, with long, cold winters with little snow	Lumbering, trapping, herding	Evergreen and broadleaf trees
Humid Continental		Four distinct seasons	Agriculture (grain), dairy farming, livestock, lumber	Forests of evergreen and broadleaf trees
Semi-Arid		Short, mild winters with 10–20 inches of rain	Herding, grazing	Desert scrub plants, short grasses
Marine West Coast		Moist and mild	Lumbering, fishing, dairy farms, shipbuilding	Shrubs, grass, various forests (healthy region)
Mediterranean		Dry, hot summers with mild, rainy winters	Wheat, grapes, olives	Deep-rooted trees with healthy bark and leaves

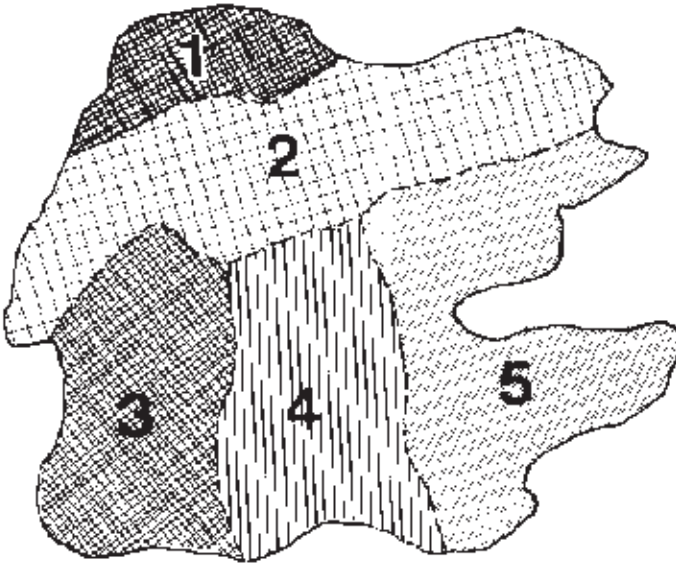
SKILLS: MAP SITUATION 3



Topography map

Key for 5 Regions

- 1 = Mountains
- 2 = Desert
- 3 = Forests
- 4 = Plains
- 5 = Hills



Climate Map

Key for 5 Regions

- 1 = Semi-Arid
- 2 = Marine West Coast
- 3 = Polar Marine
- 4 = Northern Forest
- 5 = Humid Continental

Problem: Using the **Climatic Regions Chart** (page 5) explain why the climate does not fit the topography in these two maps.

Region 1 =

Region 2 =

Region 3 =

Region 4 =

Region 5 =

SKILLS: TERMS (2)

METROPOLITAN AREA — a major city and its suburbs

MINERALS — ores and substances extracted from the earth

MINERAL FUELS — substances extracted from the Earth to produce heat and power (e.g., coal)

MONARCHY — a government with a hereditary, live-time leader with absolute or nominal powers

MOUNTAIN — a very steep, elevated portion of land much higher than the land surrounding it

NATURAL RESOURCES — plants, animals, minerals, and fuels used for food, shelter, clothing, power, and to supply other needs

NAVIGABLE RIVER — any river having a channel or passageway wide enough for ships to travel

OCEAN — a body of water containing dissolved salts surrounding the continents of a planet

OLIGARCHY — rule by the few

PLAIN — level land with few hills

PLATEAU — large, level expanse of land raised sharply above adjacent land on at least one side

POPULATION — the number of people in a given area at a given time

PORT — a city near an ocean, river, sea, or lake handling the importing and exporting of goods

PRIME MERIDIAN — line drawn north and south around a globe from which all east and west locations are determined

RAINFALL — amount of precipitation that falls in an area in a given year (10" snowfall = 1" rain)

RANGE — a low strip of hills or mountains that are connected

RAW MATERIALS — any substance in its natural state used in producing other goods

REGION — portion of a continent or country which is alike in some way(s) (e.g., climatic regions)

REPUBLIC — a state or country where citizens elect governing officials to represent them

SAVANNA — grassland, some trees

SEA — smaller part of an ocean, usually partly surrounded by land

SEASON — portion of the year in which the weather is the same

SELF-SUFFICIENT — having the ability to operate independently of others

STEPPE — semiarid land region usually with poor water resources (can sustain grazing of herds)

STRAIT — naturally-occurring narrow waterway connecting two larger bodies of water

TABLELAND — level land slightly higher than a lowland area

TARIFF — tax placed on imported or exported goods

TEMPERATURE — how hot or cold it is, measured in degrees, at any given place at a given time

TRIBUTARIES — streams or rivers flowing into another, larger (and longer) river

VALLEY — low area between hills or mountains

WATERSHED — area that drains into or supplies rainfall to a river or lake