

Activity Type

Reading, matching and writing exercises

Focus

Proper adjectives

Aim

To learn and practice how to use proper adjectives for geographical features.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

This proper adjectives worksheet helps students learn and practice how to use proper adjectives for continents, regions, oceans, seas and mountains.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Students begin by sorting geographical proper adjectives into categories. Note that Arctic is used for both a region and an ocean.

Exercise A - Answer key

Continents/Regions: African, American, Antarctic, Arctic, Asian, Australian, European, Middle Eastern

Oceans/Seas : Arctic, Atlantic, Caribbean, Indian, Pacific, Mediterranean

Mountains : Alpine, Andean, Appalachian, Himalayan

After that, students correct sentences combining directions with continent adjectives. Direct the students to use a world map if necessary.

Exercise B - Answer key

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. Southeastern | Northern | 9. African | American |
| 2. North American | South Asian | 10. Southeast Asian | East African |
| 3. African | European | 11. Northern | Eastern |
| 4. West African | East Asian | 12. African | American |
| 5. East Asian | South American | 13. European | African |
| 6. South American | North African | 14. American | European |
| 7. East African | Southeast Asian | 15. Eastern | Western |
| 8. South Asian | West African | 16. European | African |

Next, students complete sentences with proper adjectives from a box.

Exercise C - Answer key

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Appalachian | 4. Alpine | 7. Indian | 10. Atlantic |
| 2. Arctic | 5. Caribbean | 8. Himalayan | |
| 3. Mediterranean | 6. Andean | 9. Pacific | |

In the last exercise, students match each phrase containing a proper adjective with its definition.

Exercise D - Answer key

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. d | 2. f | 3. a | 4. l | 5. b | 6. i |
| 7. j | 8. c | 9. e | 10. g | 11. h | 12. k |

A. Sort the geographical proper adjectives into the correct category.

African Alpine American Andean Antarctic Appalachian
 Arctic Asian Atlantic Australian Caribbean European
 Himalayan Indian Middle Eastern Pacific Mediterranean

Continents and Regions	Oceans and Seas	Mountains

B. Correct the sentences combining directions with continent adjectives.

Southeastern

Example: Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria are ~~Western~~ European countries.

- Iceland, Finland and Denmark are Southeastern European countries.
- India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are North American countries.
- Spain, Italy and Greece are Southern African countries.
- Korea, Japan and China are West African countries.
- Chile, Paraguay and Brazil are East Asian countries.
- Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt are South American countries.
- Laos, Vietnam and Thailand are East African countries.
- Burkina Faso, Senegal and Nigeria are South Asian countries.
- Canada, Mexico and the United States are North African countries.
- Kenya, Ethiopia and Mozambique are Southeast Asian countries.
- Estonia, Belarus and Ukraine are Northern European countries.
- El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica are Central African countries.
- Botswana, Namibia and South Africa are Southern European countries.
- Switzerland, Hungary and Poland are Central American countries.
- France, Belgium and the United Kingdom are Eastern European countries.
- The Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Angola are Central European countries.



C. Complete the sentences with the proper adjectives from the box.

Alpine	Andean	Appalachian	Arctic	Atlantic
Caribbean	Himalayan	Indian	Mediterranean	Pacific

- The Mountains are in North America.
- The Ocean is the farthest north place on Earth.
- The Sea is between Africa and Europe.
- There are eight countries in Europe.
- The Sea is between North and South America.
- The range is the longest mountain range in the world.
- The Ocean is between Australia, Asia and Africa.
- The highest mountains on Earth are in the mountain range.
- The Ocean is between Australia, Asia and the Americas.
- The Ocean is between Africa, Europe and the Americas.

D. Match each phrase containing a proper adjective with its definition.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Appalachian Trail | a. small pieces of land in the world's largest ocean |
| 2. Mediterranean climate | b. rock salt from Pakistan that is often light pink |
| 3. Pacific islands | c. a ship carrying tourists around the Caribbean |
| 4. Atlantic hurricanes | d. a 3,500km hiking course in the Eastern United States |
| 5. Himalayan salt | e. a large black South American scavenger bird |
| 6. Pan-African colours | f. warm, mild weather in Southern Europe and North Africa |
| 7. Antarctic ice sheet | g. the sport of sliding down snowy hills or mountains |
| 8. Caribbean cruise | h. the line above which the sun never sets in the Summer |
| 9. Andean condor | i. red, green and yellow or black, used to represent Africa |
| 10. Alpine skiing | j. ice at the South Pole with 61% of the Earth's fresh water |
| 11. Arctic circle | k. a style of food including kebabs, falafel, and baklava |
| 12. Middle Eastern cuisine | l. large tropical storms in the Caribbean and North America. |