**Africa 4 - Physical Geography of Africa South of the Sahara**

* I. The Land
* A. Landforms
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_ largest continent
* 1. Continent of Plateaus
	+ One gigantic plateau
	+ Narrow coastal plains
	+ Escarpments separate coasts and plateaus
		- Cataracts (waterfalls)
	+ Average elevation: 2,000 ft.
* 2. Mountains and Highlands
	+ Few mountains
	+ Eastern highlands
		- Ethiopia to the Cape of Good Hope
	+ Drakensberg and Ruwenzori Mts.
	+ Mt. Kenya and Kilimanjaro (volcanic)
		- 19,340 ft.
* 3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Africa is splitting
	+ Y-shaped trench from the Jordan to the Zambezi River
	+ Cracks and faults
* B. Water Systems
* 1. A Chain of Lakes
	+ Lake Victoria
		- 2nd largest freshwater lake
	+ Lake Tanganyika
		- Longest freshwater lake (420 miles)
	+ Lake Malawi
		- Distinct fish
	+ Lake Chad
		- No outlet to the sea
	+ Lake Volta
		- Man-made
* 2. Rivers and Basins
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- 4,160 miles
		- Starts at Lake Victoria
	+ Congo River
		- 2,700 miles
		- 10 million gallons per second
			* Hydroelectricity potential
	+ Niger River
		- 3rd largest
		- 2,500 miles
	+ Zambezi River
		- Empties into the Indian Ocean
		- 18, 297 feet wide
		- Victoria Falls
* 3. Waterfalls
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- 1,640 ft.
		- David Livingston the 1st European to see them
		- Twice as tall as Niagara Falls
* C. Natural Resources
	+ Diamonds
		- Dem. Rep. of the Congo and S. Africa
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the world’s gold reserves
		- S. Africa and the Great Rift Valley
	+ Copper in central Africa
	+ Oil in Nigeria
	+ Uranium, manganese, cobalt, and zinc
* Waterfalls and sunlight
* II. The Climate and Vegetation
* A. Diverse Continent
	+ All of Africa within 35 degrees of the Equator
	+ Still a wide variety
* B. Climate Regions
	+ 1. Deserts
		- \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Africa
		- Namib, Kalahari, and Sahara Deserts
	+ 2. Desert Oases
		- Groundwater
		- Okavango River delta
			* Largest inland delta
* 3. The Sahel
	+ Grasslands bordering deserts
	+ A long, dry season and a short, wet season
	+ Drought has brought famine and growing deserts
* 4. Tropical Savanna
	+ 30-60 inches of rain
	+ Elephant grass, 15 ft.
	+ Serengeti Plains and Nairobi Natl. Park
* 5. Tropical Rainforests
	+ Near the Equator
	+ Rains leach soil
		- Poor farming
	+ Cocoa, rubber, palm-oil, and logging threaten them
* 6. Moderate Climates
	+ Highlands of Kenya
	+ Southern tip of Africa