**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