Landforms of Northwest Africa

Northwest Africa contains a variety of landforms, including coastal plains, mountains, and deserts. Examine the map of the region below. Then answer the questions on the following page.

Physical Map of Northwest Africa

- Intermittent rivers
- Sand areas
- Dams
- Salt lakes
- Mineral sites
1. What is the principal mountain range of northwest Africa? Where is the highest portion of this range? What is the elevation of Mt. M’goun, in meters?

2. Where is the Tamlelt Plain? What is the altitude range on the plain?

3. What is the Wadi Ziz? The Sebkha de Tindouf? The Erg Iguidi?

4. Which of the countries on the map has the most mountainous land? Which has the most desert land?

5. What is the elevation of the land around the Chott Melrhir? What landform lies just to the north?

6. Critical Thinking: Interaction What two items on the legend indicate human-environment interaction? How do you think each of these affects life for residents of the region?

ACTIVITY Imagine that you are taking a journey across the region shown on the map. Read more about the physical features of the area, then write an imaginary travelogue of your journey. Explain how you travel and what you see and experience along the way.
**CHAPTER 22**

**Map Activity**

**Colonialism in West Africa**

In the late 1800s, European powers raced to stake their claim to portions of West Africa and the Congo. Those claims were later formalized at the Berlin Conference (1884–1885), which set borders for the new colonies. Study the map below, then answer the questions on the following page.

**The Race for Colonies, 1879–1884**

- Dakar: European (and Liberian) towns underlined
- **GOBIR**: Names of African states and areas
- 1: French advance up Senegal, Niger, and Congo Rivers
- 2: British advance up Niger River
- 3: Belgian advance up Congo River
- 4: German claim to protectorates at Togo and Cameroon

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Name _____________________  Class _____________  Date ____________
1. Who controlled Ivory Coast? Sierra Leone? Liberia?

2. Where was Accra? Duala? Brazzaville?

3. Who advanced up the Senegal River? What African kingdom did they enter?

4. Where was the Kingdom of Ashanti? The Yoruba States? The Empire of Sokoto?

5. Which two powers competed for control of the Congo? How did their approaches differ?

6. Critical Thinking: Movement  What geographic factors contributed to the pattern of European settlement in West Africa? How did the Europeans move inland initially?

ACTIVITY  Compare the map in your textbook showing the results of the Berlin Conference with the map shown above. With a piece of tracing paper, sketch a rough outline of the European colonies of West Africa over the map shown above. What were the results of the race for colonies? Did the various powers end up getting the lands they wanted? Which country gained most of the territory? What happened to the African kingdoms? Write a paragraph analyzing the results.