WORLD GEOGRAPHY · 9TH GRADE · STUDENT PACKET

Place, People, and Culture: Sub-Saharan Africa

Name: Date: Period:

Today's goal: I can compare how people in two parts of Sub-Saharan Africa depend on, adapt to, and change their environment.

WARM-UP · FLY WITH ME IN GOOGLE EARTH

What I see	Stop 1: The Sahel	Stop 2: The Congo Basin
Color of the land		
Plants		
Roads and towns		

I wonder:

Part 1: Who drew these lines?

Africa is home to more than 1,000 languages, and many cultural groups live across more than one country. At the **Berlin Conference (1884–1885)**, European powers set rules for dividing Africa among themselves. No African leaders were invited.

If outsiders drew the borders, what problems might the people living there face?

Words we need today

Break the word, find the meaning.

sub · sist · ence

sub- = "under" + sist = "stand" → growing just enough food to support your family

de · forest · ation

de- = "remove" + -ation = "the act of" → clearing trees from the land

desert · ific · ation

-ify = "to make" → land slowly becoming desert

PART 2 · COMPARE · PARTNERS · 5 MINUTES

Two sub-regions, two ways of living

West Africa

Coastal rainforest in the south and the dry Sahel in the north. Many languages, including Hausa, Yoruba, and Akan. Farmers grow cassava, yams, and cocoa. Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana are two of the world's largest cocoa growers.

East Africa

Highlands, savanna, and the Great Rift Valley. Swahili connects people across many countries. Farmers grow tea and coffee in the cool highlands, and herders such as the Maasai move cattle across the grasslands.

	West Africa	East Africa
Depend *People rely on ___.*		
Adapt *People adjust by ___.*		
Modify *People change the land by ___.*		

Part 3: Case study · Coastal West Africa

Farmers clear forest to grow food and cocoa. This feeds families and pays for school, but it also removes trees, wears out soil, and destroys animal habitat.

What do families gain?

What is lost?

What else could work?

Is changing the land always negative? Use evidence from your chart.

Exit ticket

✂ CUT HERE · EXIT TICKET

Name: _____ Period: _____

Exit ticket

1 **Name your sub-region.**

2 **Give one cultural pattern that makes it distinctive.**

3 **Explain one way people depend on, adapt to, or change the environment there.**