Chapter 24: Southern Africa

Unit 6
Section 1: Physical Geography
Landforms

- Region is made up of 14 countries:
  1. Angola
  2. Zambia
  3. Malawi
  4. Mozambique
  5. Namibia
  6. Botswana
  7. Zimbabwe
  8. South Africa
  9. Lesotho
  10. Swaziland
  11. Comoros
  12. Madagascar
  13. Mauritius
  14. Seychelles
Landforms

- Most of the region is at a higher altitude, over 2,000 feet above sea level
- Great Escarpment-cliffs that form a “U-shape” around the coastal plain of Angola, Namibia, and South Africa
  - Drakensberg Range
    - 11,000 ft.
Landforms

- Inside the Great Escarpment: most of the land consists of hills and plateaus
- The Highveld plateau
  - 6000 foot elevation
- On Madagascar:
  - Plateaus
  - Hills
  - Volcanoes
Water Systems

• Okavango River
  – Runs southeast from Angola to Botswana
  – Makes the border between Angola and Namibia
  – Instead of flowing to the ocean...it ends inland
    • Spreads wider and wider until it forms a delta and swamps
Water Systems

- **Orange River**
  - Starts in Lesotho (West side of the region)
  - Flows all the way to the eastern border of South Africa and Namibia and ends in the Atlantic Ocean

- **Zambezi River**
  - Starts in Angola
  - Forms border between Zambia and Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe.
  - Victoria Falls
  - Flows east through Mozambique and Malawi
  - Empties in Indian Ocean
Water Systems

• Limpopo River
• None of these rivers are navigable due to geography
• Animals that live in/near many of these water systems:
  – Hippopotamuses
  – Crocodiles
  – Lions
  – Cheetahs
  – Buffalo
  – Elephants
  – Giraffes
Climate, Biomes, and Resources

• Huge variety of climates
  – Make a chart of these from your textbook...what climates/biomes exist and where

• Natural Resources:
  – Gold
  – Copper
  – Diamonds and other gemstones
Section 2: Human Geography
History and Government

• First people: the San
  – 20,000 years ago
  – Descendants still live in Botswana, Namibia, and Angola

• Bantu People
  – Moved from Central Africa to this region, 3,500 years ago
History and Government

• Bantu People
  – The Shona established Great Zimbabwe
    • By 1000 AD, population was between 12,000-20,000
    • For 400 years, the city was a huge trading empire
    • 1400s...mysteriously abandoned

• Madagascar
  – 800 AD: Malagasy from Southeast Asia adventured and mixed with migrants on the island
  – Because the ancestry came from Indonesia, many Malagasy do not consider themselves African
European Influences

• 1480s
  – Portuguese explorers, priests, and traders sailed into the Kingdom of Kongo (Angola)
    • Originally, the groups coexisted peacefully...this did not last
  – Portuguese set up trading posts: slaves and other goods

Middle of the 1700s
  – Dutch, British, and local African forces had pushed the Portuguese back to Angola and Mozambique
European Influences

• South Africa Timeline, p. 582:
Shaka

- Shaka was the son of a Sulu chief and a Langeni princess
  - Treated cruelly by society
  - Father died in 1812
  - He took over the Zulu clan and retrained the people to become a strong force
  - His army killed hundreds of thousands of other people
  - Killed in 1828, Zulu empire continued on
  - Boers and British encroached on Zulu territories
  - 1879: British declared war on the Zulu...originally the Zulus won, but the British defeated them by 1910.
Cecil Rhodes

- Moved from England to Cape Colony (South Africa) in 1870
- He bought up gold and diamond mines
- He started De Beers, and began to produce 90% of the world’s diamonds by 1891
- He was elected to the parliament and was a PM of the colony until 1896
- Expanded British control, had a country named after him (Rhodesia)
Independence

• 1910: Union of South Africa
  – 4 British colonies
• Most countries were freed between the 1960s and 1970s
• Namibia became independent from South Africa in 1990
• Independence brought success and difficulties to countries
Society Today

- Many different ethnicities and language groups having to live together
- Christianity is the main religion of this region
- Poverty and inflation/price gauging have caused serious issues
- HIV/AIDS
- Education is impacted by income
- Girls and women experience many problems
Economics

• Mining
• Farming
  – Subsistence
  – Commercial
• Some manufacturing
Section 3: People and Their Environment
Managing Resources

• Poverty
• Habitat destruction
• Commercial logging
• Poaching
• Access to clean water
• Food shortages
• Shifting Cultivation