

Year 8— Topic 6— How diverse is the Middle East?

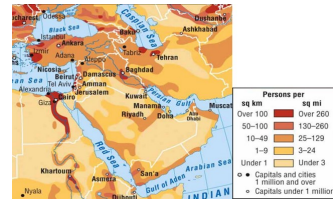
Location of the Middle East

The Middle East includes three different continents: Europe, Africa and Asia. All of these continents and countries are in the Northern Hemisphere, meaning it is above the equator. To the South East of the Middle East is the Indian Ocean where-as the North West is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea. Within the Middle East, there are 17 countries. The largest country is Saudi Arabia, whereas the smallest is Israel.



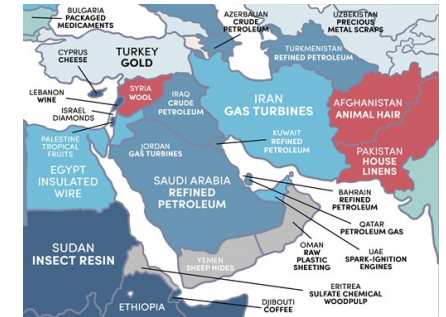
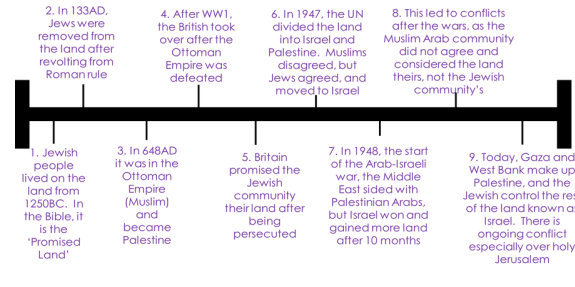
Population of the Middle East

Majority of the population in the Middle East is distributed in the North of the region and around the Nile Valley. This is due to the physical environment in these areas.



Geopolitics means —Politics, meaning international relations that are influenced by geographical factors. In the Middle East, there are many examples where Geo-politics over geographical factors (mainly land) has occurred. In this topic, we are mainly going to concentrate on Israel and Palestine

Impacts on Israel	Impacts on Palestine
556 Israeli people were injured (social) Universities cancelled their final exams (social) Nearly 3,000 claims of damage were submitted to Israel's Tax Authority, which paid \$20 million for direct damage and \$21 million for indirect damage (economic)	220 factories in various industrial zones were bombed (economic) 138 schools and 26 health facilities were damaged (social) The war cost Gaza \$200 million in economic losses (economic)



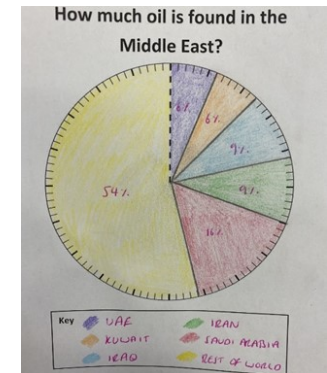
Resources in the Middle East

The 2 main ways that the world is connected to the Middle East is Tourism and Trade resources.

The Arabian plate currently holds 48% of the world's natural gas – this plate contains countries such as Iran, Qatar, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Yemen

How will the Middle be impacted if Oil runs out?

- Oil funded programs will end
- Possible loss of free healthcare and education
- Possible loss of no taxation
- Less job security and less benefits overall



	Location (countries) and topography	Climate and physical features	Importance for human activities
North-ern Tier	Located in Turkey and Iran and northern Iraq. These are mountainous regions	Enough moisture to support farming – semi-arid Mountains and glaciers Plate boundaries	Used for hiking and mountain climbing, skiing Used for farming
Arabi-an Penin-sula	Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, Qatar, UAE, Kuwait, south Jordan, South Iraq. Plateaus, varied topography	Arid, desert. Bordered by several bodies of water Scattered oases, Volcanoes to the west	Tourism, mining, oil Extreme environment for humans to live in
Fertile Cres-cent	Syria, Iraq, south Turkey, south west Iran, Jordan, Israel	Euphrates and Tigris rivers More fertile soil More frequent rain than the desert	Soil, trade on rivers, hydroelectric power,
Nile Valley	Located in Egypt (and 11 other African countries) Relatively flat in the valley	Flows through the Sahara desert, so some parts are arid Some plant life surrounding the river	Farming, trade, transport, defence