

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Mountain Walls and River Roads: 2nd Grade Geopolitics Map Challenge

Solve puzzles about how shared water and rocky borders change how neighbors treat each other in this interactive map skill challenge.

1. Imagine two countries share a big lake. Why might they need to make a 'Team Rule' (an alliance)?

Answer: A) To decide who gets to catch the fish

Countries often work together or make rules when they share a natural resource like water or food from a lake.

2. A tall, snowy mountain range makes it easy for two countries to visit each other every day.

Answer: B) False

Mountains often act as natural walls or borders because they are very hard to climb or drive over.

3. A country that is completely surrounded by land with no ocean nearby is called _____. This makes it harder for them to trade using big ships.

Answer: C) Landlocked

Landlocked countries do not have a coast, so they must use their neighbors' roads or ports to reach the sea.

4. If a small country is located right between two very powerful countries, what is a likely challenge they face?

Answer: B) They have to be very careful to stay friends with both sides

Where a country is located (its geography) affects how it talks to and reacts to its neighbors.

5. The _____ River flows through many different countries. These countries must talk to each other to make sure the water stays clean for everyone.

Answer: A) Danube

The Danube in Europe is a real example of a river that connects many nations, requiring them to work together.

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6. If a country has a very long coastline with many docks, it is usually good at trading with other parts of the world.

Answer: A) True

Access to the ocean allows a country to send and receive goods easily using large cargo ships.

7. Why might two countries argue over a forest that sits right on their border?

Answer: A) Because they both want the wood and land

Natural resources like timber are valuable, and if the border isn't clear, countries might disagree on who owns them.

8. In the desert, a tiny area with fresh water called an _____ can be the most important place for miles, causing people to protect it carefully.

Answer: B) Oasis

An oasis is a rare resource in a desert geography, making its location strategically important.

9. Borders between countries are always straight lines drawn with a ruler.

Answer: B) False

Many borders are curvy because they follow natural shapes like rivers, coastlines, or mountains.

10. Which of these is a way geography helps protect a country from being attacked?

Answer: B) Being an island far away from others

Water provides a natural barrier that makes it much harder for others to reach or invade a country.