Physical Regions of Africa
Climate Regions of Africa

**HOT & HUMID**
(Rain Forest & Savanna)
- No Dry Season
- Short Dry Season
- Dry Winter

**MILD & HUMID**
(Mixed Forest & Grassland)
- No Dry Season
- Drier Winter
- Drier Summer

**COLD & HUMID**
(needle-leaf & Mixed Forest)
- No Dry Season
- Drier Winter

**DRY**
(Steppe & Desert)
- Semi-Arid
- Arid
The Sahara

- Largest hot desert in the World
- Winds from Sahara have widespread impact
  - Create warm ocean currents that keep Coastal areas of Europe and North America warm
  - Warm currents also help develop hurricanes
The Sahel

- Transitionary region between desert and savanna
  - Desertification causing the loss of habitat and causing increased competition
The Ethiopian Highlands

- Created by the divergent of the Nubian and Somalian African Plates
  - Creates Great Rift Valley between
- Origin of man and water
  - Great Lakes and Nile formed by plates
  - Cradle of humanity
The Nile River

- Longest river in the world
  - Travels from Lake Victoria and empties into Mediterranean Sea

- Birth of a Civilization
  - Egyptian agriculture dependent on water and annual sediment deposits from floods
  - Aswan high dam blocked flow and created Lake Nasser
The Savanna

• Large grasslands
  – Support massive amounts of wildlife and agriculture
  – Dependent on yearly rains
  – Many protected as national parks to encourage tourism and protect animals

• Endangered by over farming and desertification
Mount Kilimanjaro

• Tallest Mountain in Africa
  – Major tourist destination
  – Borders arranged to give mountain to Tanzania

• Diverse Landscape
  – Desert to Icecap
  – Mountain actually a free standing stratovolcano
The Swahili Coast

• Trade Region
  – Position on East Africa gave them easy access to mix of African, Arabic, Indian, Chinese, and European traders
  – Important link for trade for people in interior

• Heavily reliant on fishing
The Great Lakes

• Part of Great Rift Valley
  – Series of lakes and rivers that reaches from Mediterranean Sea to Mozambique
• 15 Lakes in total, 8 considered “great”
  – Lake Victoria is 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest freshwater lake in the world by surface area
The Horn of Africa

– Important point for trade from Asia going to Suez canal
  • Common target for pirates from Somalia
– Fishing industry threatened by foreign fisherman
Central Rainforest

- **Congo Basin**
  - Equatorial rainforest situated around Congo River
- **Resource and biologically rich area**
  - Second largest rainforest in the world
- **Multiple dangers threaten rainforest**
  - Rubber plantations
  - Slash-and-burn agriculture
  - Logging
The Southern Cape

- Many conflicting Ocean Currents
  - Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, and Southern Ocean
- Mineral rich region
  - Gold, graphite, diamonds and platinum
  - Heavy competition for resources
- Cape of Good Hope
  - Important trading hub before Suez canal