

Exploring the Continent of Africa with Finn

Learning objective: To understand the geographical diversity of Africa, including its major biomes, climate zones, and human geography.

Use your geographical knowledge and atlas skills to answer the following questions about the continent of Africa. Ensure you use full sentences and geographical terminology.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the coastlines of Africa and wants to test your knowledge of this vast and diverse continent. From the arid deserts of the north to the dense, lush rainforests near the centre, Africa is home to incredible variety. Remember to consider how the position of the Equator influences the climate across different regions.

Word bank: Sahara · Equator · Savanna · Rainforest · Biome · Latitude · Tropic of Cancer · Tropic of Capricorn

1. Africa is crossed by three major lines of latitude. Name these three lines and explain how their position affects the climate of the regions they pass through. (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the climate and vegetation of the Sahara Desert with the Congo Basin rainforest. Why are they so different? (4 marks)

3. Justify why many major cities in Africa have historically developed along coastlines or near large river systems, such as the Nile or the Niger. (3 marks)

4. If you were to travel from the Mediterranean Sea in the north down to the Cape of Good Hope in the south, what changes in biomes would you observe? Describe two. (2 marks)

5. Explain why the Savanna biome experiences distinct wet and dry seasons rather than consistent rainfall all year round. (2 marks)

6. What might happen to the local wildlife and human communities if a region experienced an extreme, prolonged drought? Predict two consequences. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled map of Africa. Include the Equator, the Sahara Desert, the Congo Basin, and one major mountain range. Use colours to represent the different biomes.



Extension challenge: Research a specific African country. Write a short report (150 words) detailing its major geographical features, its capital city, and one significant environmental challenge it currently faces. Justify why this challenge is significant to the local population.