**European Geography Study Guide**

**Location, Climate, & Natural Resources**

**Terms to know:**

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| --- | --- |
| Rural  **Characteristic of the countryside** | Urban  **An industrialized area of a city or town** |
| Arable  **Suitable for farming** | Smog  **An atmospheric phenomenon whereby vehicle exhaust and factory smoke combine with fog** |
| Acid rain  **Toxic rain which results when noxious gases are released into the atmosphere and mix with water molecules** | Emissions  **Vehicle exhaust causing air pollution** |
| Monotheism  **Believing in and/or worshipping a single deity (i.e., one God)** | Climate  **Characteristic weather conditions over a long period of time** |
| Longitude  **Imaginary lines that run North to South (and measure West and East of the Prime Meridian)** | Latitude  **Imaginary lines that run West to East (and measure North and South of the Equator)** |
| Equator  **0 degrees latitude** | Prime Meridian  **0 degrees longitude** |
| Population density  **The number of people living in a given space**   * **4 people in a classroom is less dense than 10 people in a classroom of the same size** * **4 people in a small classroom is more dense than 4 people in a large classroom** | Mild (referring to climate)  **Warm and sunny, but not too hot** |

**Concepts to review:**

* The location of the Ural, Pyrenees, and Alps mountains (what countries are they in or do they border?)
* **Ural Mountains: in eastern Russia and separate Europe from Asia**
* **Pyrenees Mountains: borders Spain and France; separates the Iberian Peninsula from the rest of Europe**
* **Alps Mountains: go across Northern Italy**
* What countries are on the Iberian Peninsula

**Portugal and Spain**

* What is the purpose or benefit from being on the Mediterranean Sea?

**Makes transportation and trade easy between Europe, Africa, and Asia**

* What is the purpose or benefit from being or living along a river?

**To make transportation and trade easier**

* What is the largest country in the world?

**Russia**

* What are some benefits of the European Plain? Where is the European Plain located?

**Large area of arable (farmable) land stretching from France’s Atlantic coast to the Ural Mountains of Russia**

* How can climate impact trade and the ability to use natural resources? What countries have the mildest climates? What countries have the harshest climates?
* **Harsh climates make it difficult to gain access to natural resources or trade.**
* **The United Kingdom and other Western European countries have the mildest climates.**
* **Russia has the harshest climate.**
* What is the impact of the Gulf Stream on the UK’s climate?

**It keeps the climate of the UK mild (warm and sunny, but not hot)**

* Where do most people live in Europe?

**Urban areas (cities) where the climate is mild (not too hot or too cold) and especially near water access**

* What causes acid rain?

**Air pollution (from coal burning factories and auto emissions) mixing with water molecules in the atmosphere**

* What are causes of pollution in the UK?

**Auto emissions, smoke from power plants burning fossil fuels, and smoke from factories. To fix it, the United Kingdom encourages public transportation, requires vehicles that produce little to no emissions, and have stricter factory emissions standards.**

* What are alternative energy sources countries are using to reduce pollution?

**Hydroelectric, solar, and wind energy**

* Know the big ideas about Chernobyl.

**A nuclear reactor exploded due to an accident at a nuclear power plant in Chernobyl, Ukraine. People were evacuated, and there were increased cases of cancer and death. Wind carried the radiation across Europe. The radiation harmed plants and animals, and contaminated water supplies.**

* What is a common belief held by Jews, Muslims, and Christians?

**There is only one God (monotheism)**

* Know the names of the sacred texts for Jews, Muslims, and Christians.
* **Jews- Torah**
* **Muslims- Koran (or Qu-ran)**
* **Christians- Bible**
* What was the impact of the holocaust on Jewish populations in Europe?
* **Decreased the number of Jews in Europe**
* **Today, the most practiced religion in Europe is Christianity**
* What are the three major language groups in Europe?

**Romantic, Germanic, Slavic**

* What are some solutions Europeans have come up with to deal with so many different languages?

**Required schoolchildren to learn one or two other languages besides their native language**

* What is the most widely spoken language in Europe?

**English**