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 Thematic Index inside back cover



Continents and Oceans

Where is it?
 Can't remember what section that great map, graph, or feature was in? Go to the Thematic Index on the inside back cover. There you'll find a complete list of the reference and thematic maps, graphs, "Introducing" topics, and "Focus on" features.

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2019 update of names and boundaries
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Statistics and estimates are from government and United Nations sources; populations for the most recent available date, other data averages over the three most recent available years.

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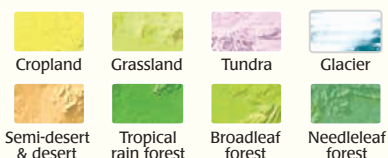
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Detailed Legends

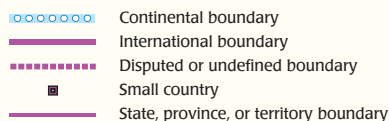


Land Cover Map

COLOR CATEGORIES



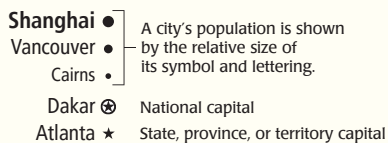
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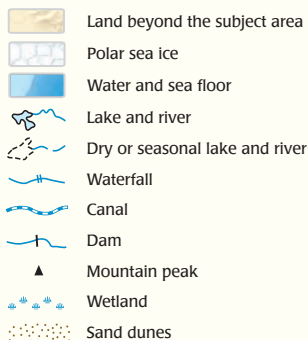
LETTERING STYLES



CITY SYMBOLS



OTHER SYMBOLS

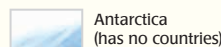


Political Relief Map

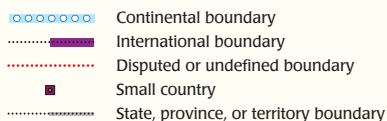
COLOR CATEGORIES



This map highlights political divisions. Relief shading shows terrain.



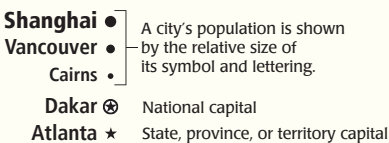
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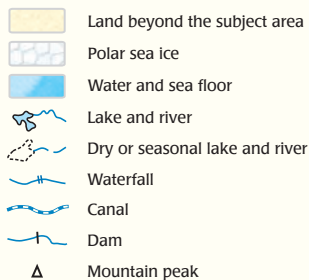
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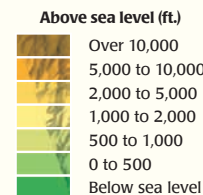


OTHER SYMBOLS

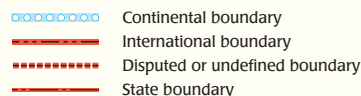


Elevation Map

COLOR CATEGORIES



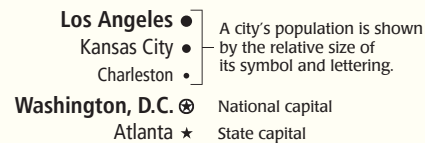
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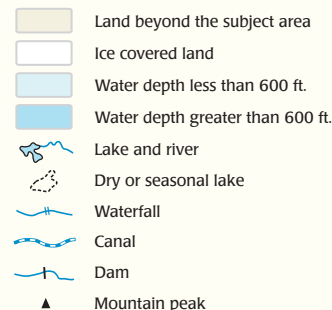
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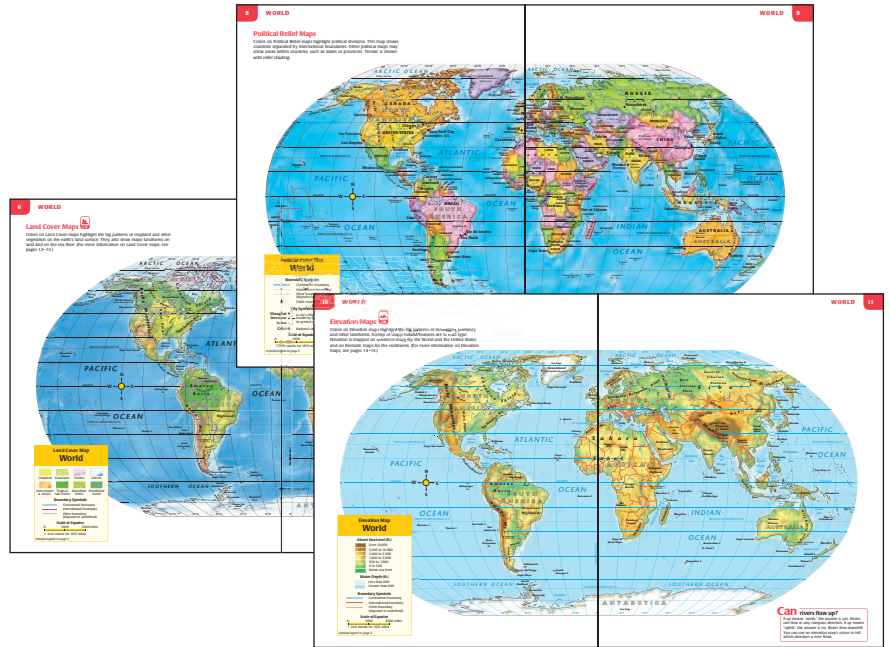
How to Use This Atlas

The *Nystrom World Atlas* offers rich coverage of the world and each continent.

To get the most out of the *World Atlas*, follow these steps.

A Become acquainted with the REFERENCE MAPS in this atlas.

See the Land Cover, Political Relief, and Elevation maps of the world on pages 6–11. Their detailed legends are on page 3.



B Check out the UNDERSTANDING sections on pages 12–25. They provide a foundation for understanding themes that are repeated throughout the atlas.

- 1 Look at the **title**, which tells you what the section is about.

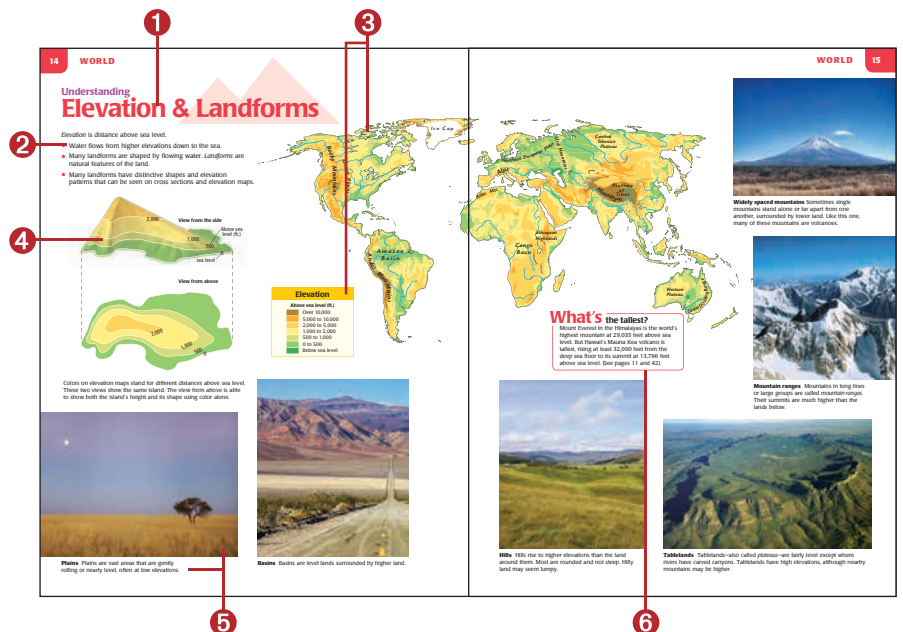
Then read the **introduction**. It provides an overview of the theme addressed on the spread.

Look at the **maps**. Their legends explain what the main colors and symbols on the map mean. Always read the legend before examining a map.

Diagrams and **cross sections** show slices of the earth, to make landscapes easier to comprehend. Their exaggerated height and depth make features easy to see.

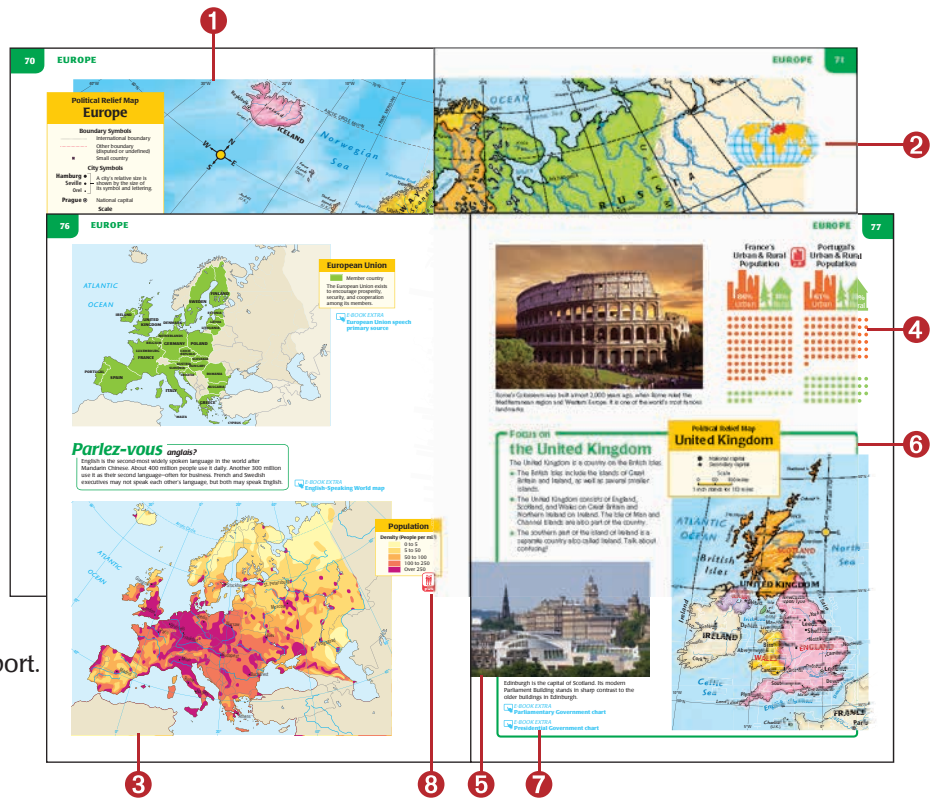
Also look at the **photos** and **graphs**. Read the photo captions. They help you understand the significance of each image.

Watch for **Geodes**, which are nuggets of geographic facts. Some provide helpful examples.



C Each continent is color-coded to make it easy to find your way through the atlas. Page through a continent.

- 1 First you'll find **reference maps**.
- 2 **Locator maps** show the location of the continent in relation to the world or a region in relation to the continent.
- 3 **Thematic maps** focus on a single topic or theme. Often the patterns on one thematic map become more meaningful when compared to the patterns on another. The five types of recurring thematic maps are shown at the bottom of this page.
- 4 **Graphs** summarize facts in a visual way, making it easier to see trends and make comparisons. Three recurring graphs appear throughout the atlas: Urban & Rural Population, People per Car, and Grain Import/Export.
- 5 **Photos** show people and places in a geographic context. Some provide examples of map categories. Others bring abstract ideas to life.
- 6 "**Focus on**" sections give special attention to important topics and issues.
- 7 **E-BOOK EXTRA** In the e-book version of the *World Atlas*, this symbol links to maps, graphs, or primary source documents on the topic.
- 8 Watch for these symbols. They let you know there is an Understanding section that explains the subject matter.



Other Reference Tools

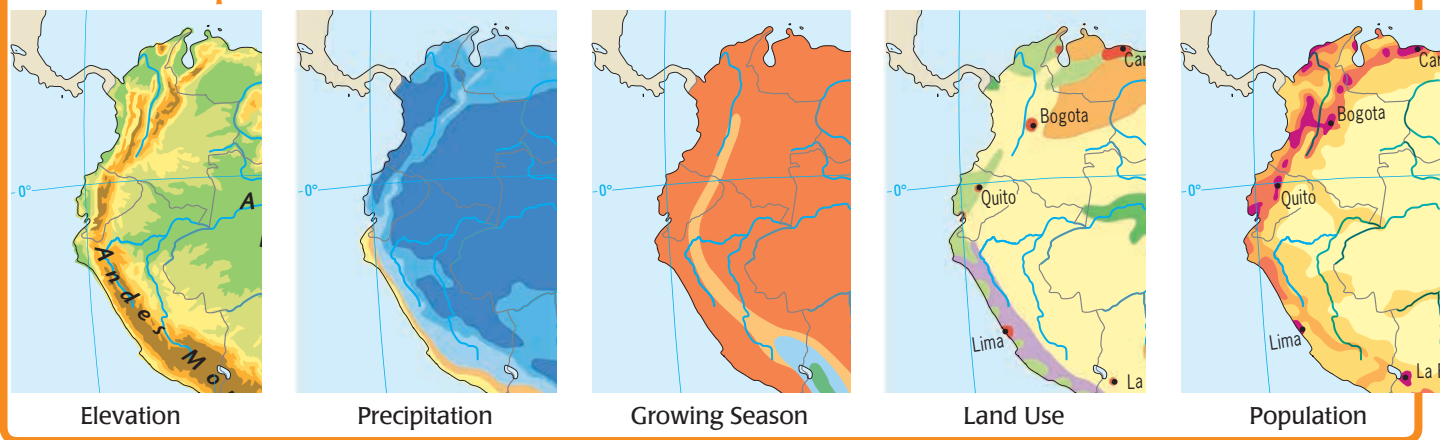
Map projections are the means by which the curved surface of the earth is transferred to the flat surface of a map.

Unfamiliar terms in italics are defined in context. Other terms are defined in the **Glossary**. Some definitions in the Glossary include page references to photos and special maps in the atlas.

The **Index** gives a description of the place, latitude and longitude, and page for many places named on the maps.



Thematic Maps







**Political Relief Map
Africa**

Boundary Symbols

- International boundary
- Other boundary (disputed or undefined)

City Symbols

- Alexandria ● A city's relative size is shown by the size of its symbol and lettering.
- Marrakech ●
- Huambo ●
- Algiers ★ National capital

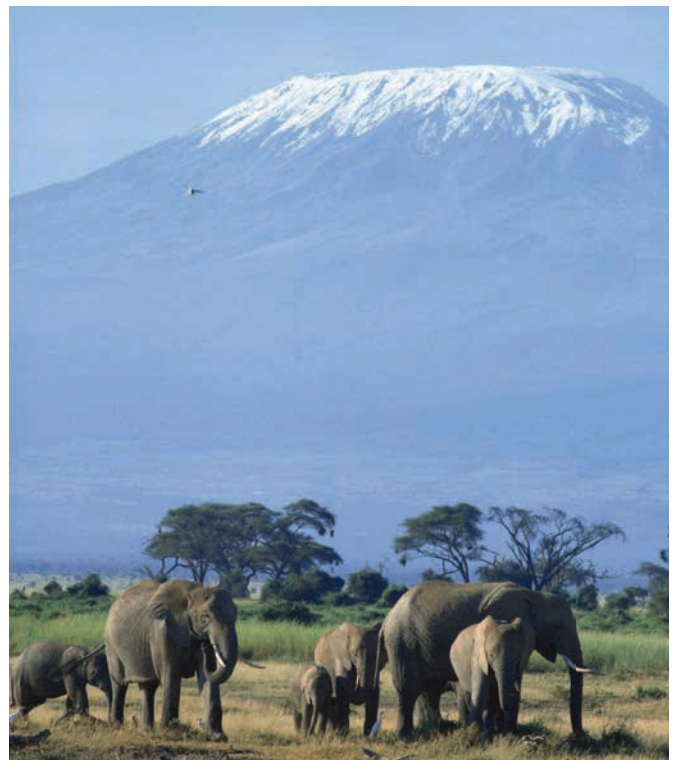
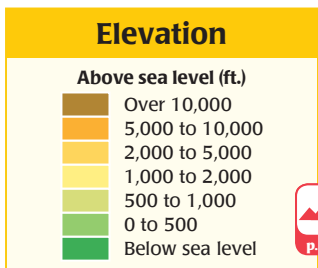
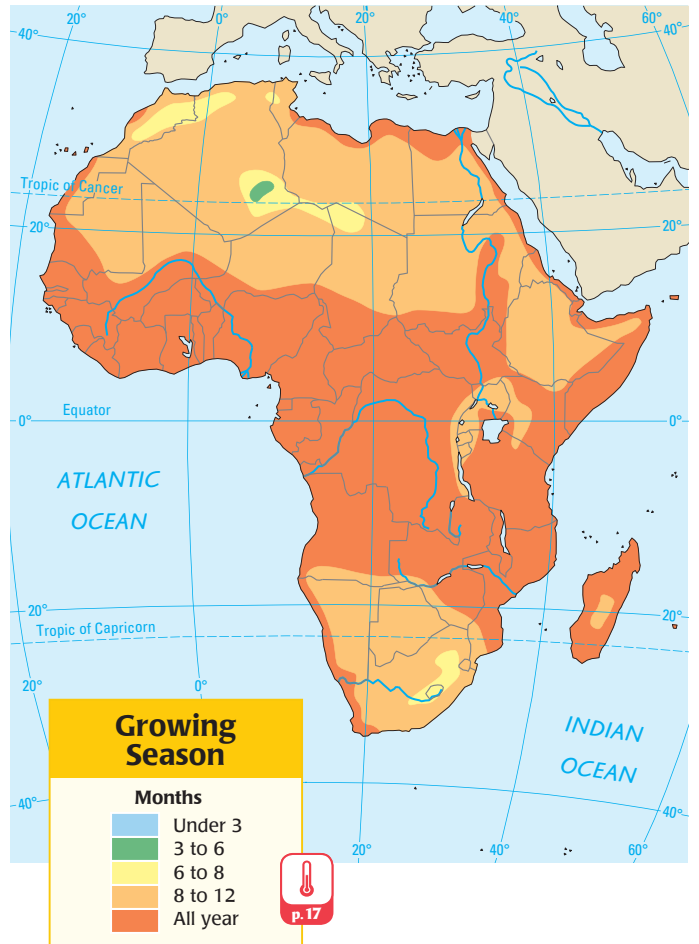
Scale

0 250 500 750 1000 miles
1 inch stands for 730 miles

Detailed legend on page 3



The Zambezi River drops steeply at Victoria Falls. African rivers flow from interior plateaus to the coast.



Elephants still roam the savanna near Mt. Kilimanjaro in one of Tanzania's game preserves.

Focus on the Sahara



The huge Sahara divides northern Africa from the rest of Africa.

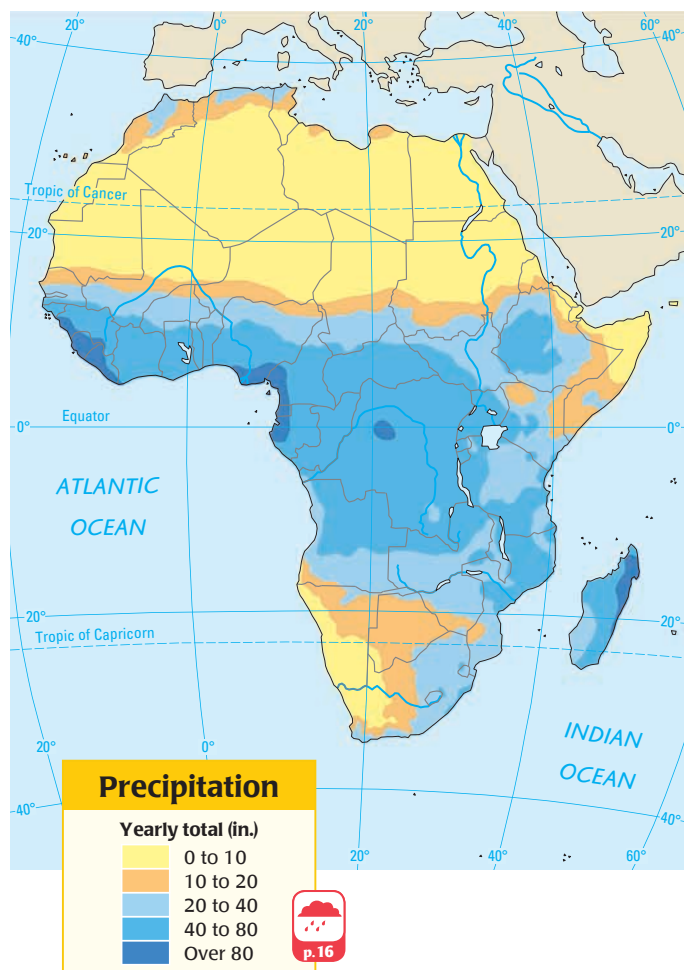
- The Sahara is larger than the 48 contiguous United States. No other desert is close to its size.
- In Arabic, *Sahara* means “desert.”
- The Sahara is famous for sand dunes, but much of the bone-dry desert is stony rather than sandy.

 **E-BOOK EXTRA**
Sahara Journey primary source



The Sahara's Size and Shape

	Sahara	3,500,000 mi. ² (approx.)
	48 States	3,021,295 mi. ²



How can a desert have a shore?

Just south of the Sahara is a dry grassland called the *Sahel*—Arabic for “shore.” Rainfall in the Sahel varies so much that the boundary between the Sahel and the Sahara shifts, like waves on a shoreline.



Ancient Egyptian pyramids tower over the Sahara. For scale, find the cars in the lower left part of the picture.

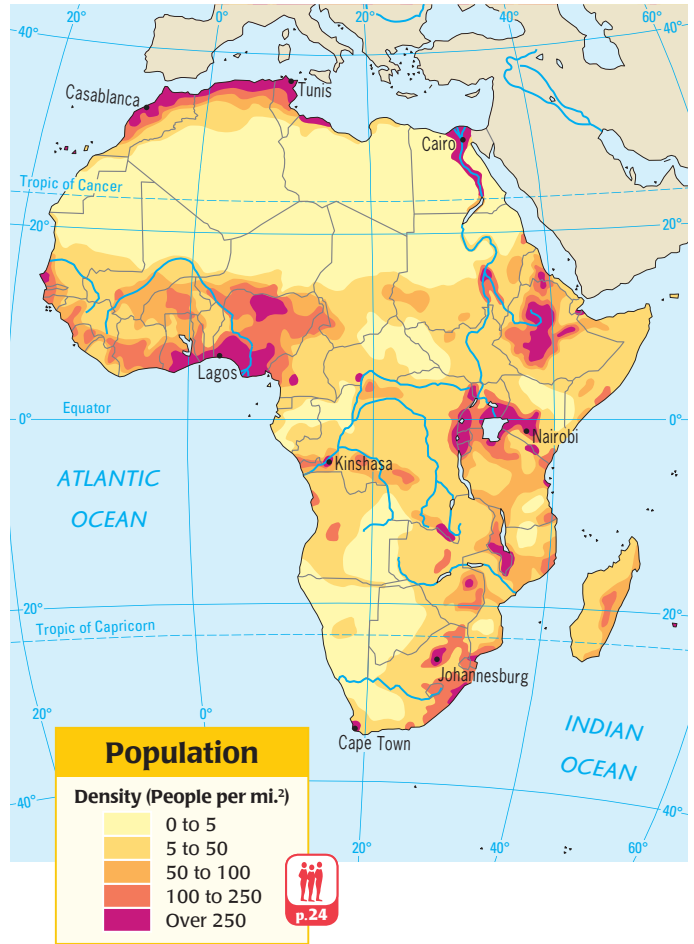
What did you say?

More than 800 languages are spoken in Africa's 54 countries. Communication can be difficult, not just between countries, but within them as well. In many places, the only common language is that of the last colonial power.

 **E-BOOK EXTRA**
Official Languages of Africa map



Mali was once a French colony. Students in Mali still speak and learn in French. However, in this class, they are learning another language, English.



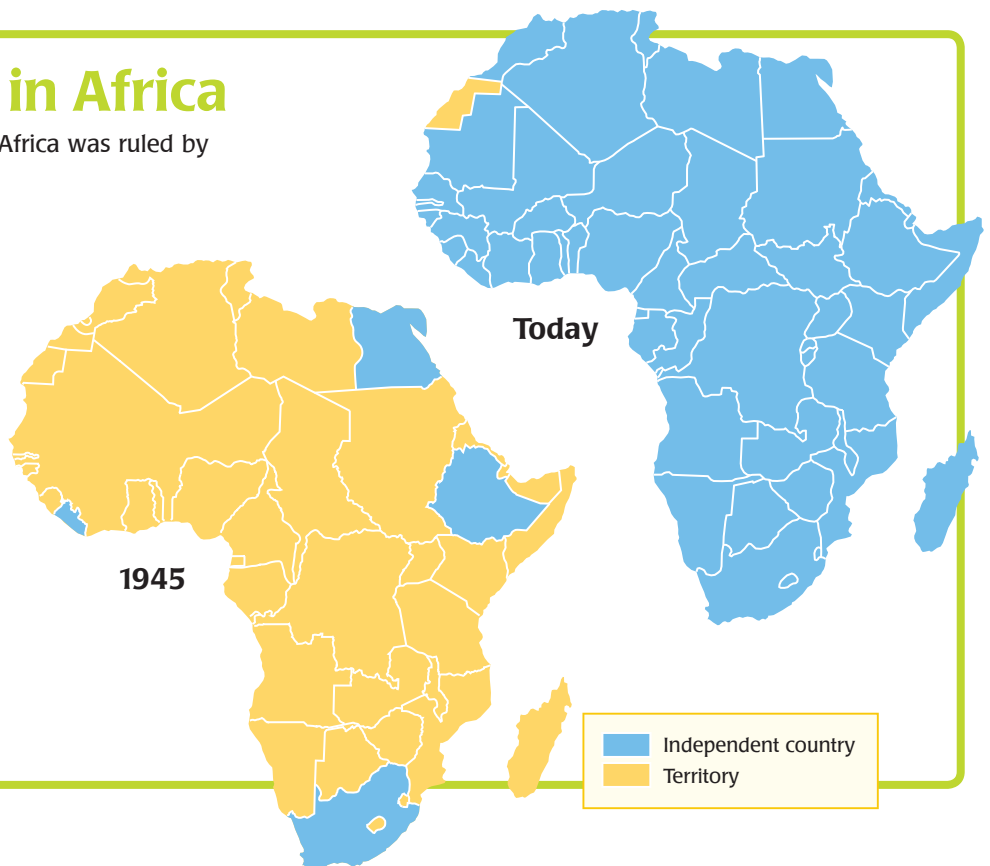
Focus on

Independence in Africa

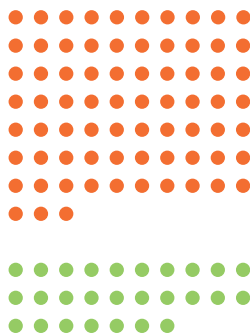
Between 1884 and 1945, most of Africa was ruled by European countries.

- In 1945 only Liberia, Egypt, Ethiopia, and South Africa ruled themselves.
- From 1945 to 1968, 38 African countries won their independence.
- Twelve more African countries gained their independence between 1973 and 2011.
- Which African country is still ruled by another government?

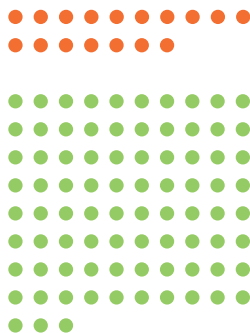
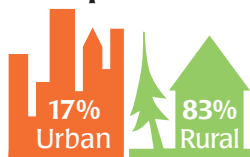
 **E-BOOK EXTRA**
African Independence primary source



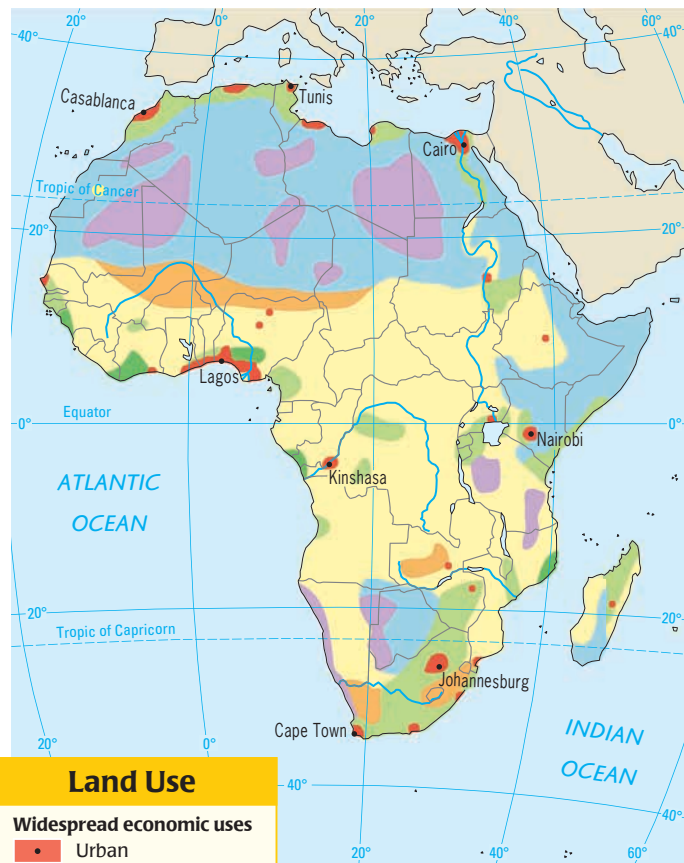
Algeria's Urban & Rural Population



Ethiopia's Urban & Rural Population



In Zimbabwe, a farmer tends her corn crop. Her house stands nearby.

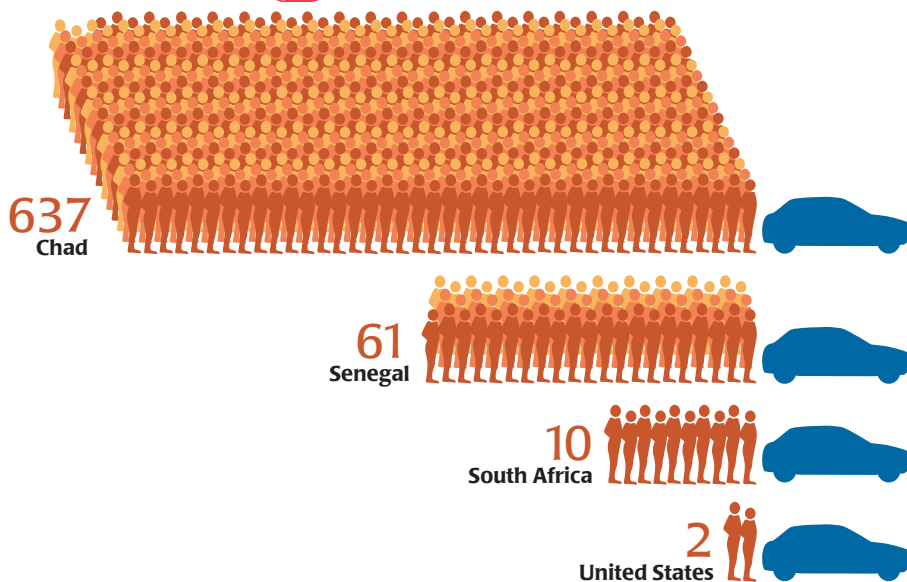


Land Use

Widespread economic uses

- Urban
- Commercial farming
- Subsistence farming
- Ranching or herding
- Nomadic herding
- Forestry
- No widespread use

People per Car



Nairobi is the capital of Kenya and a major business center for East Africa.