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Questions on Africa

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QUESTIONS ON AFRICA

By DAVID OLSON

State Normal School, Stevens Point, Wis.

1. Compare the position of Africa with that of South America.
2. How is the surface of Africa as a whole unlike that of the other continents? Which continent most nearly resembles it as to surface?
3. What rivers of Africa and South America have basins with similar position, climate and vegetation? Which is larger?
4. Compare the climates of Northeast Africa and Northeast South America. How are they unlike? Why?
5. Which continent has more arid land—Africa or South America? Why?
6. Why is there so large a desert area in northern Africa? What is its area?
7. What is a savanna? Where are the savanna belts of Africa? Why?
8. What animals of Africa are characteristic of the savanna belts? Why?
9. Where are the Tropical Forests of Africa? What African animals live in the forest?
10. What deserts of Africa and South America have a similar position and are due to the same causes?
11. What part of Africa has a rainfall comparable to that of the monsoon area of Asia?
12. What has prevented the large rivers of Africa from serving as easy means of transportation? To what extent have the difficulties been overcome?
13. What are the most striking features of the Nile River? Which of these does it possess in common with the Mississippi River? The St. Lawrence? The Colorado? The Amazon?
14. When do the floods of the Nile occur? Why?
15. What conditions favored the early growth of civilization in Egypt?
16. What is the size and purpose of the Assuan dam? Have any such enterprises been developed in this country? Where?
17. What is an oasis? What is the source of the water?
18. To what extent do oases determine the distribution of vegetation, population and villages in North Africa?
19. To what extent is Irrigation now carried on in Africa? Can it be developed as far as in the United States?
20. Why was Africa explored and settled so much later than North or South America?
21. What nations now hold territory in Africa? Which have the largest influence in the development of Africa?

22. How are these African holdings of European countries governed? Of what advantage are they to the home countries?
23. Has the partition of Africa been an advantage or a disadvantage to the native races?
24. What section of the continent is most developed? Why?
25. Why are the French building good roads through and across the Sahara region?
26. How do the products of the Kongo Basin compare with those of the Amazon Basin?
27. With what products does Africa compete with the United States in the markets of Europe? From what districts in each continent do these products come and to what extent are the conditions similar?
28. To what extent does the United States carry on commerce with African countries and what are the leading exports and imports?
29. What has been the influence of the Suez Canal in history and in the commerce of the present?

ASTRONOMICAL GEOGRAPHY TAUGHT FROM THE GLOBE

By WM. T. SKILLING

State Normal School, San Diego, Cal.

Following are some interesting facts which may be very simply demonstrated from an ordinary school-room globe.

1. The direction in which the sun sets or rises any day in the year.
2. The length of any day in the year.
3. The length of day in any latitude.
4. That in all latitudes the days and nights are each twelve hours long when the sun is over the Equator March 21st and Sept. 23rd.
5. That the days on the Equator are twelve hours long throughout the year.
6. The reason why, within the polar circles, there is a day each year of more than twenty-four hours in length without darkness, and a night of equal length without a sunrise.
7. Why the nights and days are each six months long at the poles—and nowhere else.

ASSUMPTION:

The principle upon which all the demonstrations are based is that we can see the sun one quarter of the distance around the earth in any direction. Beyond that it is below the horizon. This fact can be easily shown to a class by means of a diagram.