

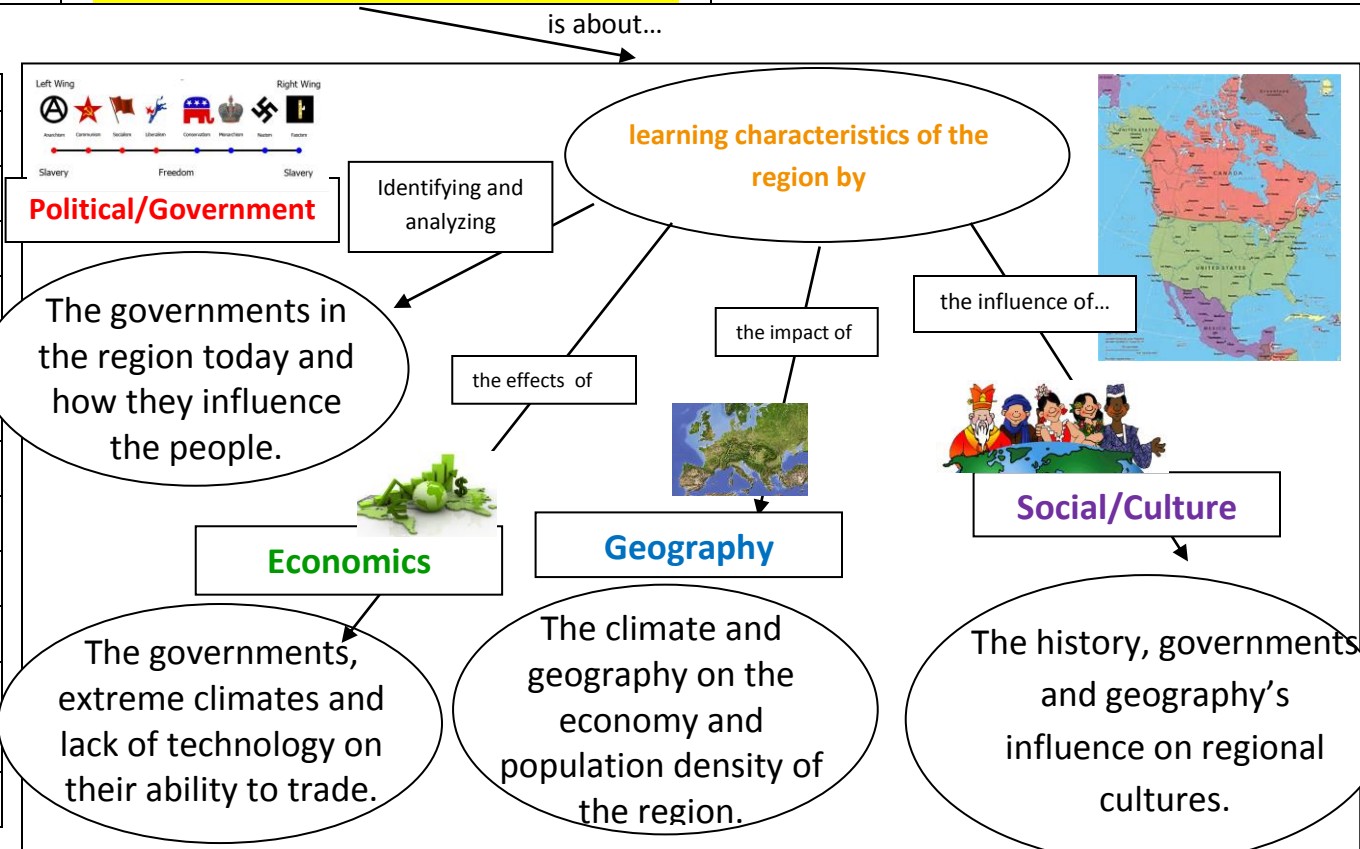
**Bigger Picture**  
The world we live in.

**Last Unit/Experience**  
Unit 6– Russia and the Eurasian Republics

**Current Unit**  
**Unit 7-Southwest Asia/North Africa (Middle East)**

**Next Unit/Experience**  
Unit 8 – Sub-Saharan Africa

Date	Unit Schedule	Grade

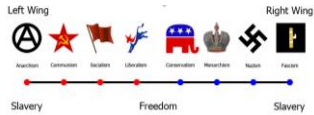


- Unit Self-Test Questions**
1. How does *\*geography* (land, mountains, rivers) influence economics and culture in the *\*region*?
  2. What are some *characteristics* (a distinguishing trait, quality, or property) of the governments of each country?
  3. Describe cultural *elements*. (things that make up a culture like religion, food, clothing, language)
  4. What are some examples that define each country's *diverse* (different) culture?
- \*geography: ge-og-ra-phy  
\*region: re-gion

- Unit Relationships**
- Analyze
  - Describe
  - Determine
  - Compare and Contrast

## Unit 7-Southwest Asia/North Africa (Middle East)

### Expanded Unit Map



### Political/Government

Israel is the only country in the region with a Jewish majority.

Israel and Iraq are countries with limited governments in the region and several are in transition.

Saudi Arabia has a monarchy (King).

Religious differences have resulted in many conflicts in the region, most recently between the Israelis (Jewish) and Palestinians (Islamic).

is about...



### Economics

The oil industry is the most dominant industry in the region.

Money from oil has led to other investments in the region to promote jobs.

The deserts greatly limit agriculture and travel in the region.

The Suez Canal has led to increased trade in the region.

learning characteristics of the region.



### Geography

North Africa and Southwest Asia are mostly deserts.

Know the locations of Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia & Israel.

Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean and the Red Seas, cutting time and cost to travel.

The Nile River Valley is home to most people in Egypt.

- Southern Nile is difficult to travel on, less people live in this region.



### Social/Culture

Islamic religion spread rapidly in the Middle Ages has led to Islam being the dominant religion in the region today.

Muslims follow the Five Pillars of Faith, which includes a Hajj or journey to Mecca to honor the religious sites.

The Jewish holiday Yom Kippur, is a day of asking forgiveness.

Judaism, Islam and Christianity all originated in Southwest Asia, many sites in Israel are considered holy to all three.