

Building Vocabulary

chernozem	Ural Mountains	Eurasia
Transcaucasia	Central Asia	Siberia
continentality	taiga	runoff
czar		

A. Sentence Completion Select the term that best completes the sentence.

- Some geographers consider Europe and Asia to be a single continent, which they call _____.
- _____ is a region that includes Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
- The largest forest on Earth, the _____, is composed primarily of coniferous trees.
- Dangerous _____—rainfall not absorbed by soil—eventually polluted the Aral Sea.
- Russia's emperor, or _____, ordered work to start on a railroad from Moscow to the Pacific port of Vladivostok.

B. Matching Match the definition in the second column with the word in the first column. Write the appropriate letter next to the word.

_____ 1. chernozem	a. emperor of Russia
_____ 2. Ural Mountains	b. the name of the part of Russia that lies on the continent of Asia
_____ 3. Transcaucasia	c. a region that consists of the republics of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia
_____ 4. Siberia	d. one of the world's most fertile soils
_____ 5. continentality	e. rainfall not absorbed by soil
_____ 6. taiga	f. a forest that lies south of the tundra
_____ 7. runoff	g. distance from the moderating influence of the sea
_____ 8. czar	h. they separate the Northern European and West Siberian plains

C. Writing About Geography Imagine that you are an exchange student studying in Moscow, Russia. During your stay you have taken various tours of the country. Using each of the following terms correctly, write a letter to a friend that describes Russia. Use the back of this page and underline each term you use.

Ural Mountains Eurasia taiga
Siberia chernozem

Building Vocabulary

Baltic Republics	St. Petersburg	Russian Revolution
USSR	Cold War	command economy
collective farm	Red Army	<i>supra</i>
Silk Road	nomads	Great Game
yurts		

A. Sentence Completion Select the term that best completes the sentence.

- The _____ include Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.
- The former capital of Russia, named _____, provided direct access by sea to western Europe.
- The Soviet government created enormous _____ on which large teams of laborers were gathered to work together.
- By the early 1920s, the _____—the name of the Soviet military—had taken control of Transcaucasia
- The _____ is the name given by Arthur Connolly to the struggle between Great Britain and Russia over Central Asia.

B. Matching Match the definition in the second column with the word in the first column. Write the appropriate letter next to the word.

_____ 1. Russian Revolution	a. a nation created by the Communist Party
_____ 2. USSR	b. a tent used by nomads
_____ 3. Cold War	c. an elaborate dinner party
_____ 4. command economy	d. a trade route through Central Asia
_____ 5. <i>supra</i>	e. people who have no permanent home.
_____ 6. Silk Road	f. a type of economy in which the central government makes all important decisions
_____ 7. nomads	g. a revolt that ended the rule of the czars
_____ 8. yurts	h. conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union that never grew into direct warfare

C. Writing About Geography Imagine that you are a foreign correspondent visiting the Soviet Union in 1935. Using each of the following terms correctly, write a news report about conditions in this new nation. Use the back of this page and underline each term you use.

USSR	collective farm	Red Army
Russian Revolution	command economy	

Building Vocabulary

distance decay Caucasus Nagorno-Karabakh
 privatization Chechnya

A. Sentence Completion Select the term that best completes the sentence.

1. The _____ is a region that straddles mountains, which stretch from the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea.
2. Among the republics that remained part of Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union, _____ has experienced the most violent upheaval.
3. Armenia claims _____ because over 75 percent of its population is ethnic Armenian.
4. _____, or the process of selling government-owned businesses, has had mixed success in Russia.
5. A major obstacle facing economic reformers in Russia is _____, another way of saying that increasing distances between places tends to reduce interactions among them.

B. Matching Match the definition in the second column with the word in the first column. Write the appropriate letter next to the word.

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|---------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Caucasus | a. to the north of this region lie the Russian republics of Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia, and North Ossetia |
| _____ 2. Chechnya | b. the process of selling government-owned businesses |
| _____ 3. Nagorno-Karabakh | c. a mountainous area of Azerbaijan |
| _____ 4. privatization | d. in Russia, a problem with the interaction between the central government and the regional governments |
| _____ 5. distance decay | e. Russia invaded this republic in 1996 and in 1999 |

C. Writing About Geography Imagine that you live in the Caucasus. Using each of the following terms correctly, write a diary entry that describes some of the political turmoil in your area. Use the back of this page and underline each term you use.

Caucasus Chechnya Nagorno-Karabakh