


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Louisiana History Notes

Chapter 2: Louisiana's Geography: Rivers and Regions

Louisiana's Location	Checking for Understanding
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. _____ location refers to a specific place on planet Earth.</li> <li>2. _____ location explains where a place is in relation to another place.</li> <li>3. Absolute location can also be described using a system of lines of _____ and _____.</li> <li>4. _____ measures a location's distance north or south of the equator.</li> <li>5. _____ measures how far east or west a location is from the Prime Meridian.</li> <li>6. _____ lies between 28° and 33° north latitude and 89° and 94° west longitude.</li> <li>7. One of the boundaries between Louisiana and _____ is set at 33° N latitude.</li> <li>8. The boundary between Louisiana and _____ is set at 31° N latitude.</li> <li>9. 94° W longitude sets the border between Louisiana and _____.</li> <li>10. The _____ River shapes the upper/northern boundary between Louisiana and _____.</li> <li>11. The _____ River forms the southeastern boundary between Louisiana and Mississippi.</li> <li>12. _____ Reservoir and the _____ River form the Southwestern border with Texas.</li> <li>13. The _____ forms the southern border of Louisiana.</li> <li>14. Louisiana is one of several states that form the _____ region of the United States.</li> <li>15. _____, _____, and _____ are three states that lie further south than Louisiana.</li> <li>16. Louisiana ranks _____ in total land area in the U.S. with _____ sq. miles.</li> </ol>	<p>A. Using your knowledge of social studies why is it important to have a system of Latitude and Longitude?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>B. Using the information in statements 6 – 13 on the left, identify the bordering states and natural boundaries of Louisiana.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>C. Using the information in statement 16 calculate the following information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many Rhode Island's (1,214 sq mi) would fit into Louisiana?</li> <li>b. How many Louisiana's would fit into Alaska (663,000 sq mi)?</li> </ol>

Louisiana's Waterways

- 17. \_\_\_\_\_ defines Louisiana's geography and physical landscape.
- 18. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest body of water affecting Louisiana.
- 19. Louisiana has nearly 5,000 miles of navigable \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 20. The story of Louisiana cannot be told without the \_\_\_\_\_ River.
- 21. The Algonquians named it the \_\_\_\_\_, which means "great river".
- 22. The \_\_\_\_\_ called the Mississippi River the Rio del Espiritu Santo (River of the Holy Spirit).
- 23. The Mississippi River drains 1.2 million sq. miles, which covers \_\_\_\_\_ states.
- 24. The Mississippi River empties in to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 25. The second longest river in Louisiana is the \_\_\_\_\_ River, which starts in the high plains of New Mexico.
- 26. The \_\_\_\_\_ River is the most altered river in Louisiana.
- 27. \_\_\_\_\_ altered the course of three rivers at \_\_\_\_\_, forever cutting the Red and Atchafalaya Rivers from the Mississippi.
- 28. The \_\_\_\_\_ River begins in central Mississippi and forms part of the boundary between Louisiana and Mississippi and empties into \_\_\_\_\_.
- 29. The \_\_\_\_\_ River begins in Vernon Parish and empties into the Gulf of Mexico.
- 30. The \_\_\_\_\_ Waterway runs along the Gulf Coast to provide inland safe passage for smaller vessels.
- 31. The \_\_\_\_\_ River forms part of the border between Texas and Louisiana.
- 32. The \_\_\_\_\_ Reservoir is the fifth largest in the United States and provides \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Excerpt from Pere Marquette's Prayer to the Immaculate Conception**  
**By Brother Andre Marie**  
**December 2012**

A prayer Father Marquette authored in his youth, which would help to explain why he named the great waters <sup>1</sup> he found "The River of the Immaculate Conception":

Hail daughter of God the Father, hail Mother of God the Son, hail spouse of God the Holy Ghost, hail temple of all the Persons of the Trinity, by your holy virginity and your Immaculate Conception, make clean my heart and my song.

Coincidentally, the Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto had already named the Mississippi *Río del Espiritu Santo* (River of the Holy Ghost) in 1541. Separated by 132 years, the Spanish named the River for Our Lady's Spouse, and the French named it for Our Lady. Disciples of [Saint Maximilian Kolbe](#) may see in this concurrence a happy resemblance to that Marian apostle's theories involving the Holy Ghost as the *Uncreated* Immaculate Conception and the Blessed Virgin as the *Created* Immaculate Conception.

D. Using the passage above, why do you think the river early names had a religious connection?

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E. Using the information in statement 23, how does this impact the geography of Louisiana?

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33. \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest natural lake in Louisiana covering 625 Sq. miles.
34. \_\_\_\_\_ is another large lagoonal lake just to the west of Lake Pontchartrain.
35. \_\_\_\_\_ are created by log jams that block the natural flow of a river.
36. The most common features of a raft lake are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
37. An \_\_\_\_\_ forms when the main stream of a river has cut across the narrow end and no longer flows around the loop.
38. A \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most notable waterways associated with Louisiana.
39. Bayou \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are two of Louisiana's most well known bayous.

F. Draw and label the location of the two well-known bayous and three major rivers in Louisiana on the map below.

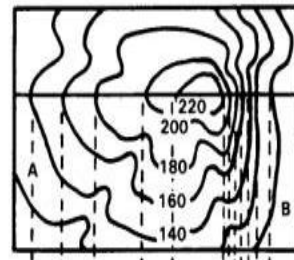


Louisiana's Natural Regions

40. Natural regions are defined and classified according to the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
41. \_\_\_\_\_ is the height of a place above sea level.
42. \_\_\_\_\_ is the difference between the highest and lowest elevation in a given area.
43. Lockett's early survey of Louisiana identified \_\_\_\_\_ major natural regions.
44. The natural regions of Louisiana are the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_.
45. A \_\_\_\_\_ is the level land that is likely to flood.
46. The soil in the Mississippi Floodplain is \_\_\_\_\_, meaning it was deposited by a river.

Checking for Understanding

G. Using the information in statements 41 & 42, what information does the map below tell you about the landform below.




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H. Why is alluvial soil important to the geography of Louisiana?

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47. The Mississippi River Floodplain is divided into 3 parts; the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
48. The \_\_\_\_\_ are the riverbanks built up over time by the sediment deposited by flooding.
49. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a seasonally flooded forest and is the lowest part of the river basin.
50. The \_\_\_\_\_ are the routes that the Mississippi River takes to merge with the Gulf of Mexico.
51. At the point where the river meets the sea and \_\_\_\_\_ forms and the water changes from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
52. The three divisions of Louisiana's Terraces Regions are the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
53. The \_\_\_\_\_ are the highest part of the terrace region.
54. The \_\_\_\_\_ are the large areas of flat land with very few trees.
55. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a wet, treeless prairie covered with water and grasses.
56. The two types of marshes found in Louisiana are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
57. Louisiana's \_\_\_\_\_ are mainly found along the coastline in the saltwater marshes.
58. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are 5 well known salt dome islands in Louisiana.
59. The \_\_\_\_\_ region borders the Red River as it flows from the northwestern corner of the state to central Louisiana and is a smaller version of the Mississippi Floodplain.
60. The \_\_\_\_\_ region in northern Louisiana has the roughest terrain in the state.
61. \_\_\_\_\_ are ridges of uplifted rock that has unfertile soil.
62. Louisiana's highest point is \_\_\_\_\_ it is called a mountain but only has an elevation of 535 ft.

I. Use the sources below and your knowledge of Social Studies to answer the question.

**Source 1**

The Greek letter Delta ( $\Delta$ ) in math and science is most associated with change or difference

**Source 2**

A river delta is a landform that forms from deposition of sediment carried by a river as the flow leaves its mouth and enters slower-moving or stagnant water.

Why are the landforms located at the mouth of a river called a delta?

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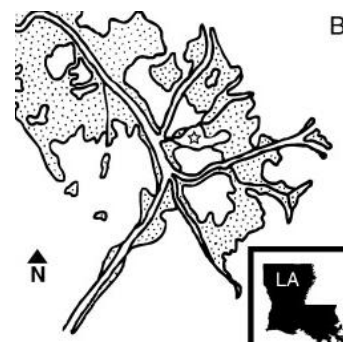


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J. Label the Passes of the Mississippi River on the map below.



- K. Saltwater marshes contain brackish water. Which choice best describes the word brackish?
  - a. It is a mixture of clear and muddy water.
  - b. It is a mixture of salt and fresh water.
  - c. River water that empties into a lake or gulf.
  - d. Salt water that is converted to fresh water.
- L. Avery Island is best known for this popular Louisiana product.
  - a. Mobile Oil
  - b. Zatarain's Creole Seasoning
  - c. Tabasco
  - d. Filé Gumbo Seasoning

**Louisiana's Climate**

63. \_\_\_\_\_ is the measure of the current conditions of the atmosphere, such as temperature, precipitation, and wind.

64. \_\_\_\_\_ is the average weather conditions over a long period of time.

65. Louisiana's climate is considered \_\_\_\_\_ because it has long hot summers and short mild winters.

66. \_\_\_\_\_ is any form of water (liquid or solid) that falls from the atmosphere and hits the ground.

67. \_\_\_\_\_ are dangerous funnel shaped windstorm that can develop in minutes with little warning and cause significant damage.

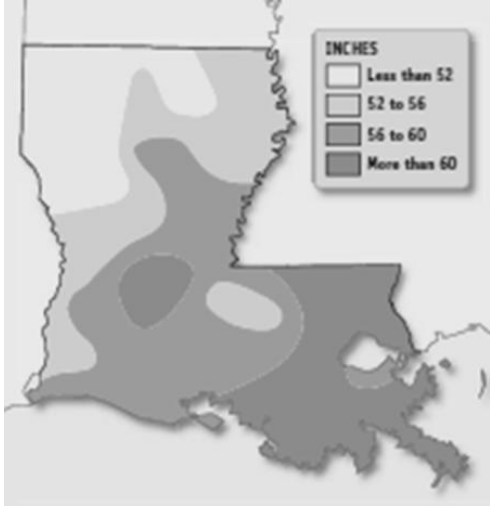
68. \_\_\_\_\_ a large storms that begin over warm tropical waters that have winds of 74 mph or greater.

69. \_\_\_\_\_ impacts the coastline when the hurricane moves towards land and pushes water inland.

70. Louisiana's climate provides for a long \_\_\_\_\_, which is the number of days between the last killing frost in the spring and the first killing frost in the fall.

**Checking for Understanding**

M. Use the map below answer the following question.



Why does Southeast Louisiana receive more precipitation than Northwest Louisiana?

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N. Using your knowledge of Social Studies, what are some of the advantages of Louisiana having a long growing season?

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**People and the Environment**

71. \_\_\_\_\_ has been a battle between humans and nature in Louisiana since 1718.

72. The \_\_\_\_\_ became the agency responsible for preventing flooding along the Mississippi River.

73. The flood control systems built to control flooding include \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Checking for Understanding**

74. The \_\_\_\_\_ led to the building of levees to channel the river between its banks until it reaches the Gulf of Mexico.
75. The structures that were built to protect people and property in the Mississippi River Valley has meant disaster for Louisiana's wetlands such as the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
76. \_\_\_\_\_ is the natural process where the land sinks over time due to the lack of sediments to build up the land.
77. The demand for \_\_\_\_\_ has led to the expedited loss of Louisiana's wetlands.
78. Louisiana's coastal marshes are \_\_\_\_\_ for more than 75% of the fish other seafood indigenous to the Gulf of Mexico.
79. \_\_\_\_\_ are found along the coastline that protects the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ from the impact of ocean waves and a hurricane's storm surge.
80. The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act to provide federal funds for \_\_\_\_\_ projects each year.
81. The introduction of non-native \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ species into Louisiana has created new environmental challenges.

O. Use the maps below to compare Louisiana's coastline from 1839 to 1993 and answer the question that follows.



What are some of the factors that have contributed to the change in Louisiana's coastline?

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P. How has the oil industry contributed to the loss of wetlands in Louisiana?

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Q. How has the introduction of non-native species into Louisiana caused new environmental problems?

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