

Performance Task: *World Mountains*

Teacher Directions: In this activity, students will demonstrate their understanding of world mountains using both a map and a written assignment.

Ask students to annotate the Performance Task Activity map with the locations of the mountains and mountain ranges studied in this unit. Then have students write a paragraph discussing the benefits and challenges that mountains present for people.

A sample table, completed with possible notes, is provided below to serve as a reference for teachers, should some prompting or scaffolding be needed to help students get started. Individual students are not expected to provide a comparable finished table. The goal of the sample table is to provide enough detail for students to complete the writing part of their assignment.

Benefits of Mountains	Challenges of Mountains
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• provide homes for animals, such as goats, llamas, and yaks• contain valuable minerals, such as gold, copper, and zinc• contain coal, which is used to generate electricity• keep out or slow down invasions• allow unique cultures to develop• provide recreational opportunities such as skiing and mountain climbing• create downhill flow of water, which can be used to generate electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• act as barriers• difficult to farm on steep mountainsides• block the flow of moisture• can make people sick because of thin air at higher elevations• require different constructions, such as S-curve roads, tunnels, and canals, to make travel easier

Performance Task Scoring Rubric

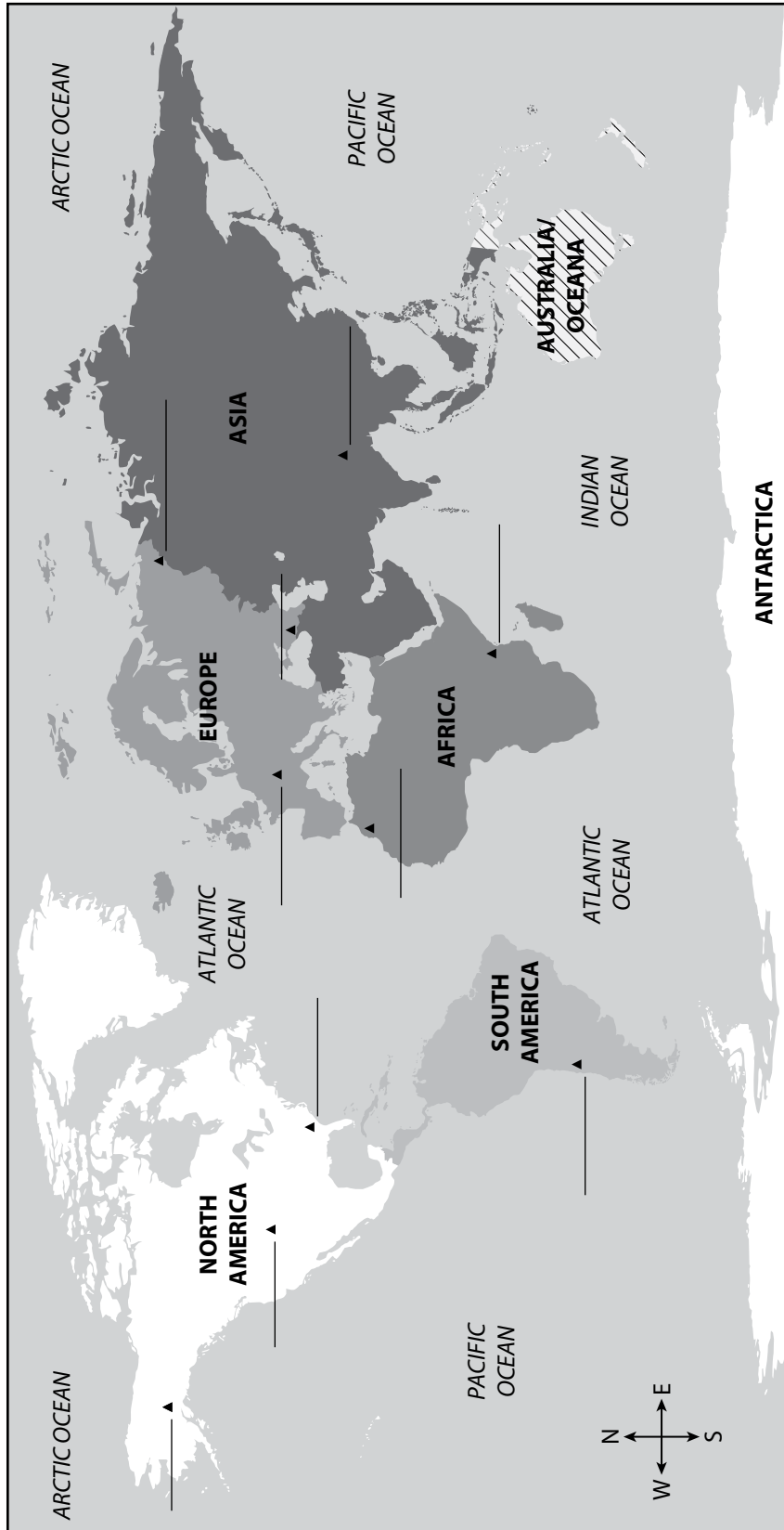
Note: Students should be evaluated on the basis of their completed maps and paragraphs, using the rubric.

Students should not be evaluated on the completion of the notes table, which is intended to be a support for students as they first think about their paragraphs.

Above Average	Map is labeled with 85% accuracy, i.e., eleven of the thirteen mountains correctly labeled. Paragraph is accurate, detailed, and persuasive. The writing is clearly articulated and focused and demonstrates strong understanding of the benefits and challenges of mountains. A few minor errors may be present.
Average	Map is labeled with 80% accuracy, i.e., ten of thirteen mountains correctly labeled. Paragraph is mostly accurate and somewhat detailed. The writing is focused and demonstrates a solid understanding of the benefits and challenges of mountains. Some minor errors may be present.
Adequate	Map is labeled with 80% accuracy, i.e., ten of thirteen mountains correctly labeled. Paragraph is mostly accurate but lacks detail. The writing demonstrates a basic understanding of the benefits and challenges of mountains. The writing may also exhibit issues with organization, focus, and/or control of standard English grammar.
Inadequate	Map is incomplete or inaccurate, i.e., nine or fewer of the thirteen mountains are correctly labeled. Paragraph demonstrates a minimal understanding of the benefits and challenges of mountains. The writing may exhibit major issues with organization, focus, and/or control of standard English grammar.

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World Mountains Performance Task Notes Table

Use the table to help organize your thoughts as you refer to *World Mountains*. You do not need to complete the entire table to write your paragraph, but you should try to have two or three specific examples in each column.

Benefits of Mountains	Challenges of Mountains

Name _____

Date _____

Activity Page 1.1

Use with Chapter 1

Cool Facts About World Mountains

Mountain Range	Mountain Name or Famous Peak	Location	Type of Mountain	Interesting Facts
Alaska	Denali			
Alps				
Andes				
Appalachians				

Name _____

Date _____

Activity Page 1.1 (continued)

Use with Chapter 1

Mountain Range	Mountain Name or Famous Peak	Location	Type of Mountain	Interesting Facts
Atlas				
Caucasus				
Himalayas	Mount Everest			
Rockies (Rocky Mountains)				

Name _____

Date _____

Activity Page 1.1 (continued)

Use with Chapter 1

Mountain Range	Mountain Name or Famous Peak	Location	Type of Mountain	Interesting Facts
Ural Mountains				
(None)	Mount Kilimanjaro			

Name _____

Date _____

Activity Page 1.2

Use with Chapter 1

Major Mountain Ranges and Mountains of the World

Mountain Name	Major Range or System	Location	Elevation (in feet)	Elevation (in meters)	Highest in (the):
Mt. Everest	Himalayas	Asia (Nepal/ Tibet)	29,028	8,848	World
Mt. Aconcagua	Andes	South America (Argentina)	22,835	6,960	Western Hemisphere
Denali	Alaska	North America (United States)	20,320	6,193	North America
Mt. Kilimanjaro	none	Africa (Tanzania)	19,340	5,895	Africa
Mt. Elbrus	Caucasus	Europe (Russia)	18,481	5,633	Europe
Mont Blanc	Alps	Europe (France/Italy)	15,771	4,807	Alps
Mt. Jebel Toubkal	Atlas	Africa (Morocco)	13,671	4,167	North Africa
Mt. Narodnaya	Urals	Eurasia (Russia/ Kazakhstan)	6,214	1,894	Russian Urals

Name _____

Date _____

Major Mountain Ranges and Mountains of the World

