

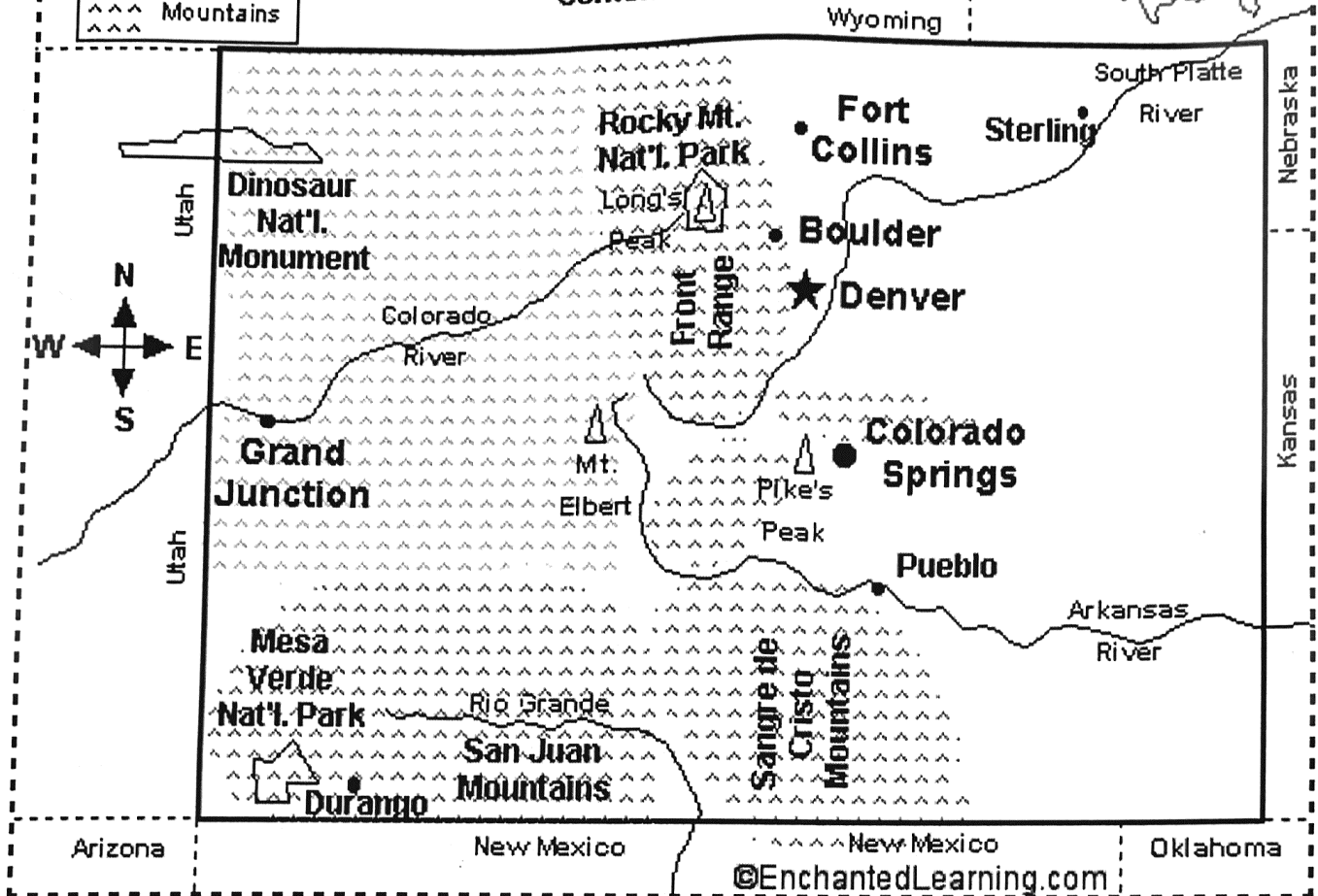
Colorado Map/Quiz Printout

Key

- ★ State Capital
- City
- ▲▲▲▲ Mountains

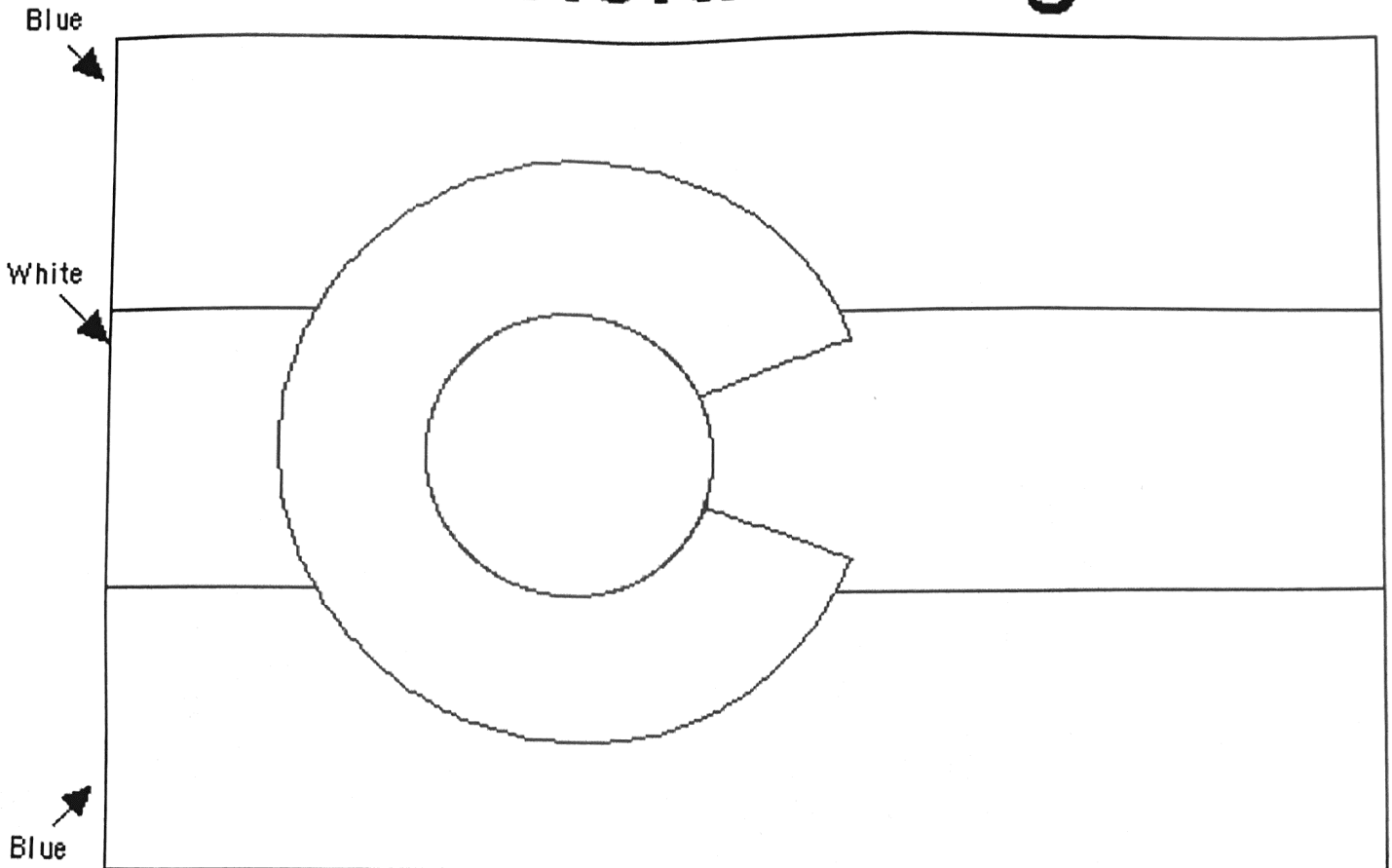
Colorado

"Centennial State"



1. What is the capital of Colorado? _____
2. What two states border Colorado on the north? _____ and _____
3. What two states border Colorado on the east? _____ and _____
4. What two states border Colorado on the south? _____ and _____
5. What state borders Colorado on the west? _____
6. The "Four Corners," where four states intersect, is located at the southwest tip of Colorado. What are the three other states that touch Colorado at this point? _____, _____, _____, and _____
7. Name four large rivers in Colorado. _____, _____, _____, and _____
8. The Rocky Mountains go through Colorado. Name three mountain ranges in Colorado. _____, _____, and _____
9. Name a National Monument in Colorado named for fossils found there. _____
10. What is the nickname of Colorado? _____

Colorado Flag



Red "C" surrounding a
golden sun

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The official state flag of Colorado was adopted on June 5, 1911. It was designed by Andrew Carlisle Johnson in 1911.

The white in the flag symbolizes Colorado's snowcapped mountains, the blue symbolizes clear blue skies, the red symbolizes the reddish soil, and the golden yellow represents the Sun. Attached to the flag is a cord of gold and silver, intertwined with gold and silver tassels.

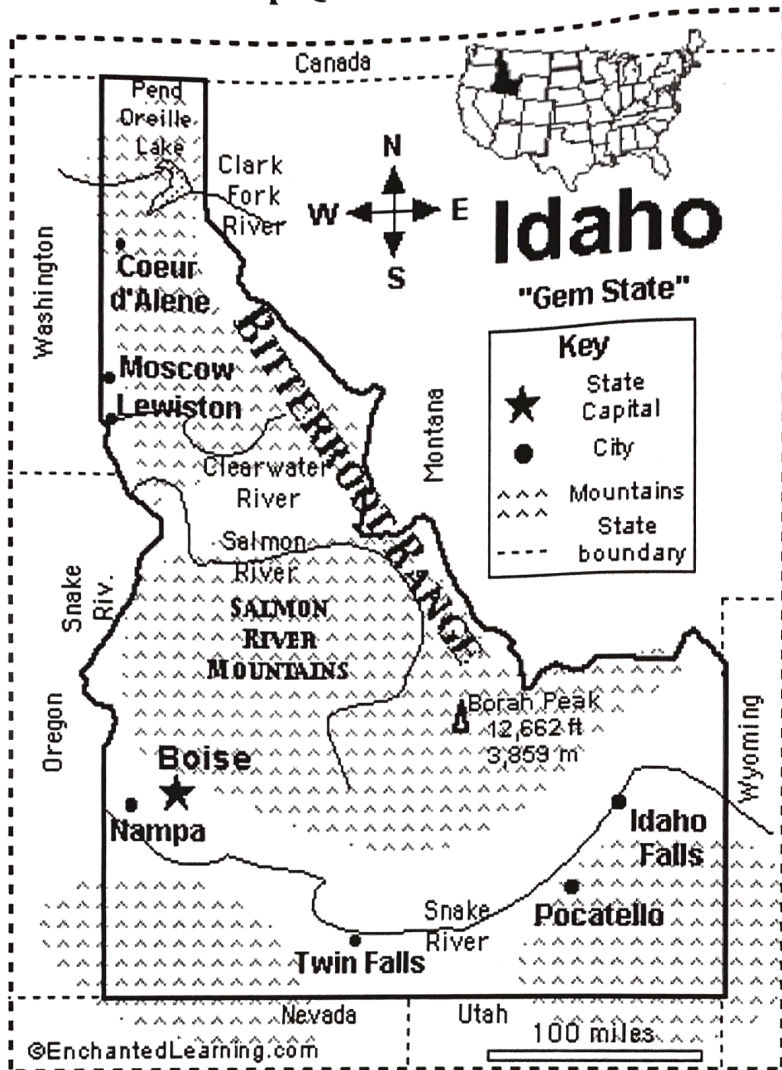
Colorado was the 38th state in the USA; it was admitted in 1876.

Questions:

1. What does the color white symbolize in Colorado's flag? _____
2. What does the color red symbolize in Colorado's flag? _____
3. In what year was this flag designed? _____

Name: _____

Idaho Map/Quiz Printout



1. What is the capital city of Idaho?

2. What two states border Idaho on the east?
_____ and _____
3. What two states border Idaho on the south?
_____ and _____
4. What two states border Idaho on the west?
_____ and _____
5. What country borders Idaho on the north?

6. What is the name of the river that runs by Idaho Falls?

7. What is the name of the river that runs through the Salmon River Mountains?

8. What is the name of the mountain range that runs along much of the eastern border of Idaho?

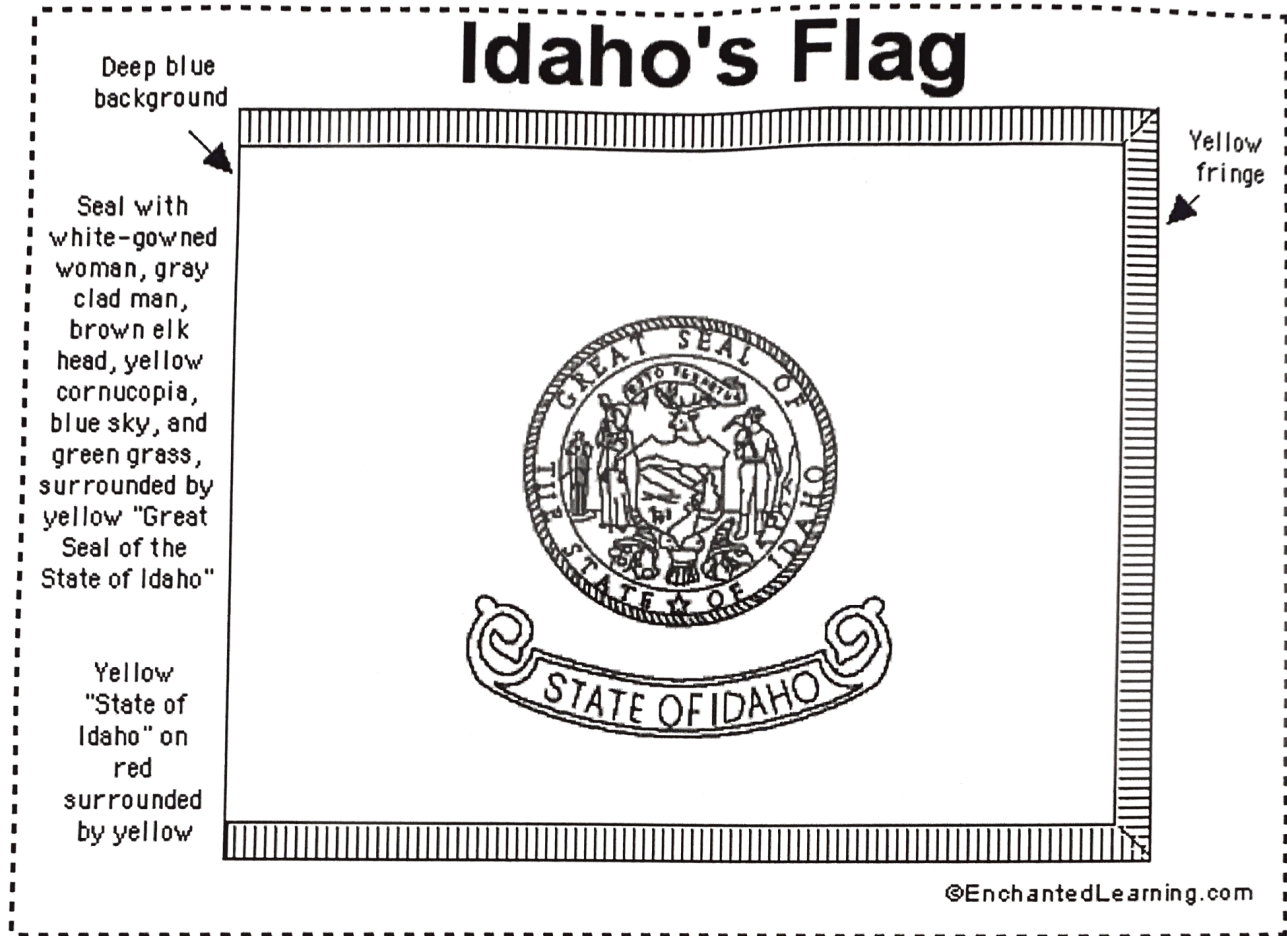
9. What is the name of the lake in the far north of Idaho (located on the Clark Fork River)?

10. The tallest peak in Idaho is 12,662 feet tall. What is its name? _____

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Idaho Flag Printout

Name: _____



Idaho's official flag was adopted in 1907. The flag is deep blue with the state seal in the center surrounded by a yellow band. The seal pictures a man (a miner carrying a pick and wielding a shovel) and a woman (carrying the scales of justice, symbolizing liberty and justice), the motto "ESTO PERPETUA" (meaning "May it endure forever"), two full, yellow cornucopias, an elk head atop a shield (picturing a river, settlers, a fir tree, and mountainous land), a sheaf of grain, green grass, and a blue sky. The flag is surrounded by a yellow fringe on three sides. The state seal was designed by Emma Edwards Green.

Idaho was the 43th state in the USA; it became a state in 1890.

Questions:

1. What type of antlered animal is pictured on the state seal within Idaho's flag?

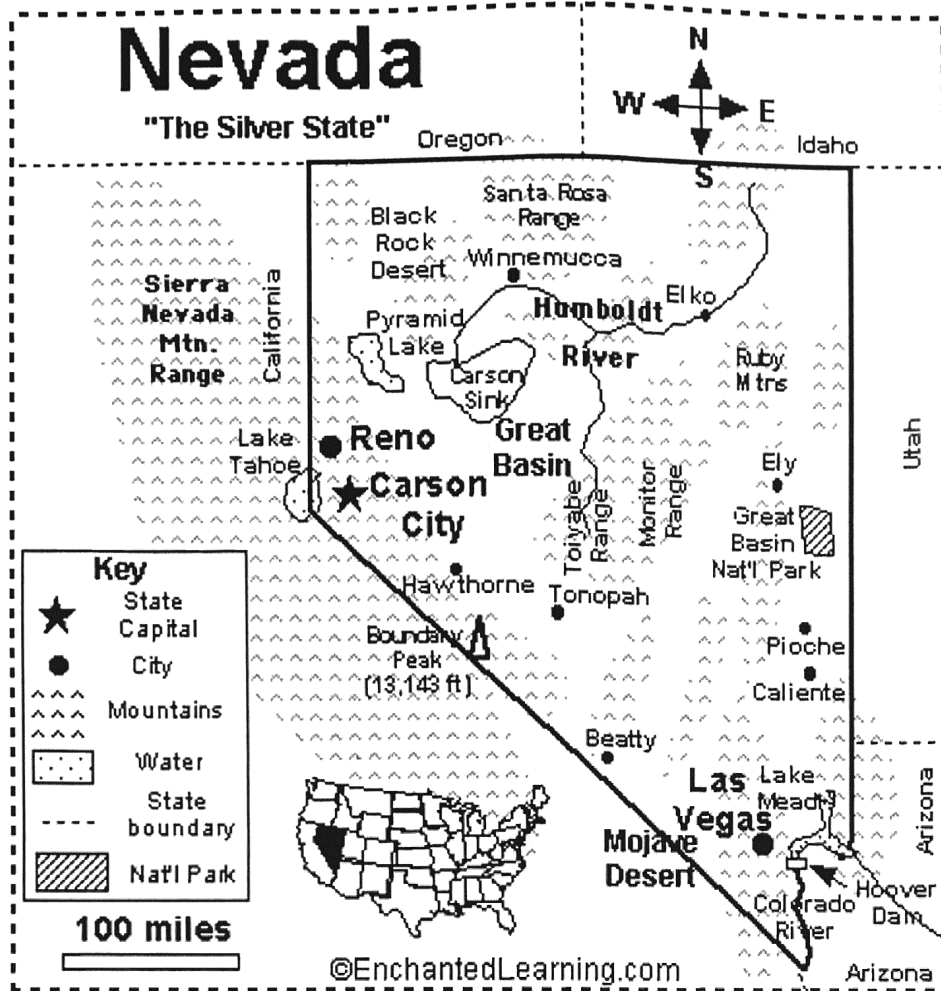
2. When did Idaho become a state? _____

3. When was Idaho's flag officially adopted? _____

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Nevada Map/Quiz Printout

Name: _____



1. What is the capital of Nevada? _____
2. What two states border Nevada on the north? _____ and _____
3. What two states border Nevada on the east? _____ and _____
4. What state borders Nevada on the south and west? _____
5. What is the name of the river that runs from northeastern Nevada through Winnemucca? _____
6. What is the name of the dam on the Colorado River along the Arizona-Nevada Border?

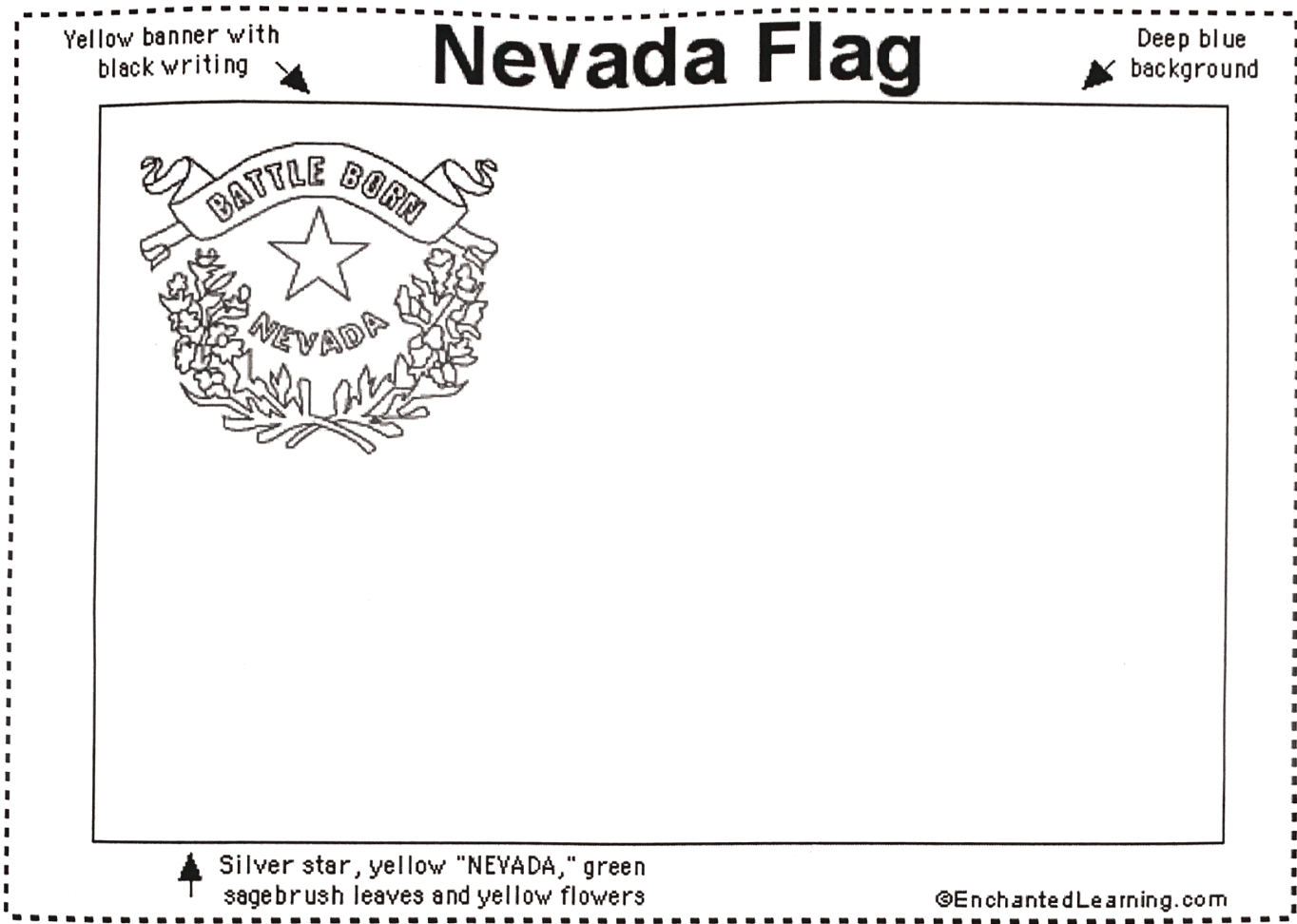
7. What is the name of the man-made lake that was formed by this dam? _____
8. What is the name of the large city in southeastern Nevada? _____
9. What is the name of the National Park in eastern Nevada?

10. What is the nickname of Nevada? _____

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Nevada Flag Printout

Name: _____



↑ Silver star, yellow "NEVADA," green sagebrush leaves and yellow flowers

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Nevada's official flag was adopted on March 26, 1929, but was revised on June 8, 1991. The flag has a deep blue background. It pictures a yellow, flowing ribbon that reads "BATTLE BORN." A five-pointed silver star and the words NEVADA are under the ribbon. These are surrounded by green sagebrush with yellow flowers.

Sagebrush is Nevada's state flower. The silver star represents the rich mineral wealth of Nevada, especially the famous Comstock lode (discovered in 1859), which is one of the largest silver and gold mines ever found. The words "Battle Born" on Nevada's flag allude to fact that Nevada became a state during the Civil War.

Nevada was the 36th state in the USA; it became a state in 1864.

Questions:

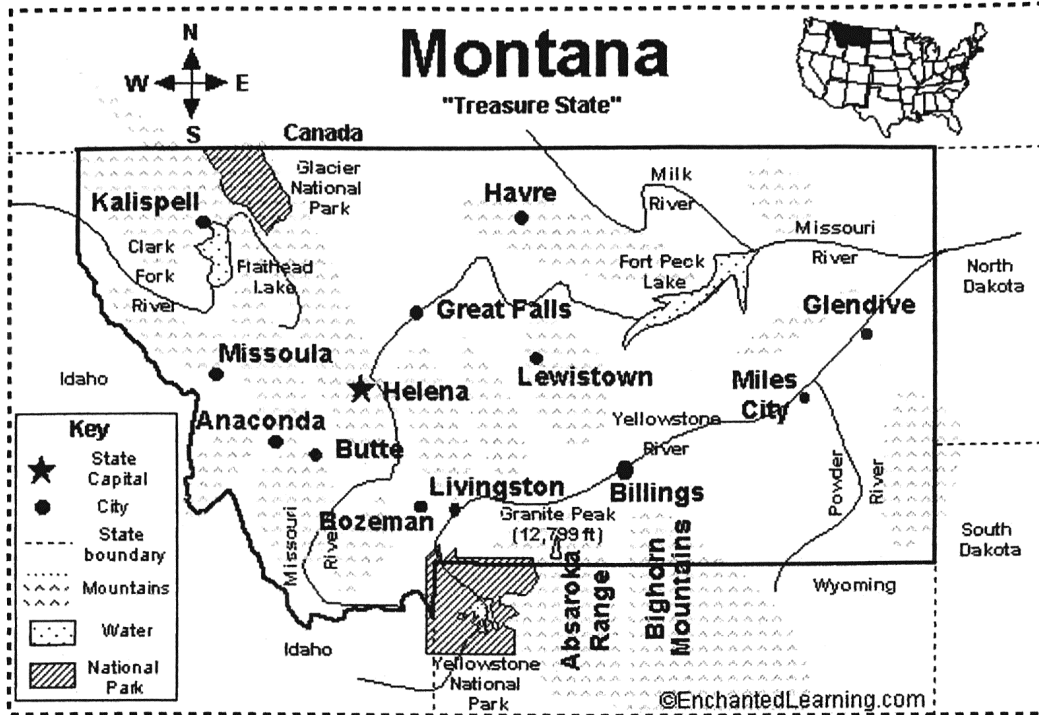
1. In what year did Nevada become a state?

2. What major event in U.S. history was going on when Nevada became a state?

3. What is Nevada's state flower? _____

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Name _____



1. What is the capital of Montana? _____
2. What country borders Montana on the north? _____
3. What two states border Montana on the east? _____ and _____
4. What two states border Montana on the south? _____ and _____
5. What state borders Montana on the west? _____
6. What Montana river runs through Miles City? _____
7. Montana is the only state in the USA that has a triple divide, where water can flow into the Pacific, the Atlantic, or Hudson Bay. This divide is located at Triple Divide Peak, located in a National Park in northwestern Montana. What is the name of this Park? _____
8. What is the name of the large lake in northwestern Montana? _____
- 9.. The tallest mountain in Montana is 12,799 feet tall, and is in the Absaroka Range. What is its name?

Name _____

Date _____

Period _____

State Name/ Nickname	Capital City	Abbrev.	Major Cities	Bodies of Water	Landforms	Bordering States
Colorado						
Idaho						
Nevada						
Montana						

Geography of the West Region, Part 2

By Trista L. Pollard

The West Region has many interesting landforms. You have read about its mountains, canyons, ranges, and valleys. Now you will learn about its drier and wetter landforms.

There are desert and **semi desert** areas in the West Region. Semi desert areas are not as dry and bare as desert areas. The Mojave Desert is in southern California. In Utah, there is the **Great Salt Lake Desert**. These deserts receive very little rain each year. Very few plants are able to survive in deserts. They have to live with very little water. One type of desert plant is a **cactus**. Cactuses can survive for long periods without water. You may be surprised to know that there are 2,000 different types of cactuses. The **Saguaro National Monument** is a great place to see cactuses. This desert area has giant saguaro cactuses.



You may be surprised to learn that some cities are located in desert areas. In the Mountain West Region, Las Vegas, Nevada, is located in a desert area. It is one of our country's most famous cities. Its population has grown in recent years. You can also visit Reno, Nevada, and Salt Lake City, Utah. Both are found in desert areas.

The West Region has rivers that empty into the Pacific Ocean. In fact, the Mountain West Region has a line that divides our continent in half. This line is called the **Continental Divide**. The Continental Divide is a line of ridges. It runs north and south through the Rocky Mountains. All rivers that begin west of the divide flow into the Pacific Ocean. Rivers that begin east of the divide flow into the Gulf of Mexico or towards the Atlantic Ocean. The Continental Divide is the reason rivers in the West Region flow into the Pacific.

The Mountain West's rivers have shaped its land. The Colorado River is responsible for the Grand Canyon and the Colorado Plateau. It is the region's most important river. People in the West region rely on it for drinking water and irrigation. One of our most famous dams is located on this river. It is the **Hoover Dam**. The Colorado, which begins in the Rockies, flows south and west. It flows through Colorado, Utah, and Arizona. The river empties into the **Gulf of California**. The gulf then flows into the Pacific Ocean. In northwestern Wyoming, there is the **Snake River**. If you find it on a map, you will see why it has this name. The river is curved like a snake. The Snake River flows through Idaho into Washington State. Since it begins in the western Rocky Mountains, it flows toward the Pacific Ocean. It combines with the **Columbia River** as it flows through Washington.

There are other Mountain West rivers that flow into the Gulf of Mexico. The **Missouri River** begins in the eastern Rocky Mountains. It flows across the Great Plains of Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The river also forms the borders of four other states. Finally, it empties into the Mississippi River. The **Platte River** begins its journey in the Rockies. It flows through Wyoming and Nebraska. The Platte is a **tributary** of the Missouri River. The last major river, the **Rio Grande**, flows through all of New Mexico. It empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

The West Region is known for its variety of climates. The eastern part of the region receives a lot of rain. As you travel across the region, the rainfall amounts decrease. The Pacific Coast receives a large amount of rain. If you live in the Pacific Northwest, you are in an area that gets a lot of rain. Even with the rainfall, the West Region has more droughts than the rest of the U.S. In the Rocky Mountains, there is heavy snow. The snow remains on the ground for months at a time. Once the snow melts, the water goes into the Colorado, Rio Grande, and other rivers. Violent weather tends to happen east of the Rocky Mountains. This is where you will see violent thunderstorms and tornadoes.

In the southern part of the region, the weather is very warm. Arizona and New Mexico have warm winters and very little rainfall. Around the Rocky Mountains and Colorado Plateau the winter temperatures can be very low.

Name _____



Date _____

The climate of the Mountain West depends on the land's elevation. Places at higher elevations have cooler climates. Summers in the mountains are cool.

The Pacific West has the most variety in its climate. You could travel from extremely hot and dry climates to cold and rainy climates all in this subregion. Southern California has dry, hot weather. The Mojave Desert and Death Valley are located here. Washington State and Oregon have cooler climates and more rainfall. Along the coast, the climate is cool. You will find lower temperatures in California, Oregon, and Washington along their coastlines. The Pacific West valleys also have cooler climates.

Two states in the Pacific West have very different climates. Alaska has mild and extremely cold temperatures. Northern Alaska is near the Arctic Ocean. Lakes and rivers in this area are frozen for most of the year. The winters are very cold with strong winds. Southern Alaska has warmer temperatures. Summer in cities like Juneau, its capital, is mild. Hawaii is in a tropical zone. It is warm all year round. There is a lot of rainfall all year. This helps palm trees and other tropical plants to grow year round.

With its variety of landforms and climates, the West Region is a definite stop on your tour of the United States regions.

Geography of the West Region, Part 2

Questions

1. Based on context clues, what does **tributary** mean?

2. The winter temperatures around the Rocky Mountains and the Colorado Plateau tend to be high.
A. True
B. False

3. Compare the climates of Alaska and Hawaii.

4. Explain the Continental Divide.

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California Map/Quiz Printout

Name: _____



1. What is the capital of California? _____
2. What ocean borders California on the west? _____
3. Which country borders southern California? _____
4. What state borders California on the north? _____
5. What 2 states border California on the east? _____ and _____
6. What is the name of the National Park located east of San Francisco? _____
7. The lowest point in the USA is in a valley in south-eastern California. What is the name of this valley? _____
8. Name two mountain ranges in California. _____ and _____
9. What is the largest city in northern California? _____
10. What is the largest city in southern California? _____

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California Flag Printout

Name: _____



The official state flag of California, called the Bear Flag, was first used on June 14, 1846, but was not officially adopted until 1911. It was designed by William Todd. The flag pictures a grizzly bear and a star.

The first Californian flag was quickly made by a group of American settlers who had just captured the town of Sonoma (from Mexico) and needed a flag to replace the Mexican banner.

California was the 31st state in the USA; it was admitted in 1850.

Questions:

1. What type of bear is depicted in this flag? _____
2. How many stars are on this flag? _____
3. In which California town was this flag first flown? _____



1. What is the capital of Washington? _____
2. What ocean borders Washington on the west? _____
3. What state borders Washington on the east? _____
4. What state borders Washington on the south? _____
5. What country borders Washington on the north? _____
6. Name two mountain ranges in Washington state. _____ and _____
7. Name three volcanic mountains in Washington. _____, _____, and _____
8. What is the largest city in the state of Washington? _____
9. What is the name of the large dam in central Washington? _____
10. What is the name of the large river that forms much of this state's southern border? _____

Washington State's Flag Green ↗



George Washington
on a blue background ↑

Seal surrounded
by a yellow band ↑

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Washington's official flag was adopted in 1923. The flag has a deep green background with the state seal in the center. The state seal pictures George Washington, the first president of the United States. "THE SEAL OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON" is written in black on the yellow band surrounding George Washington. The state seal was designed in 1889 by Charles Talcott. This is the only US state flag that pictures a president and the only one with a green background.

Washington was the 42th state in the USA; it became a state in 1889.

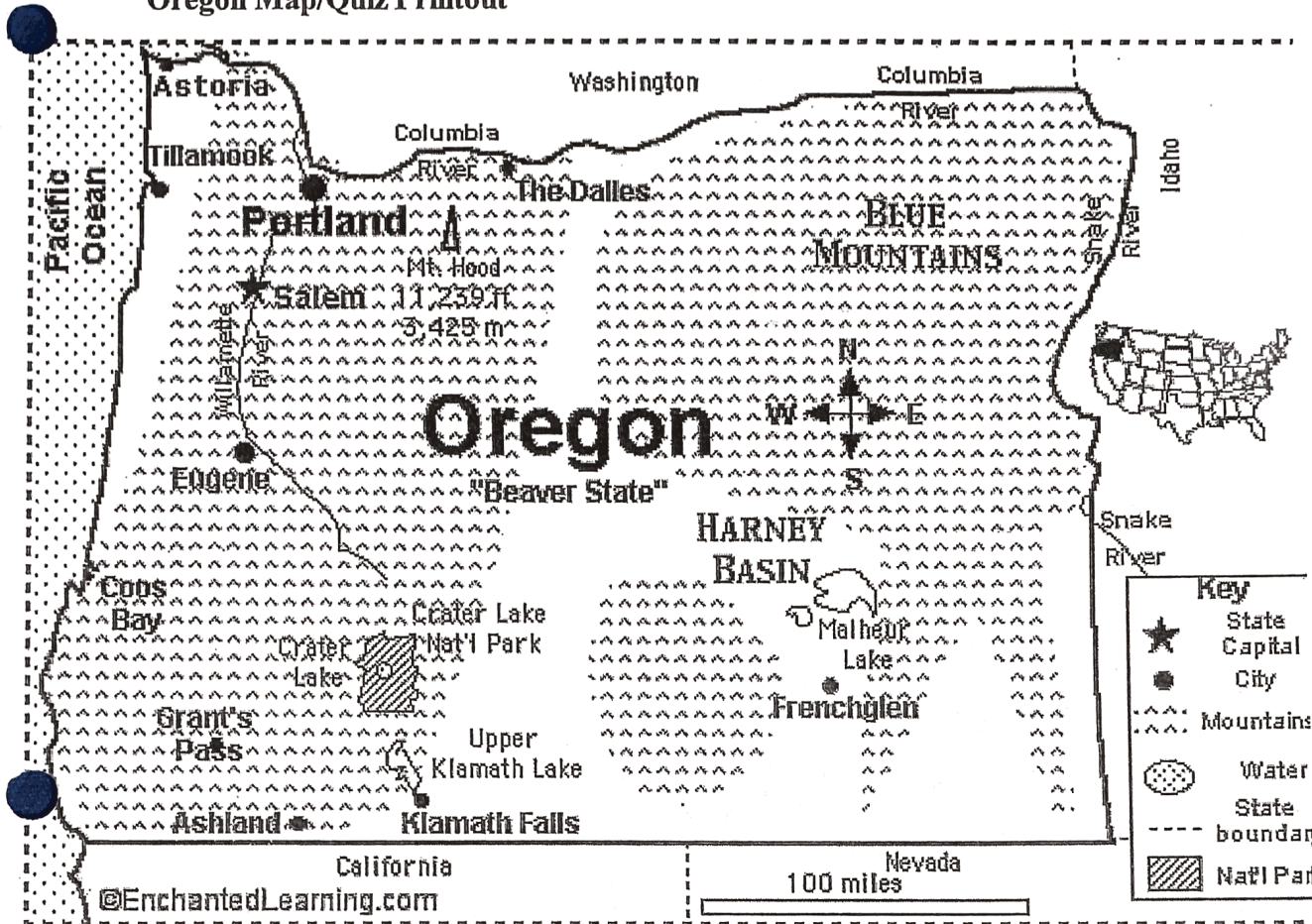
Questions:

1. When did Washington become a state? _____
2. How many US state flags have a green background? _____
3. When was Washington's flag officially adopted? _____

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Oregon Map/Quiz Printout

Name: _____

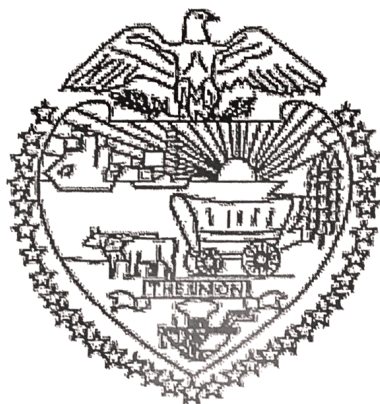


1. What is the capital city of Oregon? _____
2. What state borders Oregon on the north? _____
3. What state borders Oregon on the east? _____
4. What two states border Oregon on the south? _____ and _____
5. What ocean borders Oregon on the west? _____
6. What is the name of the river that forms the northern border of Oregon? _____
7. What is the name of the river that runs through Salem? _____
8. What is the name of the National Park in southwestern Oregon? _____
9. What is the name of the mountain range in northeastern Oregon? _____
10. The highest point in Oregon is a volcano that is 11,239 feet tall. What is its name? _____


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Oregon's Flag

STATE OF OREGON



1859

Blue background with
yellow writing and design 

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Oregon's official state flag was adopted in 1925. It is the only US state flag that still has a design on both sides. Both sides of the flag have a deep blue background and yellow designs. The reverse of the flag pictures a beaver (Oregon's state animal).

The front of the flag features the words "STATE OF OREGON" and the year "1859," the year Oregon became a state. Between these is a heart-shaped seal that pictures a landscape with mountains, trees, elk, a covered wagon, and a British warship leaving and an American steamship arriving. The ships symbolize the transfer of the Oregon Territory from the British to the US in 1846, when President James K. Polk signed a treaty with England giving this territory to the United States. The covered wagon represents the early Oregon pioneers who traveled on the Oregon Trail to settle in Oregon.

Oregon was the 33rd state in the USA; it became a state in 1859.

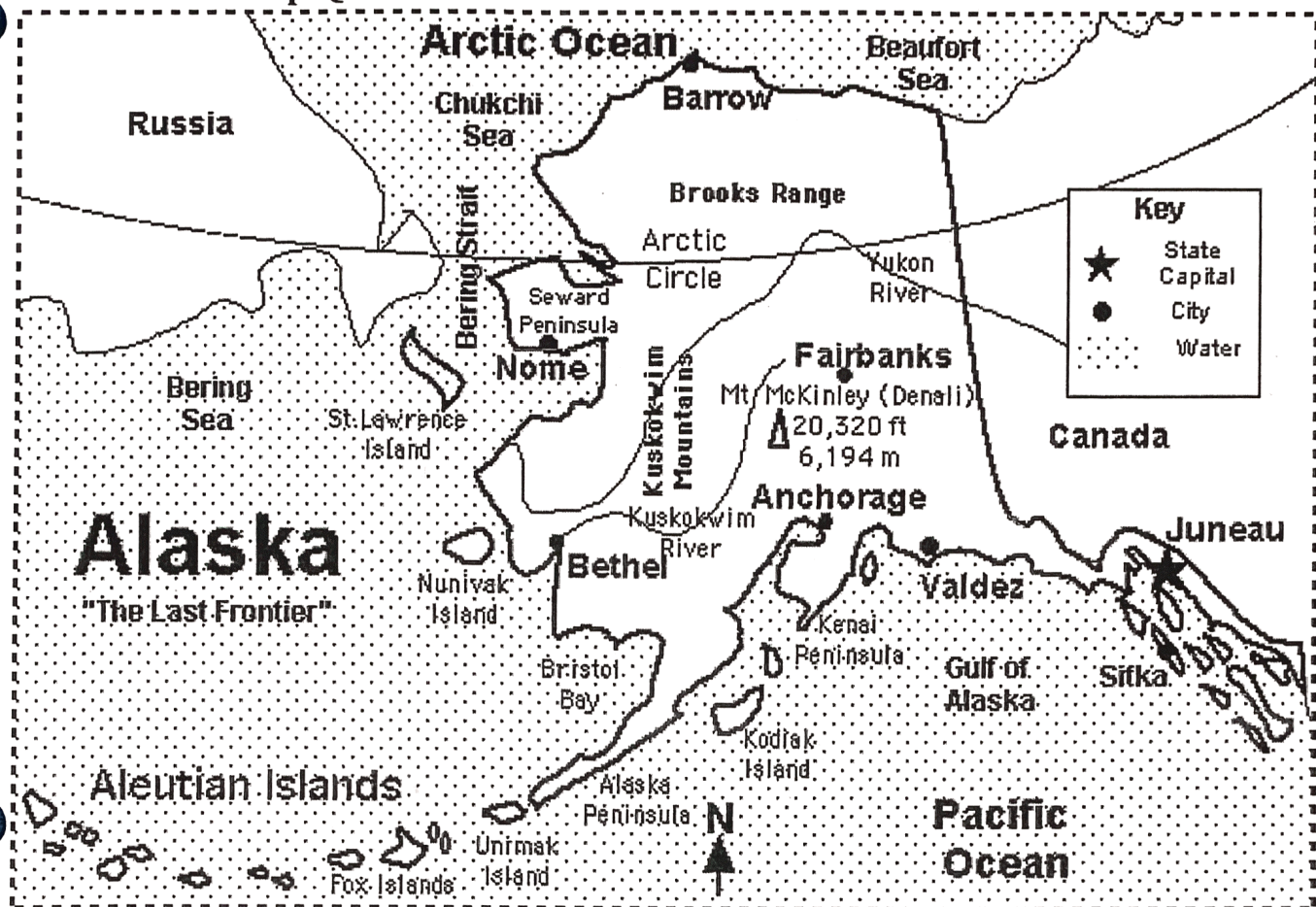
Questions:

1. On this flag, what does the year 1859 represent? _____
2. What is Oregon's state animal? _____
3. Is Oregon the only state that currently has a flag with designs on the front and back? _____

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Alaska Map/Quiz Printout

Name: _____



1. What is the capital city of Alaska? _____
2. What country borders Alaska on the east? _____
3. What ocean borders Alaska on the north? _____
4. What ocean borders Alaska on the south? _____
5. What country is just west of Alaska, across the Bering Strait? _____
6. What is the name of the tallest mountain in Alaska (it is also the tallest peak in North America)?

7. What is the name of the river that flows from Canada, across Alaska, and into the Bering Sea? _____
8. Which Alaskan city is farthest north? _____
9. The Iditarod dog sled race runs from Anchorage to a city on the southern coast of the Seward Peninsula. What is this city?

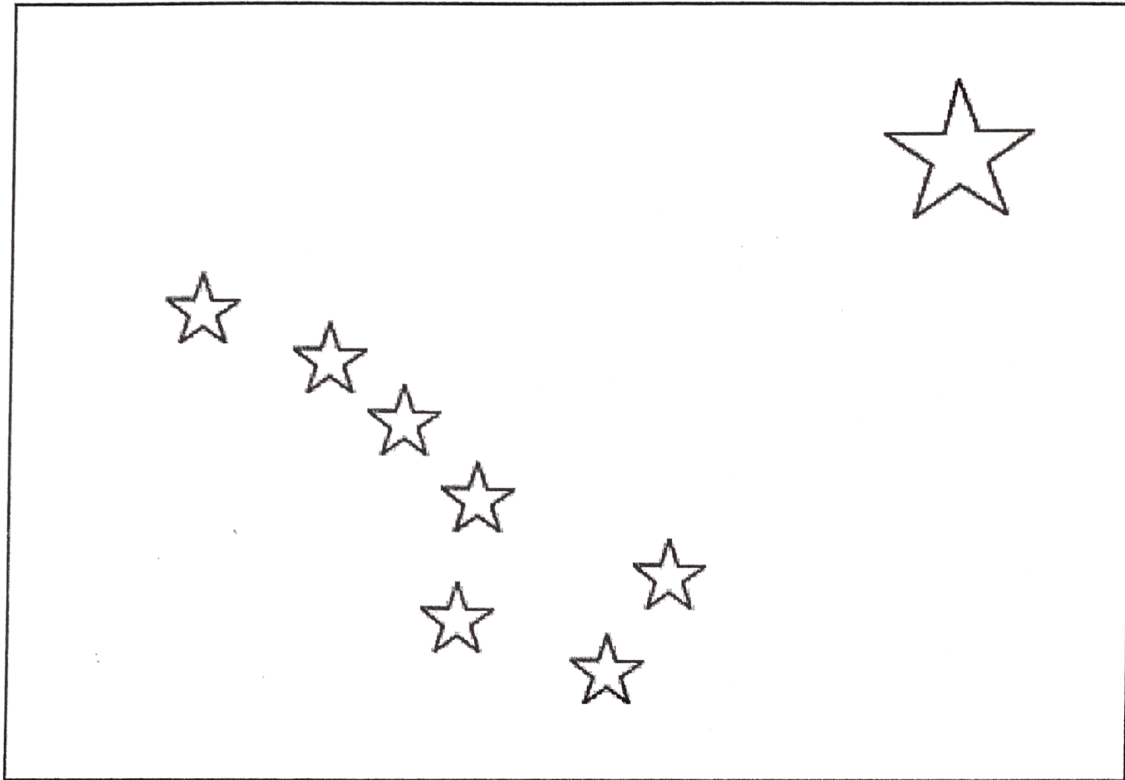
10. What is the name of the mountain range that runs across northern Alaska? _____

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EnchantedLearning.com
Alaska Flag Printout

Name: _____

Alaska's Flag



↑ Yellow stars on a deep blue ground

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The official state flag of Alaska was officially adopted in 1959. It has a blue field with eight yellow stars. The seven smaller stars represent the Big Dipper (an asterism in the constellation Ursa Major, the Big Bear); the large star represents the North Star, also called Polaris (representing Alaska's northern location). This beautiful flag was chosen from a flag-designing contest. It was designed in 1926 by a 13-year-old Native American boy named Bennie Benson. Bennie was from the village of Chignik; he won a 1,000-dollar scholarship and a watch for winning the contest.

Alaska was the 49th state in the USA; it was admitted in 1959.

Questions:

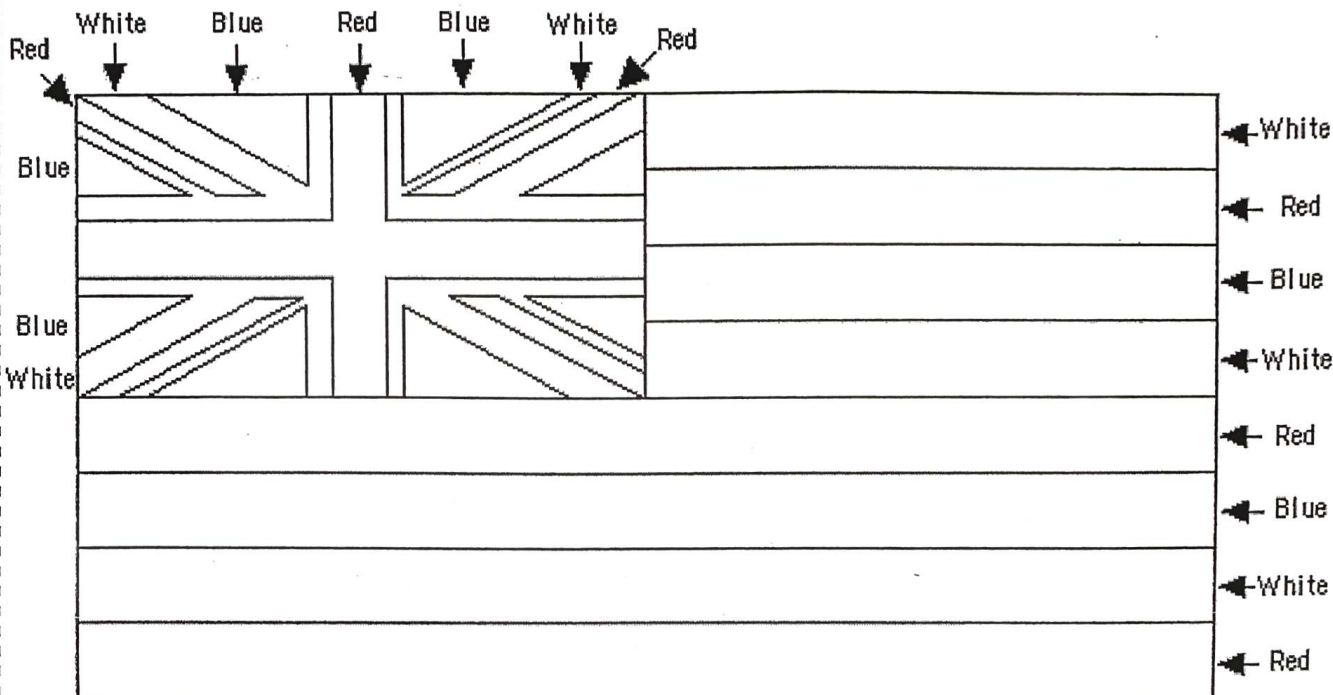
1. What does the star in the upper right of Alaska's flag represent? _____
2. What do the other stars seven represent? _____
3. How old was the designer of this flag when he designed the flag? _____

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EnchantedLearning.com
Hawaii Flag Printout

Name: _____

Hawaii Flag



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The flag of Hawaii was commissioned by King Kamehameha I of Hawaii in 1816. King Kamehameha I had unified the islands of Hawaii in 1810, using a schooner armed with a cannon. Before that time, each of the large islands had been a separate kingdom.

The flag: The eight stripes of white, red and blue represent the eight main islands of Hawaii. The Union Jack (the flag of Great Britain) is in the upper left corner of Hawaii's flag, honoring Hawaii's long relationship with the British.

Hawaii became the 50th state in the United States of America on August 21, 1959.

Questions:

1. Who commissioned Hawaii's flag? _____
2. Which country's flag is contained within this flag (in the upper left corner)?

3. When did Hawaii become a state of the USA? _____

The Northwest

By Kathleen W. Redman

In one corner is the biggest computer company in the world. In another are big mountains. Along its beaches are some of the biggest rocks you'll ever see. It is green because it is wet. It is wet because it is next to the ocean. The ocean brings lots of ships to one of the biggest ports in the country. This is all the Pacific Northwest.

The Pacific Northwest is a term that means a lot to different people. Some believe that this area includes part of California. Others believe it includes parts of southern Canada. One thing everyone agrees on is that Washington and Oregon are part. Both states are the center of the Pacific Northwest.

Both states are about the same in size. Oregon is Washington's neighbor to the south. Both have a coastline along the Pacific Ocean. Washington borders Canada to the north. Oregon borders California to the south. They share much more than a common border, though.

One of these likenesses is the Cascade Mountains. These mountains split the states' land. On one side is land that is controlled by the ocean and its wind and rains. On the other is a drier climate. It has some deserts and scrubland. This region of both states often has big wildfires. These wildfires can burn many acres of land forest. Sometimes even homes are burned.

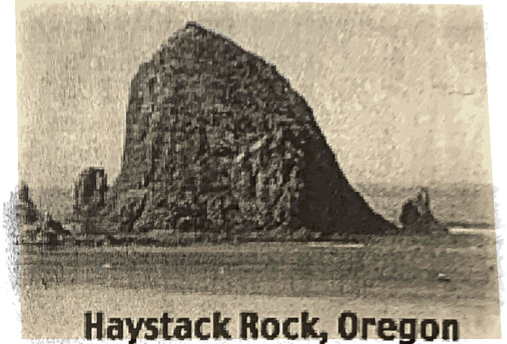
Most people live in the western parts of both states. Because of the wet climate, these areas are very green and thick with trees. In fact, that's what many people picture about the Pacific Northwest. While it is very pretty, it does rain a lot in these areas. Some forests in the Pacific Northwest are called rainforests. A rainforest has very specific features like plants that grow with lots of rain.

In Washington, the tallest "mountain" is Mount Rainier. It's not really a mountain, though. It's actually a volcano. Mount Rainier is 14,410 feet tall, one of the tallest in the country. The volcano hasn't erupted in a while. Scientists say an eruption could happen at any time. It's a popular place for mountain climbers, although it's a tough climb. About 9,000 people try each year. Only half of them make it to the top.

Washington is also famous for another volcano - Mount St. Helens. This volcano erupted not too long ago. In 1980, it erupted and sent black and grey ash all over the northwest United States. Ash was seen even in places as far away as Oklahoma. The eruption killed 57 people. It was the deadliest eruption in US history.

On Oregon's coastline are huge rocks of a different kind. Cannon Beach is home to one the country's - even the world's - most beautiful beaches. One of the rocks rises 235 feet above the shoreline. It is called Haystack Rock. There are hundreds of tidal pools to explore.

The Northwest is a beautiful region. If you live there, you are very lucky. If you don't live there, maybe you would like to visit the area someday.



Haystack Rock, Oregon

Name _____



Date _____

The Northwest

Questions

- _____ 1. Which two states are always included in the Pacific Northwest?
 - A. Oregon and Idaho
 - B. Alaska and California
 - C. Alabama and Florida
 - D. Washington and Oregon

- _____ 2. Why is the climate of the Pacific Northwest generally wet?
 - A. It is north of California.
 - B. The region is next to the Pacific Ocean.
 - C. There are lots of rainforests in the region.
 - D. There are no deserts there.

- _____ 3. Which state is larger?
 - A. Washington
 - B. Oregon
 - C. Both are about the same size.

- _____ 4. What mountain range splits the land of Washington and Oregon?
 - A. The Rockies
 - B. The Appalachians
 - C. The Sierra Nevada
 - D. The Cascades

- _____ 5. Most people live in the _____ part of both states.
 - A. northern
 - B. western
 - C. southern
 - D. eastern

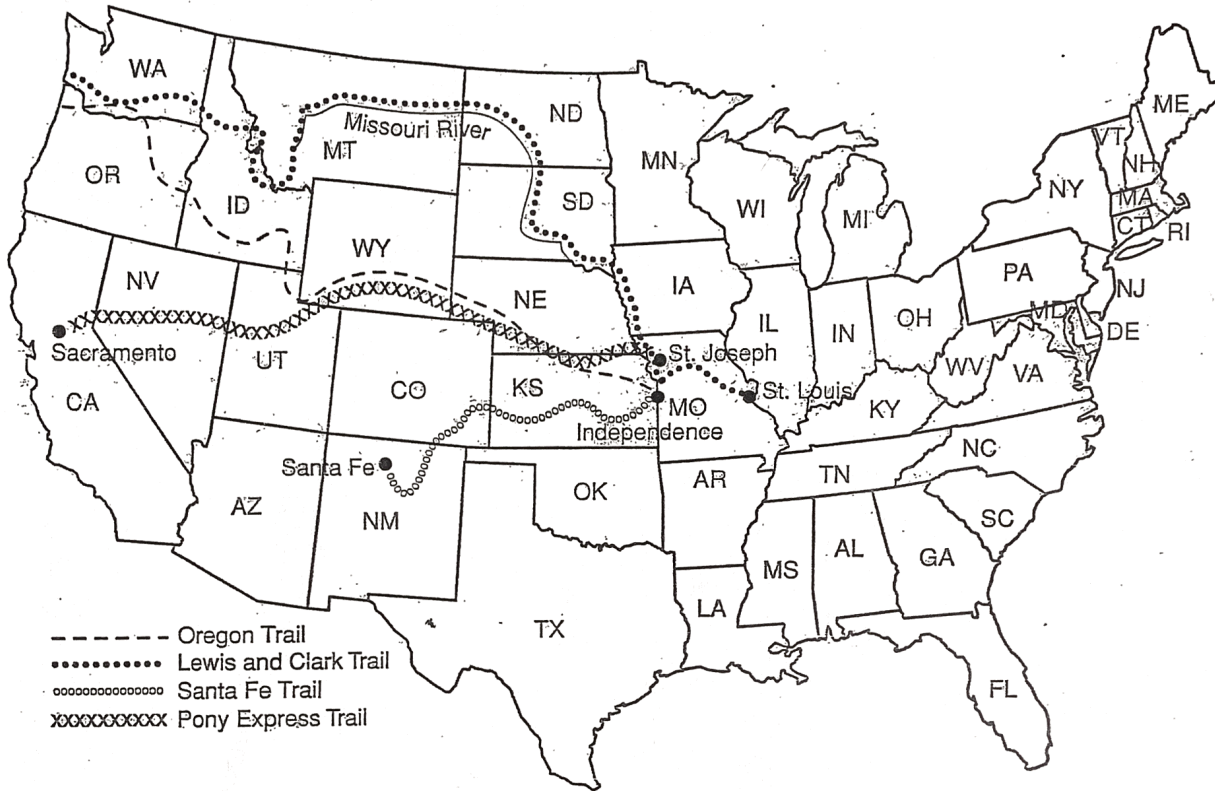
- _____ 6. Mount Rainier is actually a _____.
 - A. island
 - B. volcano
 - C. mountain
 - D. state

- _____ 7. What volcano erupted in Washington in 1980?
 - A. Mount St. Helens
 - B. Mount Rainier
 - C. Mount Vesuvius
 - D. Mount Kilimanjaro

- _____ 8. Where would you find huge rocks a hundreds of tidal pools?
 - A. Cannon Beach
 - B. Daytona Beach
 - C. Spokane
 - D. Tacoma

Westward Ho!

In the 1800s, civilization expanded west across the United States. Below is a map of four trails used at that time. Use the map to answer the questions.



- Which trail followed the Missouri river? _____
- What symbol was used for the Pony Express trail? _____
- Which trail went across Utah? _____
- Which trail ended in New Mexico? _____
- The Pony Express went from St. Joseph, Missouri, to _____.
- Which trail crossed southern Idaho? _____
- The Lewis and Clark trail began in _____.
- Which trail went through Colorado? _____
- Two trails, _____ and _____, both led to the Northwest.

Name _____

Section _____

Date _____

Geography
Western U.S. Test Review
Study Guide

Define the following.

Quick Sketch

Continental Divide:	
Death Valley:	
Grand Canyon:	
topography:	
geology:	
Rocky Mountains:	
Volcanoes:	
Colorado River:	
Gold Rush (CA/AK):	
Yellowstone National Park:	

Magma:	
--------	--

Define the Following

Quick Sketch

Geysers:	
"Four Corners:"	
Mount St. Helens:	
Louisiana Purchase:	
Lewis and Clark:	

Missouri River:	
Oregon Trail:	
Columbia River:	

Know all of the Western States, their capitals, and their locations on the map

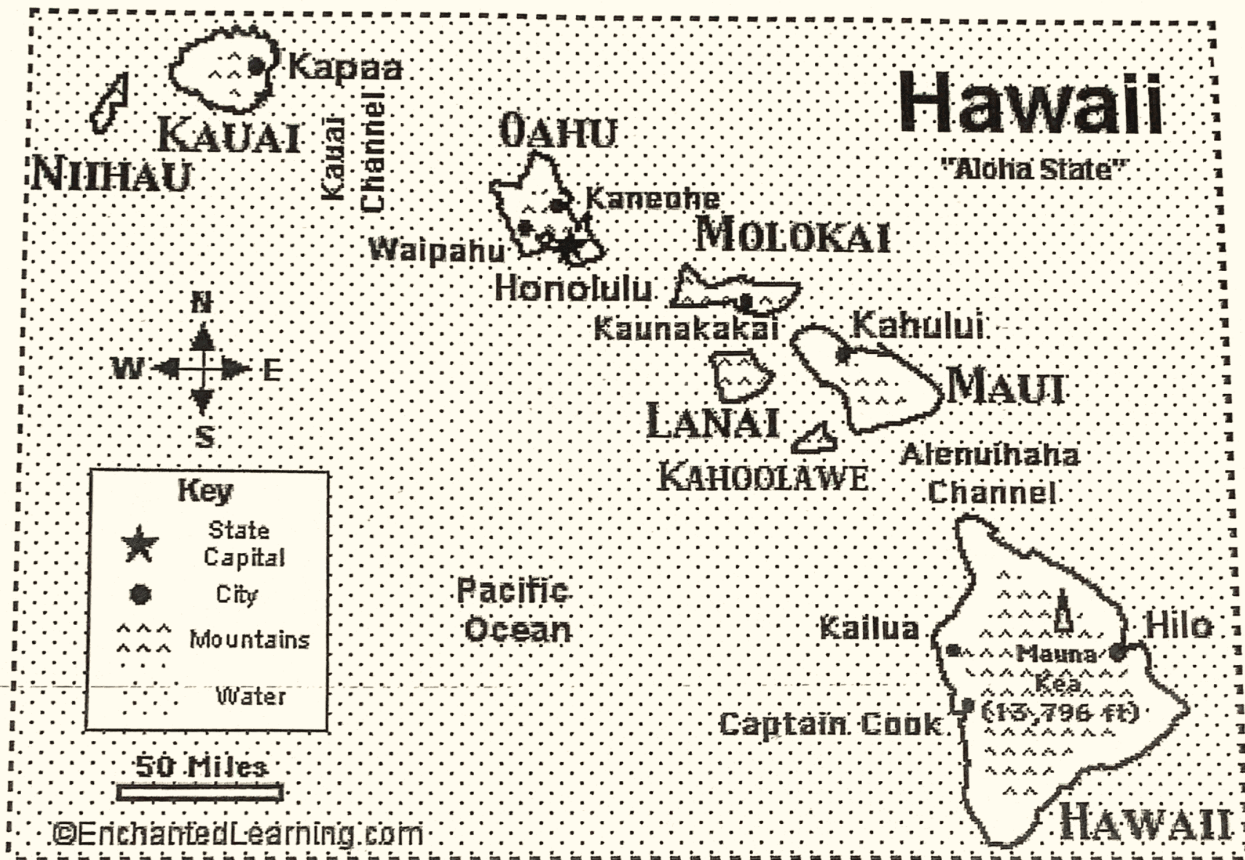
Know the state nicknames, abbreviations, major cities, and important landmarks/landforms

Which city in this region is the second largest city in the U.S.?

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Hawaii Map/Quiz Printout

Name: _____



1. What is the capital city of Hawaii? _____
2. In which ocean is Hawaii located? _____
3. The Hawaiian Islands are the projecting tops of an undersea mountain range. How many major islands are there in the state of Hawaii? (There are also many smaller ones not shown on the map above.) _____