

CAIRO

Cairo is the capital of Egypt and the largest city in Africa. It lies on the eastern bank of the Nile River. Its climate has hot dry days and cool nights. It has two basic seasons: eight months of summer and four months of winter. It only rains during the short winter season.

The vast majority of Cairo's population are Muslims. The rest are Egyptian Christians, called Copts. People in the oldest parts of the city live in slums. A number of Cairo's poorest inhabitants live in the district called the City of the Dead. The modern part of Cairo, including its elegant residential sectors, is in sharp contrast to the poor areas. The best known residential district is the Garden City.

Cairo is the cultural capital of the Middle East. Its architecture is rich and represents old Egyptian, Roman, and Arabic styles. The town features about six hundred Islamic monuments, including mosques, palaces, and tombs. As a center of higher education, it attracts students from many Arab countries. There is also an American University in Cairo. In the district Khan Khalil, numerous bazaars sell gold, copper, textiles, spices and leather goods.

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:

- 1. Cairo is situated**
 - a. in the southern part of Egypt**
 - b. on the bank of the Nile River**
 - c. on the Suez Canal**
 - d. in the north of Egypt**

- 2. The climate in Cairo has**
 - a. short winters and long summers**
 - b. mild weather all the year round**
 - c. heavy snowfalls in winter**
 - d. six months of winter and six months of summer**

- 3. Cairo's population consists mainly of**
 - a. foreigners from African countries**
 - b. small European communities**
 - c. Muslims**
 - d. Egyptian Christians**

- 4. The most elegant residential district is**
 - a. the City of the Dead**
 - b. Khan Khalil**
 - c. Giza**
 - d. the Garden City**

- 5. Which of the following are sold in Cairo's bazaars?**
 - a. furniture and clothing**
 - b. gold and textiles**
 - c. spices and computers**
 - d. copper and alcohol**

- 6. Cairo is the center of**
 - a. Middle Eastern culture**
 - b. modern artistic life**
 - c. Islamic poetry**
 - e. many international institutions**

- 7. Cairo is inhabited by**
 - a. only rich people**
 - b. only poor people**
 - c. both rich and poor people**
 - d. only middle class people**

Name _____ Date _____

EGYPT: CAIRO
ANSWERS

1. b
2. a
3. c
4. d
5. b
6. a
7. c