EGYPT

Egypt lies in the northwestern corner of Africa, and partly in Asia. Its official name is the Arab Republic of Egypt. It is bordered by Libya to the west, the Sudan to the south, the Mediterranean Sea to the north, and the Red Sea to the west. Egypt is the gate between Europe and Asia and represents the entrance to inner Africa.

The population in 2003 was estimated to be sixty million people, most of whom live in the Nile Valley and the Nile Delta. Two principal cities, Cairo and Alexandria, are located there. The country is about one million square kilometers (about 386,000 square miles) in size. Islam is the official religion of Egypt. Arabic is the major language spoken there, but you can usually be understood in English or French.

The country is rich in tradition and culture. A great number of the world’s cultural monuments are in Egypt. These monuments date back to the early history of mankind. Foreigners coming to the Nile Valley are surprised by the scenery they can observe.

Despite its natural and historical beauty, Egypt has limited natural resources and must import many raw materials used in manufacturing. The Egyptian economy is trying to catch up with other developed countries.
ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT EGYPT

1. The official name of Egypt is
   a. the Islamic Republic of Egypt
   b. the Egyptian Republic
   c. the Arab Republic of Egypt
   d. Egypt

2. It is located mainly in
   a. the northeastern part of Africa
   b. the south of Africa
   c. Asia
   d. inner Africa

3. Which waterway is Egypt not directly connected with?
   a. Red Sea
   b. the Mediterranean Sea
   c. the Nile
   d. the Atlantic Ocean

4. Which two countries share a border with Egypt?
   a. Iraq and Iran
   b. Libya and the Sudan
   c. Africa and Asia
   d. Ethiopia and Saudi Arabia

5. The most populated part of Egypt is
   a. Alexandria
   b. the western desert area
   c. the Red Sea coast
   d. the Nile Valley

6. The official language of Egypt is
   a. Islam
   b. English
   c. Arabic
   d. French

7. Visitors to Egypt most admire its
   a. cultural monuments
   b. developing industry
   c. Egyptian agriculture
   d. evenings in the desert
Write complete sentences to answer the questions below.

1. Imagine visiting Egypt. Describe what you would like to see.
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________

2. Tell how the ancient culture of Egypt reminds you of an experience you have had (yourself or with your family or friends).
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________

3. After reading the story what do you think is meant by monument?
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________

4. What did you learn about Egypt that you did not know? In what situation might this new information be useful?
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________
ANSWERS TO EGYPT

Multiple-choice:

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

Short-answer:

1. Answers may vary; accept reasonable answers.
2. Answers may vary; accept reasonable answers.
3. Monument = a memorial or marker, often to commemorate something
4. Answers may vary; accept reasonable answers.