

Key Words

1. **The Middle East** – A region located where the continents of Asia, Europe and Africa meet.
2. **Region** – An area that has a certain characteristics in common that make it unique.
3. **Population** – Amount of people in an area.
4. **Sparsely Populated** – Not many people live in an area and they are spread apart from each other.
5. **Densely Populated** – Lots of people living close together.
6. **Poverty** – People that earn less than \$2 a day.

7. Reasons Why There is Conflict/War

- Borders have created tension.
- Global arguments about oil (politics).
- Religious arguments (between Shia and Sunni Muslims).
- 2003 Iraq war between Sunni and Shia Muslims.

8. Development

- The Government faces problems that limit development.
- The problems include water scarcity, changing oil prices, high unemployment and conflict.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is part of the Middle East. The UAE was formed in 1971 and it is group of 7 lands which were ruled by a Monarch called Emir.
- The largest land in the UAE is Abu Dhabi, which covers 85 %.
- Dubai is the most people living in it out of all of the lands (35 % of the UAE population).
- Since its formation, the UAE's economy has grown 231 times.

9. Yemen

- Poorest country in the Middle East.
- 54 % of the people are in poverty.
- There is war in the country and goods are not sold to other places.
- There are no railways so people cannot get to all parts of the country. Lots of people cannot reach medical care.
- Only 60 % of people are employed.
- Yemen is the 7th worst country for lack of water.

The Middle East

10. Middle East

- The Middle East is a term that was used by Europeans in the 19th Century.
- Traders used the term to be able to tell India and the Far East (e.g. China) apart.
- This term does not describe Geography or culture which is why many countries are called the Middle East.
- The Middle East is well-known for its wars and oil.

11. Physical Zones

- The North of the Middle East is Turkey. Turkey is home to the Pontic and Taurus Mountains.
- The North of the Middle East also is Iran, which is home to the Zagros and Elburz mountains.
- The rest of the Middle East is lowland. This includes the Arabian Peninsula, which is a desert.
- However, the West and South of the Arabian Peninsula is upland.
- 2 major rivers in the area include the Nile and Tigris.

12. Plate Movement

- In 2011, there was an Earthquake in Turkey that killed 570 people.
- There are earthquakes in the Middle East as it lies between the Arabian and African plate boundary.
- The African and Arabian plates are moving away from each other, which causes earthquakes and formed the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.
- The Arabian plate has been moving North at 3 cm per year. As a result, this plate collided with the Eurasian plate which created mountains in the North of the Middle East.

13. Climatic Zones

The North:

- A Mediterranean climate
- 2 seasons
- Hot dry summers
- Wet and warm winters
- Water is scarce.

The South:

- The Arabian Peninsula is mostly desert.
- Rain in May to September
- Daytime temperature rises to 52 degrees Celsius.

14. Diverse Population

- Population: 410 million.
- Uneven population is caused by the physical Geography.
- The deserts are sparsely populated.
- The North and the Coasts are densely populated.
- People have moved to the Middle East from Europe, Asia and Africa for 5000 years. This has made the culture, languages and religion in the Middle East complex.
- The main religions are Judaism, Christianity and Islamic.

15. Middle East Countries Include..

- Syria
- Iran
- Turkey
- Egypt

16. Water Shortage

- Rising populations and limited water supplies cause water shortages.
- The Middle East is ranked 14th in the world for worst water shortage.
- The groundwater table is falling 6 meters each year.
- Water supplies are limited to a few hours per day.

17. Economy

- Oil was discovered in 1908.
- The Middle East has the world's largest supply of Crude Oil.
- 48 % of the World's oil is in the Arabian plate.
- 43 % of the World's gas is in the Arabian plate.
- There is so much oil as there was 570 years of sedimentation, which created hydrocarbons, which formed oil.
- The Middle East sells the oil to other countries to earn money.

18. Changing Economy

- There has been a good government since 1971.
- The government have reduced the countries reliance on oil selling.
- Instead, the Middle East earns money from trade, communication and transport.