

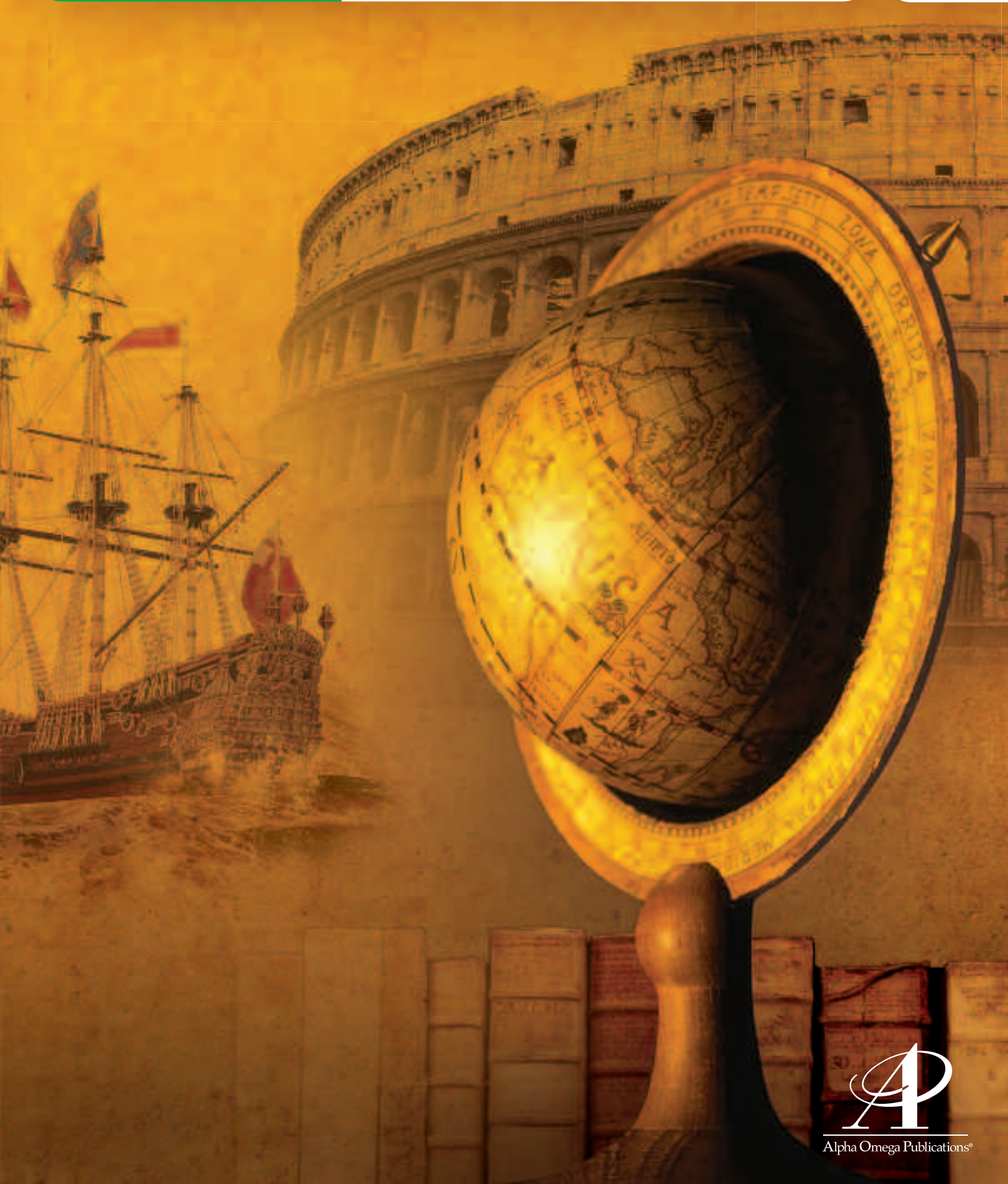


LIFE PAC®

# History & Geography

Student Book

Grade 3  
Unit 9



Alpha Omega Publications®



# History & Geography 809

## Pacific States

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## Credits

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My name is Benny and this is Bella. We're going to help you learn about the history and geography of the United States.



When you see a picture of us or one of our many friends, you'll know it's time to complete an exercise on what you've learned.

Learning is  
an adventure  
so let's get started!





This study guide belongs to: (write your name here)

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# PACIFIC STATES

Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, and Hawaii

The final region of the United States you will study is the Pacific states. These five states are all located along the Pacific Ocean. Washington, Oregon, and California are the western border of the lower 48 states. Alaska lies to the north and Hawaii to the southwest. The states have abundant and varied natural resources. As you study this **LIFEPAC**, you will learn more about the geography, history, and people of these states.





## READ THESE UNIT OBJECTIVES.



The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have successfully completed this **LIFEPAC**.

When you have finished this **LIFEPAC**, you should be able to:

1. Locate the Pacific states.
2. Know the geography of the Pacific states.
3. List natural resources found in the Pacific states.
4. State the types of businesses and employers found in the Pacific region.
5. Know some of the Pacific state's settlers.
6. Recognize the importance of computers in the Pacific states.
7. Identify the pastimes of the people living in the Pacific states.

## STUDY THESE NEW WORDS.

Learning the meaning of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAC.



**animated** (ăn'ə-mā'tid) Drawn to appear alive or lifelike.

**Aurora Borealis** (ə-rôr'ə, ə-rōr'ə bôr'ē-ăl'is, bōr'-) Also known as the Northern Lights; a colorful display of lights in the northern sky.

**commercial** (kə-mûr'shəl) Used for the public and not the military.

**dormant** (dôr'mənt) Inactive.

**hardware** (hărd'wâr') Machines and equipment of a computer.

**install** (in-stôl') To put into place or connect.

**lava** (lä'və, lăv'ə) Hot, volcanic rock that reaches the earth's surface.

**leprosy** (lěp'rə-sē) Also known as Hansen's disease; a disease which causes sores on the body.

**magma** (măg'mə) The material under the earth's surface which forms rock.

**operating system** (öp'ə-rā'ting sis'təm) The software that controls a computer's programs.



## Vocabulary continued.

**reservation** (rĕz'ər-vā'shən) Making plans to stay at a hotel or restaurant.

**silicon** (sil'ĭ-kən, -kŏn') A material used in making the internal parts of a computer.

**software** (sŏft'wār', sŏft'-) Programs used to operate a computer.

These words will appear in **boldface** (thicker print) the first time they are used.



### PRONUNCIATION KEY:

hăt, āge, cāre, fär, lĕt, ēqual, ĭt, ĭce,

/û/ as in term and squirm, hŏt, ōpen, ôrdĕr, /oi/ as in oil,

/ou/ as in out, cŭp, /ŏ/ as in put, /ōō/ as in rule,

/ch/ as in child, /ng/ as in lông,

/th/ as in thĭn, /th/ as in thĕn, /zh/ as in measure,

/ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil,

/o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus



You will begin this **LIFEPAC** by studying the geography of the Pacific states. You will learn the names of some of the Pacific states' land features. You will also learn the names of the Pacific state's major cities. The location of these states impacts the types of food people grow, the places they live, and the activities they do.

## Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:



1. Locate the Pacific states.
2. Know the geography of the Pacific states.

Restudy these vocabulary words:

Aurora Borealis  
dormant

lava  
magma



Ask your teacher to say these words with you.

Teacher check

Initial

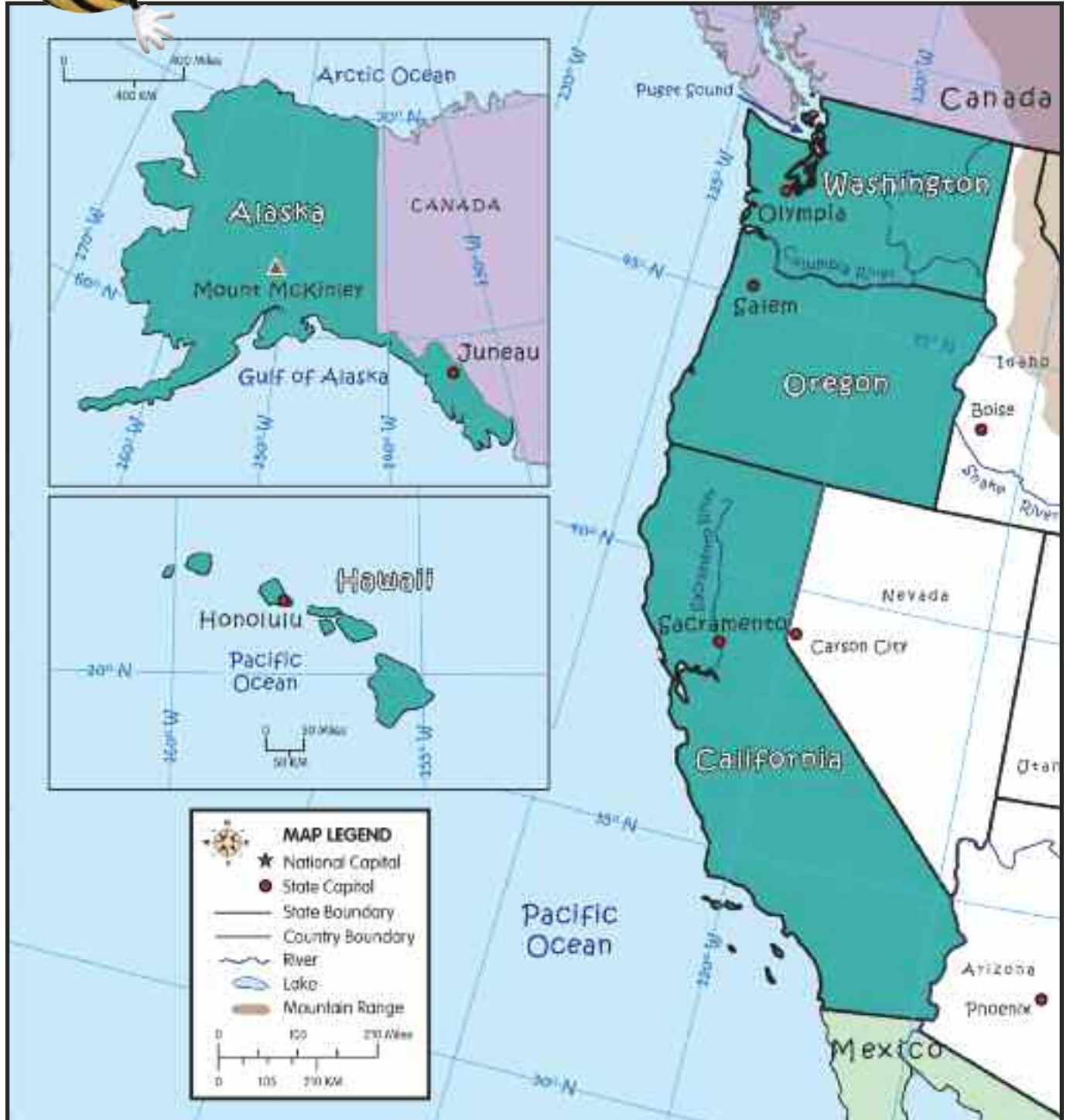
Date



# STATES IN THE PACIFIC REGION



Before you study the Pacific states, look at the map below. The map will introduce you to the Pacific area.





## Answer the questions based on the map.

- 1.1 List the capitals of the Pacific states:
- a. Washington \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Oregon \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. California \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Alaska \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Hawaii \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.2 What line of longitude forms the border between Nevada and northeast California? \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3 In what state is the Sacramento River located?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4 Puget Sound is located in what state?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.5 What river forms the border between Oregon and Washington? \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.6 What state is made up of a series of islands?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.7 What country borders Alaska? \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.8 What ocean is north of Alaska? \_\_\_\_\_

## Fill in the Blank continued.



1.9 In what ocean is the state of Hawaii located?

---

1.10 What country is south of California?

---

1.11 In what state is Mount McKinley located?

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## ==== GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES =====

The Pacific states cover a wide area of geography. They stretch from the Arctic Ocean in Alaska to the middle of the Pacific Ocean in Hawaii. One thing all of the states share in common is their coastline along the Pacific Ocean. They are also all located in what is known as the Pacific Rim of Fire.

The Pacific Rim of Fire follows the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. It travels along the coasts of New Zealand, China, Japan, North America, and South America. The Hawaiian Islands are generally considered a part of this area as well. 90% of the world's earthquakes are located in this area. Also most of the world's active volcanoes are located here.



Volcanoes occur where there is an opening in the earth's surface. When a volcano erupts, **magma** from beneath the earth reaches the surface. Once magma has reached the surface it's called **lava**. Lava is extremely hot and flows down the sides of a mountain. When exposed to cooler air, lava hardens. In 1980 Mt. St. Helens in Washington erupted. Ash from the mountain filled the air and the flowing lava destroyed forests and homes in its path. Mt. St. Helens became 1,300 feet



shorter after it erupted. Hawaii is home to many volcanoes. Most are **dormant**, meaning they haven't erupted for thousands of years. Mauna Loa is the world's most active volcano. It erupts about every four years. Kilauea is another active volcano in Hawaii. It is the easiest to reach and has been erupting continuously for over 20 years. Alaska is another area with many volcanoes. Alaska alone has more than 50 volcanoes which have erupted since 1760. Mt. McKinley in Alaska is the highest mountain in North America. It was not formed by a volcano but by strong pressures that caused the land to rise.



The Pacific states are also the location of most of the earthquakes in the U.S. An earthquake occurs when

material far below the earth's surface shifts. There are certain places across the world known as fault lines. There is an 810 mile fault line stretching the length of California. This is known as the San

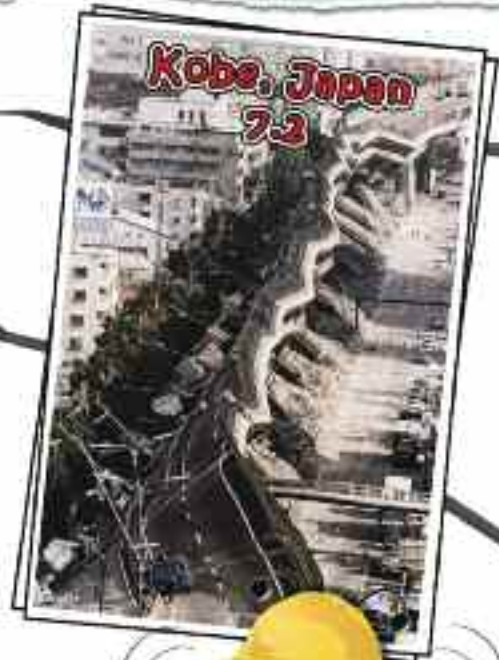


Andreas Fault. When an earthquake happens, the earth's energy is released. The ground begins to shake and crack. The Richter scale is used to measure the strength of an

earthquake. An earthquake below the number three is often not felt. Earthquakes above a seven can cause great damage. During an earthquake, buildings may collapse and roads become damaged. Many communities along the Pacific Rim of Fire try to make sure the buildings in their area can withstand an earthquake.

## Richter Scale

- 0-2.9** Mild, not usually felt
- 3-4.9** Items shake but rarely causes damage
- 5-5.9** Damage to poorly made buildings
- 6-7.9** Can cause serious damage
- 8-8.9** Serious damage over several hundred miles
- 9-9.9** Massive damage over several thousand miles!
- 10+** Never before recorded







## Fill in the Blank.

- 1.12 90% of the world's \_\_\_\_\_ occur within the Pacific Rim of Fire.
- 1.13 Mt. St. Helens and Mauna Loa are the names of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.14 The \_\_\_\_\_ scale measures the strength of an earthquake.
- 1.15 The San Andreas Fault is located in the state of \_\_\_\_\_.

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## WEATHER

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The Pacific Ocean influences the weather in the region. Oregon and Washington have cold, wet winters because of moisture coming from the Pacific Ocean. In the summer, the weather is drier and mild. Northern California has weather similar to that of Oregon and Washington. The weather in southern California is warmer year round.



The hottest temperature ever recorded in the U.S. was 134°F on July 10, 1913 in Death Valley, California.



As you can imagine, the weather in Hawaii is very



different from the weather in the other states in the region. The state of Hawaii is farther south than any other state. Hawaii is warm year round. Ocean breezes keep the

island temperatures comfortable. Temperatures average between 80°-85°F throughout the year.

You might be surprised to learn that the weather in southeastern Alaska is similar to that of Washington.

The Pacific Ocean makes the weather mild. However,



most of Alaska is cool during the summer and cold year round. The coldest temperature in the U.S. was recorded on January 23, 1971 in Prospect Creek Camp, Alaska at  $-80^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

The **Aurora Borealis** is a unique weather feature that can be seen in Alaska and other northern states. Another name for Aurora Borealis is the Northern Lights. The Northern Lights are seen by people living closer to the North Pole. There are also the Southern Lights close to the South Pole. The Northern Lights occur because of reactions between the sun's energy and the earth's atmosphere. The Northern Lights appear as glowing curtains above the earth. They are constantly moving rivers of light.

Generally the lights appear as green or yellow. Rarely do the Northern Lights appear red. The Northern Lights are best seen in Alaska and northern Canada. They can also be seen



in the northern U.S. The Aurora Borealis are not harmful. However, they can disrupt satellite communication as well as radio and television broadcasts.

True/False: circle the correct answer.



- 1.16 The Aurora Borealis are also called the Northern Lights. T F
- 1.17 The hottest temperature recorded in the U.S. was in Hawaii. T F
- 1.18 The weather in southeastern Alaska is similar to that of Washington state. T F
- 1.19 The temperatures in Hawaii are extremely hot in the day and very cold at night. T F

Teacher check \_\_\_\_\_  
Initial Date



Time to study and review for Self Test 1.

Know  
State  
Geography!



Study  
Volcano  
Facts!

For this Self Test, study what you have read and done.  
The Self Test will check what you remember.

## SELF TEST I



Multiple Choice: fill in \_\_\_\_\_ the correct answer.

- 1.01 The capital of Washington is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. Olympia      b. Sacramento      c. Juneau
- 1.02 Over 90% of all \_\_\_\_\_ occur in the Pacific Rim of Fire.  
a. volcanoes      b. floods      c. earthquakes
- 1.03 Which of the following is NOT the name of a volcano?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
a. Mt. St. Helens      b. Mauna Loa      c. Mt. McKinley
- 1.04 The San Andreas Fault is found in \_\_\_\_\_ .  
a. Oregon      b. California      c. Hawaii
- 1.05 Alaska touches both the Arctic and \_\_\_\_\_ oceans.  
a. Atlantic      b. Pacific      c. Indian



## True/False: circle the correct answer.

- 1.06 The state of Hawaii is located in the Pacific Ocean. T F
- 1.07 The Aurora Borealis can be seen best in Alaska as well as in the northern U.S. T F
- 1.08 The Richter scale is used to measure volcanoes. T F
- 1.09 The weather in eastern Alaska and Hawaii is similar. T F
- 1.010 Over 50 volcanoes erupt in Alaska each year. T F
- 
- 

## Fill in the Blank.



- 1.011 The state directly north of California is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.012 The coldest temperature recorded in the U.S. was at Prospect Creek, \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.013 The hottest temperature in the U.S. was recorded at Death Valley, \_\_\_\_\_.

## Fill in the Blank continued.

1.014 When a volcano erupts, hot \_\_\_\_\_  
flows down the side of the volcano.

1.015 \_\_\_\_\_ in Washington became 1,300  
feet shorter after it erupted.



12/15

Each question is worth one point. The passing grade for Self Test I is shown in the box to the left. Write your score in the box to the right. How did you do?



Teacher check \_\_\_\_\_  
Initial Date

