

# Critical Thinking Skills

## Africa

| Skills For Critical Thinking    |  | Reading Comprehension |                       |                                  |                       |                       |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                 |  | Location              | Place                 | Human & Environment Interactions | Movement              | Regions               |
| <b>LEVEL 1</b><br>Knowledge     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Match</li> <li>Show or Label</li> <li>List Information</li> <li>Recall Details (5Ws + H)</li> <li>Find Information</li> </ul> | ✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓ | ✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓ | ✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓            | ✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓ | ✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓ |
| <b>LEVEL 2</b><br>Comprehension | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe &amp; Compare</li> <li>Summarize</li> <li>Explain</li> <li>Select</li> </ul>   | ✓<br>✓                | ✓<br>✓                | ✓<br>✓                           | ✓<br>✓<br>✓           | ✓<br>✓<br>✓<br>✓      |
| <b>LEVEL 3</b><br>Application   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organize Information</li> <li>Interview</li> <li>Apply</li> </ul>   | ✓<br>✓                | ✓                     | ✓                                | ✓<br>✓<br>✓           | ✓<br>✓<br>✓           |
| <b>LEVEL 4</b><br>Analysis      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conclude</li> <li>Analyze</li> </ul>  |                       | ✓                     | ✓<br>✓                           |                       | ✓<br>✓                |
| <b>LEVEL 5</b><br>Synthesis     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design</li> <li>Create</li> </ul>   |                       | ✓                     | ✓<br>✓                           | ✓<br>✓                | ✓<br>✓                |
| <b>LEVEL 6</b><br>Evaluation    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate</li> <li>Compare</li> </ul>  | ✓                     | ✓<br>✓                | ✓<br>✓                           | ✓                     | ✓                     |

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy



# Human/Environment Interactions

1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

environment      monument      interaction      game reserve

- a) A \_\_\_\_\_ is a protected area where animals can live free from the threat of hunters and poachers.
- b) A \_\_\_\_\_ is something created by people to mark a special event, the special deeds of a group or an individual, or to mark a place where someone is buried.
- c) The word \_\_\_\_\_ describes all that surrounds us: the living things around us, the climate, the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we live on.
- d) The way one thing acts on another is called an \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Read each of the examples below, and write as much information as you **already** know about the subject. You may write in complete sentences or in point form notes.

### WATER

(Why do we need it?  
Why is it important?  
What is water pollution?)

### ENDANGERED SPECIES

(What does endangered mean?  
Will they become extinct?  
How can we help?)



# Human/Environment Interactions

**E**very day, the things that people do affect their **environment**. While we work to protect **endangered** species, some people continue to kill them. Sometimes we harm the habitats of animals with pollution. When an environment is harsh or changing, people must often adapt to their environment to survive. Sometimes we might **dam** a river in order to provide more water for communities that need it. Learning about these issues is known as the study of human/environment **interactions**.



In Egypt, people have relied on the Nile River for thousands of years to provide them with the water they need to survive in the harsh desert conditions around them. The river water is used for drinking, washing, and watering crops. In the past, the Nile would flood its banks and **irrigate** the crops. In modern times a dam has been used to control the amount of water flowing through the country, providing water as it is needed. The first dam was built at Aswan in 1902, but was later replaced in the early 1970's by the Aswan High Dam. This dam blocked the flow of the river and created Lake Nasser behind it. Care was taken to preserve wildlife and ancient **monuments**. The ancient Egyptian Temple of Abu Simbel was taken apart and reassembled in a location away from the lake, preserving it as a national monument.

**Why was a dam built at Aswan?**

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Unfortunately, not all interactions between humans and their environment are positive. Throughout Africa, many animals are facing extinction because of **poaching**. For example, elephants are hunted for their tusks, and rhinoceroses are killed for their horns. Poachers sell the tusks as ivory, and the horns as medicine. Thankfully, many governments in Africa have acted to stop this poaching. They have made it against the law to hunt these animals, and have created **game reserves**, like the Masai Mara National Park in Kenya, to protect the endangered animals.



# Human/Environment Interactions



1. Which word matches the definition? Color the arrow that points to the correct word. You may use either the reading or a dictionary to help find your answers.

|              |  |   |  |             |
|--------------|--|---|--|-------------|
| dam          |  | <b>A</b> To water fields of crops.  |  | irrigate    |
| monument     |  | <b>B</b> The vegetables, grains, and fruit grown on a farm.   |  | crops       |
| farming      |  | <b>C</b> An illegal act of hunting, usually for money. It has caused some animals to become endangered, and in some cases, extinct. |  | poaching    |
| game reserve |  | <b>D</b> A protected area of land where wild animals can live without the threat of poachers.                                       |  | environment |

2. Circle **T** if the statement is true or **F** if it is false.

**T** = True  
**F** = False

- T** **F** a) Rhinoceroses are hunted for their tusks.
- T** **F** b) Hunting is allowed on game reserves.
- T** **F** c) Masai Mara National Park is in Kenya.
- T** **F** d) Poaching is an act of legal hunting.
- T** **F** e) The Nile floods its banks and irrigates crops.

# Africa

## Major Population Map

