

Chapter 24 Vocabulary

Essential Question: How might having a valuable natural resource affect a region?

1. states: a political unit that controls a particular territory
2. nomads: a person who wanders from place to place
3. oil reserves: oil that has been discovered but remains unused in the ground
4. natural gas: a gas found beneath Earth's surface that can be burned as fuel for cooking, heating homes, and other purposes
5. crust: the hard outer layer of the Earth
6. crude oil: petroleum as it comes out of the ground and before it has been refined or processed into useful products
7. developed countries: a wealthy country with an advanced economy. Developed countries have many industries and provide a comfortable way of life for most of their people.
8. nonrenewable resources: a resource that takes so long to form that it can't be replaced. Oil, which takes millions of years to form, is such a resource.
9. renewable resources: a resource that can't be used up or that can be replaced as quickly as it is used up. Sunlight is a renewable resource that cannot be used up. Wood is a renewable resource that can be replaced by planting more trees.
10. geothermal energy: energy produced by steam or hot water from deep inside the Earth
11. ethnic groups: a group of people in a country who share a unique culture and identity
12. impermeable rock: rock that does not allow liquid or gas to flow through it

13. tectonic plate: a large piece of Earth's crust that floats on the liquid mantle
14. distribution: a way people or things are spread out over an area or a space; also the way resources, power, or goods are divided among people or goods
15. life expectancy: the average age that a person in a given population can expect to live to. Life expectancy varies from one country to another.
16. gross domestic product: the total value of goods and services produced in a country in a year
17. per capita: by or for each person. A per capita figure is calculated by dividing the total amount of something by the number of people in a place.
18. infant mortality rate: the number of infants, out of every 1,000 babies born in a particular year, who die before reaching age 1