



Primary 7 Social studies

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**Vote His Excellence Dr. Bbosa Science
President of Uganda 2031** 

Term 1

Theme: LIVING TOGETHER IN AFRICA

Topic 1/4: Location of Africa on the Map of the World

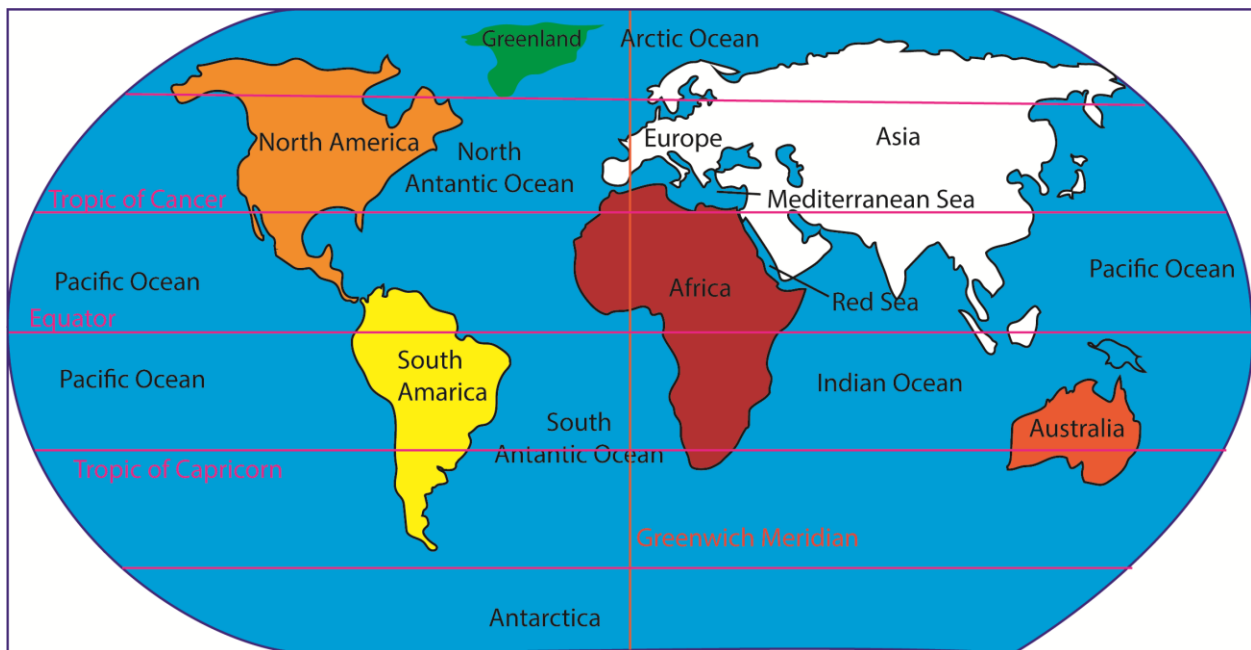
Learning Outcomes:

The learner:

- appreciates Africa as a continent and its position on the world map.
- demonstrates the usage of lines of latitudes and longitudes to locate Africa and its member countries.

Continents on Earth

A continent is a **very large area of land** that makes up most of the Earth's surface. At a primary school level, they are often described as giant "puzzle pieces" of land separated from each other by huge bodies of water called oceans



Below is a list of continents in order of their sizes

Order	Continent	Size Description
1st	Asia	The largest! It has the most people and the highest mountains.
2nd	Africa	The second largest. It is where we live and has the longest river (Nile).
3rd	North America	Home to countries like Canada and the USA.
4th	South America	Famous for the big Amazon Rainforest.
5th	Antarctica	The "Icy Continent." It is very cold and mostly covered in ice.
6th	Europe	A smaller continent with many famous cities like London and Paris.
7th	Australia	The smallest continent! It is also an island and home to kangaroos.

Africa

Africa is the **second-largest continent** in the world and is home to the most countries—**54** in total (2026). It is a very diverse place with many different languages, cultures, and landscapes

Location of Africa

Africa is located between

Latitude: 37° North to 35° South

Longitude: 17° West to 51° East

Africa is a very special continent because it is the only one that is crossed by all the major lines.

Major Lines of Latitude (Sleeping Lines) that cross Africa

- (i) **The Equator (0°)**: This is the most important line. It passes right through the middle of Africa, dividing it into equal parts: the North and the South.
- (ii) **Tropic of Cancer (23.5°N)**: This line passes through the Northern part of Africa, across the great Sahara Desert.
- (iii) **Tropic of Capricorn (23.5°S)**: This line passes through the southern part of Africa

Major Lines of Longitude (Standing Lines) that cross Africa

- (i) **Greenwich Meridian (0°)**: Also called the Prime Meridian, this line passes through the Western part of Africa (countries like Ghana and Algeria). It divides the world into East and West

Oceans and seas that surrounding Africa

Africa is almost entirely surrounded by water, with two major oceans and two large seas acting as its borders.

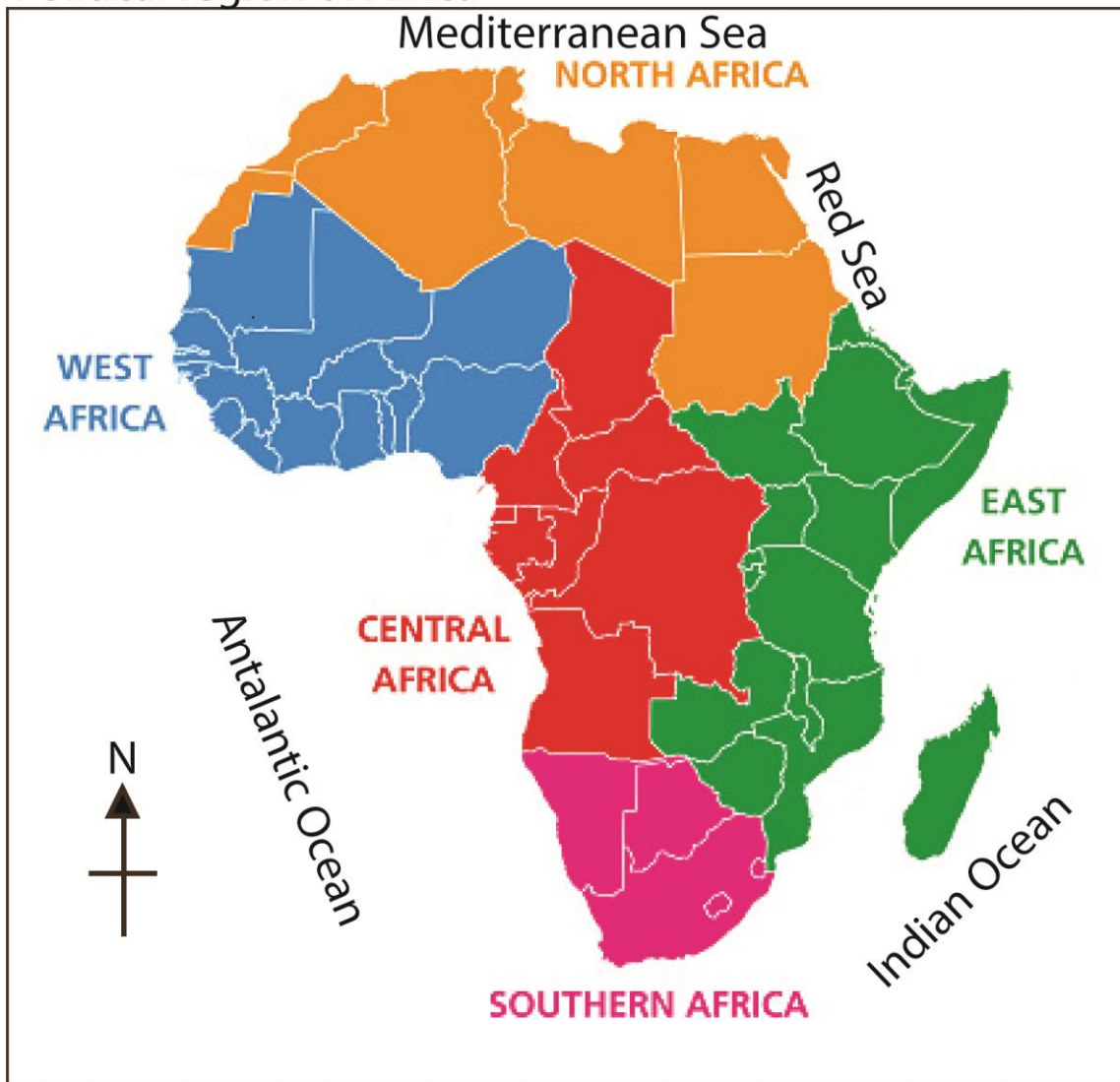
The Two Big Oceans

- (i) **Atlantic Ocean (West)**: This is the second-largest ocean in the world. It stretches along the entire western coast of Africa, separating it from the Americas.
- (ii) **Indian Ocean (East)**: This ocean borders Africa's eastern and southeastern coasts. It is known for its warm waters and is home to the island of **Madagascar**.

The Two Major Seas

- (i) **Mediterranean Sea (North)**: This sea separates Africa from Europe. For thousands of years, it has been a very important route for **trade and travel** between the two continents.
- (ii) **Red Sea (Northeast)**: This narrow sea sits between Africa and Asia. It is connected to the Mediterranean Sea by the famous **Suez Canal**, which is a man-made waterway that lets ships pass through without going all the way around the continent.

Political region of Africa



Africa is most commonly divided into **five main regions**. Each region is named after its direction on a map and shares similar geography and cultures

1. **North Africa:** This region is famous for the **Sahara Desert** and the Nile River. It borders the Mediterranean Sea.

Examples: Egypt, Libya, Morocco

2. **West Africa:** This is the most crowded region with many people and vibrant cultures. Much of it borders the Atlantic Ocean.

Examples: Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal

3. **Central Africa** (sometimes called **Middle Africa**): Located right in the middle of the continent, it is known for its thick **tropical rainforests**.

Examples: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Cameroon, Chad

4. **East Africa:** Home to the **Great Rift Valley**, Mount Kilimanjaro, and the African Great Lakes.

Examples: Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania.

5. **Southern Africa:** This is the southernmost tip of the continent, featuring the Kalahari Desert and beautiful coastlines.

Examples: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe

The Landscapes of Africa

Africa has some of the most famous natural features on Earth:

- (i) **The Sahara Desert:** The largest hot desert in the world, located in the north. It is almost as big as the entire United States!
- (ii) **The Nile River:** The longest river in the world, which flows through 11 different countries.
- (iii) **Mount Kilimanjaro:** The highest mountain in Africa, located in Tanzania. Even though it is near the equator, its peak is covered in snow.
- (iv) **The Serengeti:** A massive grassy plain (savanna) where millions of animals live and travel.

Amazing Animals

Africa is famous for its "Big Five" animals, which many people travel from all over the world to see:

- (i) **Lions**
- (ii) **Leopards**
- (iii) **Rhinos**
- (iv) **Elephants**
- (v) **African Buffalo**

The "Cradle of Humankind"

Scientists believe that the very first humans lived in Africa millions of years ago before moving to other parts of the world. This is why it is often called the "**Cradle of Humankind.**"

Climate and Weather

Because the **Equator** runs right through the middle of Africa, much of the continent is warm all year round.

- (i) **The North and South:** Mostly dry and sandy deserts.
- (ii) **The Middle:** Thick, green **rainforests** and wide-open **savannas**.

Other facts

- (i) **Languages:** People in Africa speak over **2,000 different languages!**
- (ii) **Madagascar:** The large island off the southeast coast of Africa is home to animals (like lemurs) that aren't found anywhere else on Earth.
- (iii) **The Pyramids:** Some of the world's oldest and most famous buildings, the Great Pyramids, are found in **Egypt**, a country in North Africa.

6. Name the main longitude that passes through Africa
7. Name any two regions in Africa.
8. Name the countries in East Africa and their capital cities

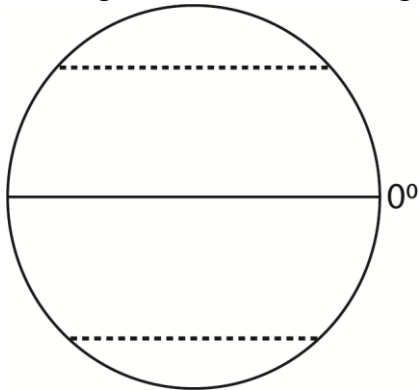
Revision questions

1. Study the diagram below and use it to answer the questions that follow.



- (a) Name the imaginary line marked
 - (i) S – Prime Meridian
 - (ii) N - Equator
- (b) State one use of the imaginary lines marked S and N to a map reader.
 - (i) S – divides the globe between East and West
 - (ii) N – divides the globe between North and South
2. Name the line of longitude that passes through Accra in Ghana.
Prime Meridian
3. Which major latitude passes through Uganda
Equator
4. Give any one reason why Uganda has less irrigation projects compared to Libya.
Uganda has reliable rainfall while Libya is a desert.
5. Give one reason why Antarctica continent is not suitable for human settlement.
 - (i) **Extreme Cold:** It is the coldest place on Earth. Temperatures can drop to -80°C , which is way too cold for our bodies to handle.
 - (ii) **No Food:** Nothing can grow there! There are no trees, bushes, or farms because the ground is covered in thick **ice and snow** all year.
 - (iii) **No Liquid Water:** Almost all the water is frozen solid. Humans need liquid water to drink, but in Antarctica, everything is a giant block of ice.
6. Name any one type of grassland that covers a large portion of Africa.
Savanna/Savannah grassland

7. The diagram below shows the globe. Use it to answer question below

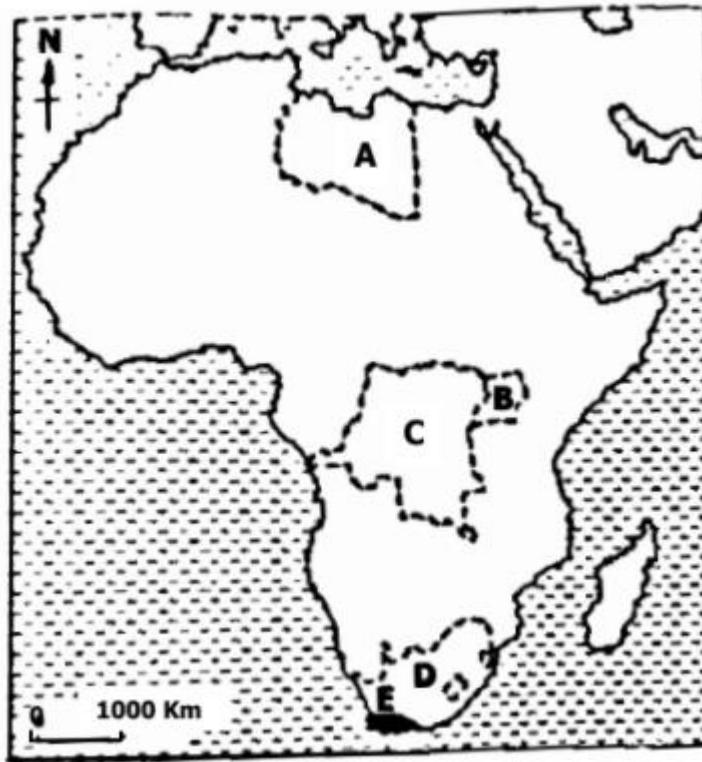


Name the latitude marked 0°
Equator

8. Mention any one desert found in Africa
Sahara desert

The Namib Desert (Southwestern Africa)

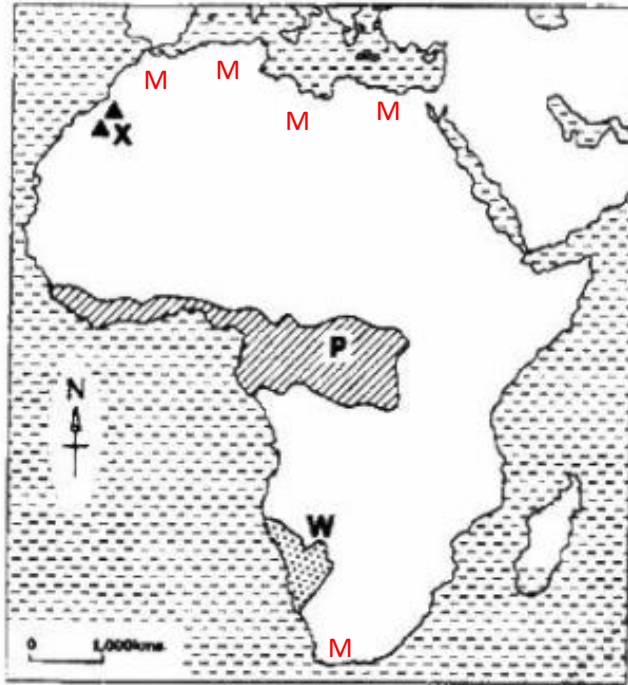
9. Study the sketch map of Africa below and answer the questions that follow



- (a) Name countries marked
A – Libya
B – South Africa
- (b) What advantage does country marked C over country marked B in terms of location?
C has access to the sea while B is landlocked
- (c) Which climatic region of Africa is found in the shaded area marked E?
Mediterranean climate

10. Name the water body that is found at the Western Coast of Africa.
Atlantic Ocean

11. Study the sketch map of Africa below and then answer the question that follow.



(a) What process led to the formation of the mountain marked X?

Folding.

(b) Describe the climate of the shaded area marked P.

Desert vegetation

(c) State any one factor which influences the vegetation in the area marked W.

(i) Heavy rainfall

(ii) High temperatures

(iii) Fertile soil

(d) On the map above, write M in a region that experiences Mediterranean type of climate.

12. How did the independence of Eritrea affect Ethiopia

Ethiopia became landlocked/lost access to the sea

13. What time is it at town X which located 45° East is it is 6:00am at Greenwich?

Difference in degrees = 45 – 0 = 45

360° is equivalent to 24hour

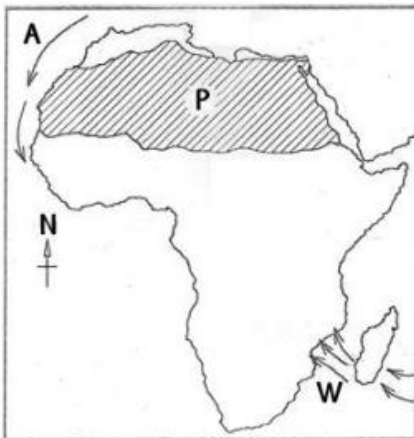
45° is equivalent to $\frac{45 \times 24}{360} = 3$ hour

To the East we add

Hence the time = 6 + 3 = 9.00am

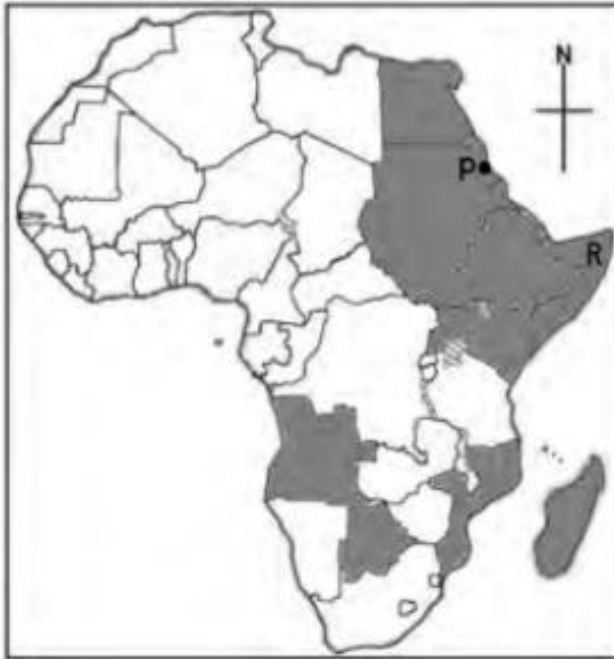
14. Name the water passage that connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea.

- Suez Canal
15. Name the landlocked country located in the horn of Africa.
Ethiopia
 16. Name any lake that forms a natural boundary between Uganda and The Democratic Republic of Congo.
(i) Lake Albert
(ii) Lake Edward
 17. Mention any one island country in the African continent that is found in the Indian Ocean.
Madagascar
 18. Study the sketch map of Africa below and use it to answer the questions that follow.



- (a) Name the ocean current marked with letter A.
Canary Current.
- (b) How do the winds marked W affect the climate of the eastern part of Africa?
South East Trade Winds bring heavy rainfalls on the eastern part of Africa
- (c) State the type of climate experienced in the shaded region marked P.
Desert climate (hot and dry)
- (d) Why does the shaded region marked P experience very cold nights?
Has no cloud cover to insulate the area below
Sand gets cold quickly
19. Name the regional grouping to which Ghana belongs.
West Africa
20. Apart from Rwanda name one other landlocked country that borders Uganda.
South Sudan
21. Mention any one island country found in West Africa.
Cape Verde

22. Study the sketch map of Africa below and answer questions that follow.



- (a) Name the port marked with letter P on the map above.
Port Sudan
- (b) In which one way does port P benefit its country?
Handles imports and exports
- (c) Name the regional economic grouping to which the shaded countries belong.
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

Key Details about IGAD:

Member Countries: There are **8 member states** in the region:

Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda

- (i) **Purpose:** Its main goals are to promote **economic cooperation**, maintain **peace and security**, and work together on environmental issues like drought and food security.
- (ii) **History:** It was originally formed in 1986 as **IGADD** (Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development) to fight against desertification and famine before being "revitalized" into its current form in 1996.
- (iii) **Headquarters:** The central office (Secretariat) is located in **Djibouti City**, Djibouti
- (d) . Mention any one problem faced by country marked R on the map.
- (i) **Hunger and Drought:** It hasn't rained enough for a long time, so crops cannot grow and many farm animals have died. This makes it hard for people to find enough food.

- (ii) **Fighting and War:** Groups like Al-Shabaab cause trouble and fighting, which makes many areas unsafe for families to live in.
- (iii) **Lack of Schools and Hospitals:** Because of the fighting, many children cannot go to school, and there aren't enough doctors or medicine when people get sick.
- (iv) **No Fixed Home:** Many people have had to leave their homes because of the hunger or the fighting and are now living in tents in big camps.

23. Ghana lies on the Prime Meridian if the time in Ghana is 1.00pm, what time will it be in East Africa standard time?

East Africa is located at longitude 45° East

Difference in degrees = 45 – 0 = 45

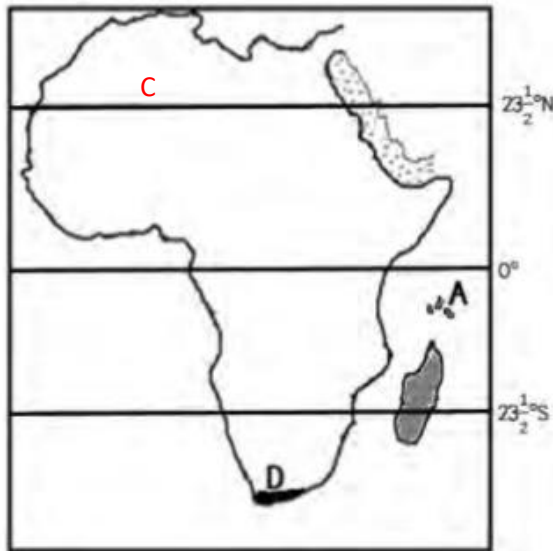
15° is equivalent to 1 hour

45° is equivalent to $\frac{45 \times 1}{15} = 3$ hour

To the East we add

Hence the time = 1 + 3 = 4.00pm

24. Study carefully the sketch map of Africa below and use it to answer the questions that follow.



- (a) Name the islands marked A on the map above
Zanzibar
- (b) Why are the islands marked A on the above remembered in the colonial history of Bunyoro and Buganda Kingdoms?
The British colonial government captured and deported the following leaders to Zanzibar:
 - **Omukama Kabalega** of Bunyoro.

- **Kabaka Mwanga II** of Buganda.
- (c) Show letter C the Tropic of Cancer on the sketch map above
- (d) Mention any one way in which the vegetation zone marked D is important to the people of the area.
Mediterranean vegetation
25. Name the country in the Horn of Africa which was not colonized.
Ethiopia

Thank you

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