

Key Issue 2: Why Do Boundaries Between States Cause Problems?

Rubenstein, pp. 247-256

SHAPES OF STATES

1. Complete this table based on your reading. The text gives examples which you should list. To the right of the last column also give one or your own examples.

SHAPES		EXAMPLES
compact	greatest advantage . . .	
prorupted	reasons for prorupting the shape of a state . . .	
elongated	biggest problem . . . best way to minimize the problem . . .	
perforated	how is the perforator state dependent on the "perforatee"?	
fragmented	different kinds . . .	

LANDLOCKED STATES

2. Where are most of the world's landlocked states?
3. Why there?
4. What problems do landlocked states have?
5. Shade and label all of Africa's landlocked states.



TYPES OF BOUNDARIES

(see page 253-254)

6. Regarding the concept of a frontier...

a. define it:

b. list the characteristics of frontiers:

PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

7. Complete the table below to describe the advantages of each type of physical boundary.

mountains	deserts	water (rivers)

CULTURAL BOUNDARIES

8. What are three types of cultural boundaries which have often been used? Give an example of each

Type of cultural boundary

describe an example

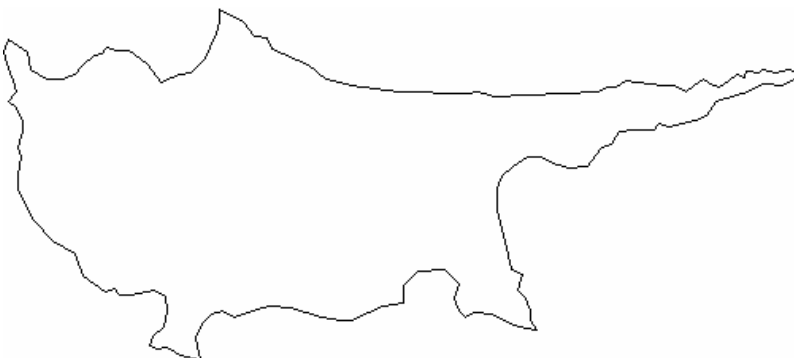
a.

b.

c.

CASE STUDY: CYPRUS

9. Bullet in the most significant facts regarding the boundary and ethnic situation in Cyprus. Annotate the map as appropriate.



● BOUNDARIES INSIDE STATES

10. Define the following types of internal organization of states:

a. Unitary State

b. Federal State

11. Regarding unitary states, what are the two geographic conditions that tend to favor it for a country?

a.

b.

12. Where are unitary states most common?

13. Multinational states often adopt unitary systems for what reason? Also, describe an example where this has occurred.

14. Regarding federal state, what are three geographic conditions that tend to favor it for a country?

a.

b.

c.

15. List good examples of federal states which fulfill these conditions rather well.

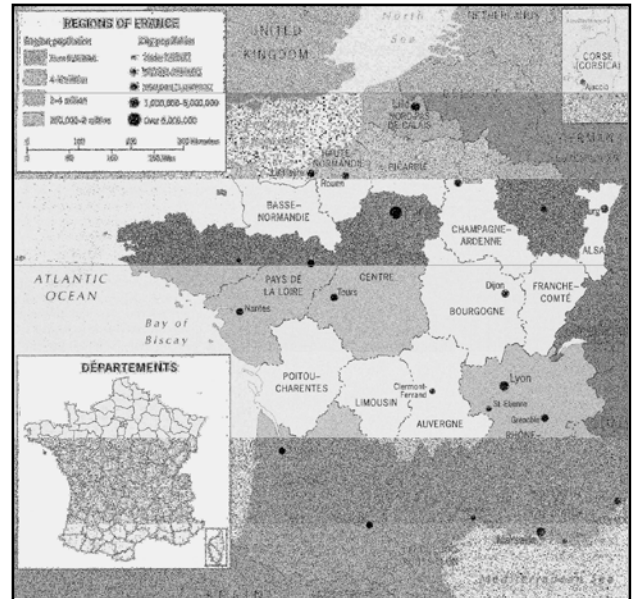
16. Why has tiny Belgium adopted a federal system?

16. Why has enormous China adopted a unitary system?

CASE STUDY: FRANCE

17. Describe the internal political organization France in the box below.

FRANCE:
Internal Political Organization



**ELECTORAL
GEOGRAPHY**

18. Why are the boundaries of legislative districts occasionally redrawn? How often is this done in the US?

19. How is this type of boundary redrawing different in the US than in Europe?

20. What is gerrymandering?

21. What are the three types of gerrymandering?

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

22. How is gerrymandering combined with ethnicity for political use?