2020/21 Academic Year 1st Quarter Social Study Lesson Note One for Grade 8

UNIT – ONE

THE WORLD WE LIVE

1.1 Continents

- Continents are the largest landmasses on Earth's surface.
- Continents are made up of mountains, valleys, rivers, lakes, plateaus, plains,…etc.
- There are seven continents in the world.

These are:-

Asia

The biggest continent
Mt. Everest – 8850m a.s.L
Caspian sea 371,088km2
Chang – Jiang (Yangtze) -2461km
The lowest point – Dead sea (430 M b.s.L

Africa

Mt. Kilimanjaro – 5896km a.s.L
Nile river – 6695km long (the longest river in the world)
Lake victoria 96,500 km2
The longest desert (Sahar) is found in Africa.

North America

Mt. Mekinley – 6195m a.s.L
River Missipi – 2303km
Lake superior – 82,435km2
Colorado desert is found in N. America

South America

The largest mountain – Mt. Cero Aconcagua (:6977m a.s.L)
River – Amazon – 2483km
Lake – Titicaca – 8303 km2

Antarctica

Covered with thick glacier with on known valley, rivers, etc.

Europe

Mt. Elbrus – 5643km a.s.L
River – Volga – 1361 km
Lake – Laduga – 1873 km

Australia

Mt. Kosliusko – 2228 km
River – Darling – 1055 km
Lake – Taupo – 606 km2

Activities 1

I. Fill in the blank spaces

1) _____ is the largest desert in the world.

2) As Missipi is to N. America _____ is to S. America.

3) _____ is the fifth largest continent in the world.

4) The Area percentage of Europe is _____.

5) As Mt. Elbrus is to Europe _____ is to Antarctica.

Out of the seven continents five are interconnected. On the other hand **Antarctica** and**Australia** are surrounded by **water**.

- North America & South America are connected by a narrow strip of land called **Isthmus of Panama**.
- **Africa & Asia** are also connected by **Suez Canal**.
- **Africa** is connected to **Asia** by Straight of **Gibraltar**.

Isthmus: - is a narrow strip of land that connects two large land masses.
Peninsula: - is the land area that projects into a body of water.

Relative location of the continents

- Relative location is also known as **vicinal location**.
  It is a location of country or continent in reference to physical features, neighboring countries, cardinal directions etc…
  Example: - Asia is located to the East of Europe, West of the Pacific Ocean, North of the Indian
  Ocean & South of the Arctic Ocean.