

Canada's Landform Regions

Reference: Making Connections, Chapter 12

Using the textbook as a reference, fill in the missing information in the paragraphs below.

The Canadian Shield

The shield is under most of Canada and parts of the _____. More than _____ km of Canada is covered by it. It contains some of the world's oldest rocks (_____ years old). Two types of rock; _____ and _____ form most of the shield. These rocks contain minerals such as _____ and _____ in great quantities. Because of this, the Canadian Shield is often called the "storehouse of _____". Minerals were deposited in the shield as _____ slowly intruded and cooled.

Many cities and towns, such as _____ in Ontario or _____ in the Northwest Territories, rely on the mining industry for jobs. The shield is ill suited for _____ due to thin soils, but is ideal for _____.

The plentiful water flow has made the region an excellent source of _____ energy. Since the outer portion of the shield is lower than the centre (similar to a _____), most of the rivers flow towards its centre and into _____.

The Lowlands

Surrounding the Canadian Shield are the following three lowland regions:

- a)
- b)
- c)

The sediments that form the bedrock under these regions were _____ from the Shield. The weight of the upper layers of sediments compressed the lower layers of sediments into _____ rock.



Interior Plains

The Interior Plains are part of the Great Plains of North America that stretch from the _____ Ocean to the _____. The Interior Plains were often covered by shallow _____ seas. During the _____ era, coral reefs formed close to the surface of these seas. The reefs are now thousands of metres below the surface of the land and they contain much of the _____ and _____ found in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Mineral deposits also lie below the surface. _____ is a mineral used as fertilizer in Canada and around the world.

_____ erosion resulted in _____ different levels of _____ each separated by an _____.

Glacial deposits produced a _____ landscape. The soil of the Interior Plains is _____ and _____, and as a result crops such as _____ are grown in many locations. The area is known as Canada's _____. Where it is too dry for crops, farmers raise _____.

Great Lakes and St Lawrence Lowlands

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Lowlands consists of two parts separated by a thin piece of the _____. These lowlands have bedrock formed of _____ rock from the Palaeozoic era. Many escarpments can be seen in this region; the best known is the _____, which extends from _____ to _____. Glaciers helped create a rolling landscape in the _____ portion of this region.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region is the most _____ region and it is well suited to agriculture because of its _____ and _____. The flat land also makes this region ideal for _____ routes and the development of _____.



Hudson Bay-Arctic Lowlands

The area around Hudson Bay and James Bay is very _____ and covered by _____ forest. This region has a layer of _____ rock on top of the ancient rock of the Shield. The Arctic Lowlands are in Canada's far north and have a gently _____ landscape. This region contains coal, _____ and _____ deposits.

The Highlands

Canada's highlands are made up of three mountainous areas:

- a)
- b)
- c)

Appalachian Mountains

The Appalachian Mountains are the _____ highland region and were formed about _____ million years ago. The layers of sedimentary rock are rich in deposits of _____ - _____ minerals such as _____. Millions of years of _____ have reduced the Appalachians' jagged peaks to rolling mountains and hills.

Innuitian Mountains

The Innuitian Mountains are found in Canada's _____. They are very tall mountains (over _____ metres in height). This region contains mostly _____ rock, but also _____ and _____ rock. Since these mountains are _____ than the Appalachians, _____ has not had time to reduce them to rounded hills. This region is cold and barren and many areas are covered by _____ and _____.

Western Cordillera

The Western Cordillera is on the _____ coast of Canada. The mountains are very high and rugged which means they are geologically _____. The many mountains and valleys run in a _____ - _____ direction, but we need transportation routes that run in an _____ - _____ direction. There are very few _____, or gaps, which allows highways and railways to cross over.





This region has Canada's only remaining _____ (apart from those in the Arctic).

There are three major divisions in the Western Cordillera. They are:

- a)
- b)
- c)

The Eastern Mountains contain the _____ and _____ Mountains.

The Interior Plateaus is a series of rugged plateaus between the _____ and the _____ Mountains. Glacial and river deposits have made the valleys excellent for _____. One of these is the _____ valley.

The Coast Mountains are made up of the _____ on the mainland and extend onto _____ Island.

Look at the footer on each of the four pages you have. Try to determine what it represents. What do you think it is? Why? How can you prove your answer?

