

# Geography Knowledge Organiser

## Enquiry



Natural disasters are major negative events. Examples of natural that are caused by natural processes on Earth. Examples include floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcano eruptions, and hurricanes. An earthquake is caused by the movement of parts of the Earth's crust, its outermost layer. They happen millions of times a year, but most are so small people don't even feel them.

But powerful earthquakes can cause landslides, tsunamis, flooding, and other dangerous events. Most damage and deaths happen in places where a lot of people live, because the shaking causes windows to break, structures to collapse, fire to break out, and other dangers.

## People



The majority of Haitians live in rural areas. Haiti's cities are very crowded, however.

Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas. About 80 percent of the people live in poverty. Services—including government work, tourism, shops, and restaurants—are the main economic activities. However, most people work in agriculture. Haitians raise goats, cattle, and pigs. Food crops include cassava, bananas, corn, yams, and rice. Cocoa, coffee, and mangoes are exported. Many of Haiti's industries put together parts imported from the United States. They produce such goods as clothing and electronic components. Other manufactured products include flour, sugar and cement.

## Place



Located on the western one-third of the island of Hispaniola in the Caribbean Sea, Haiti shares the island with the Dominican Republic.

OFFICIAL NAME: Republic of Haiti  
FORM OF GOVERNMENT: Semi-presidential republic  
CAPITAL: Port-au-Prince  
POPULATION: 11,562,675  
OFFICIAL LANGUAGES: French, Haitian Creole  
MONEY: Gourde  
AREA: 10,714 square miles (27,750 square kilometers)  
MAJOR MOUNTAIN RANGES: Massif de la Selle, Massif du Nord



Tectonic plates	The outermost layer of the earth is called the crust and it is broken into large pieces called tectonic plates.
Ocean	Areas of salty water that fill enormous spaces on the Earth's surface
Equator	An imaginary line around the Earth that goes exactly midway between the North Pole and the South Pole and divides it into two equal halves, the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere.
Natural resources	Something that is found in nature and can be used by people.
Longitude	A system of lines used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction.
Latitude	Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction across Earth.
Tropic of Capricorn	An imaginary line of latitude going around the earth at approximately 23.5° South of the Equator. It is the southernmost point on Earth where the sun's rays can be directly overhead at local noon.
Tropic of Cancer	The parallel of latitude that is 23½ degrees north of the equator and is the northernmost latitude reached by the overhead sun.
Polar Region	Cover the top and bottom of planet Earth at the North and South Poles
North Pole	The northernmost point of the Earth.
Arctic Circle	A line of latitude, which is an imaginary horizontal line around the Earth. The lands and ocean north of the Arctic Circle is called the Arctic.
South Pole	The southernmost point of Earth.
Antarctic Circle	A special line of latitude that circles the Earth near the South Pole. All the lands between the Antarctic Circle and the South Pole are called Antarctica.

Economic	The economy is the way a certain place (often a country) makes things, offers services, and divides stuff up between people, usually using money.
Pacific Ocean	The largest of the Earth's oceans. It covers more of Earth's surface than all the dry land put together.
Antarctic Ocean (The Southern Ocean)	The most southerly of the planet's five oceans.
Indian Ocean	The third largest of Earth's oceans.
Atlantic Ocean	The vast body of water that separates Europe and Africa from North and South America.
Mediterranean Sea	A large sea that separates Europe from Africa.
Dead Sea	Located on the border between Israel and Jordan, it is the lowest point on the surface of the Earth. It's so salty because the environment causes much of the fresh water to evaporate quickly, leaving salts behind.
North American Plate	One of the large plates is the North American Plate. This plate includes most of the North American continent, Greenland, and part of Iceland and Siberia.
South American Plate	A major plate that includes the continent of South America and a large portion of the Atlantic Ocean.
Pacific Plate	A tectonic plate that lies beneath the Pacific Ocean.
Eurasian Plate	A plate tectonic boundary consisting of most of Europe, Russia, and China.
Australian Plate	A major tectonic plate in the eastern and, largely, southern hemispheres.



