

# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS *the Middle East*

What role have natural resources played in the politics and economy of the Middle East?

## *Lesson 1: Middle East: Land, Resources, and Economics*

---

Country chosen: \_\_\_\_\_

Collect information about the country you've chosen and answer the following questions. You should also use graphs to plot characteristics for your country. These plots may provide additional insights. Useful sources to begin your research include:

### Maps:

- Global Connections Middle East Maps:

[www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/maps/index.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/maps/index.html)

### Other internet resources:

- CIA World Factbook: [www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html](http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html)
- Energy Information Administration: [eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/cabsme.html](http://eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/cabsme.html)
- Library of Congress Country Studies: [lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/)
- National Geographic Online: [plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/index.html](http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/index.html)

For additional background information, read the following Global Connections essays:

- Economics: It's More Than Oil:  
[www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/themes/economics/index.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/themes/economics/index.html)
- What role have natural resources played in the politics and economy of the Middle East?  
[www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/questions/resource/index.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/questions/resource/index.html)

# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS *the Middle East*

What role have natural resources played in the politics and economy of the Middle East?

## *Lesson 1: Middle East: Land, Resources, and Economics (cont'd.)*

---

Describe the country's physical geography (terrain). Provide pictures, if available.

What is the climate? Note: climates can range across regions.

Does this country have a fresh water supply? What is the source of water (e.g., rivers, lakes, ocean/desalination, etc.)? Does the country control its water source (e.g., a river may run through the country, but have its headwaters in another country, limiting access)? Does the country have access to a seaport?

What industries does the country support? List the GDP percentage per industrial sector.

# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS *the Middle East*

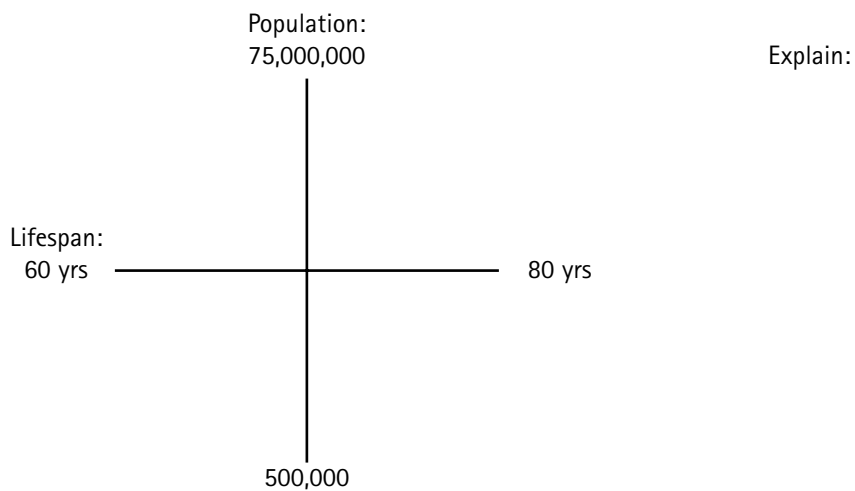
What role have natural resources played in the politics and economy of the Middle East?

*Lesson 1: Middle East: Land, Resources, and Economics (cont'd.)*

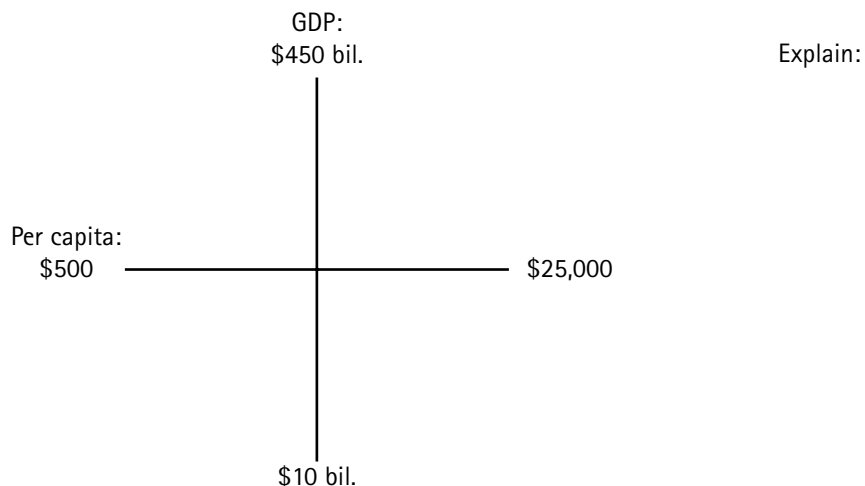
---

What international issues is the country currently facing?

What is the population of the country? What is the average life span? For women? Men?



What is the country's GDP? What is the GDP per capita?

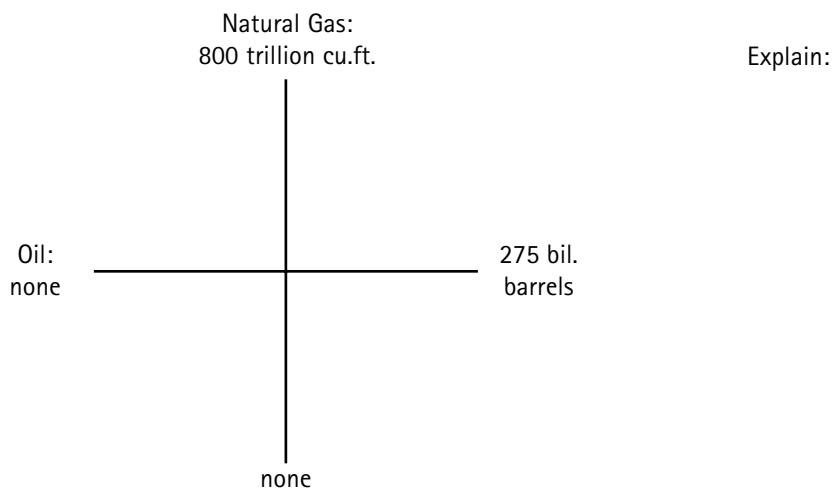


# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS *the Middle East*

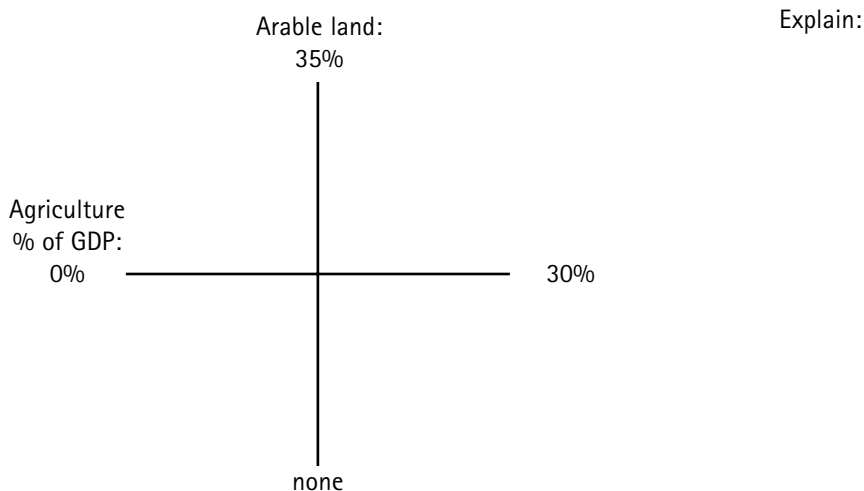
What role have natural resources played in the politics and economy of the Middle East?

## Lesson 1: Middle East: Land, Resources, and Economics (cont'd.)

How much oil and natural gas does the country possess (oil and gas reserves)? What other natural resources are there (e.g., mineral deposits, forests, etc.)?



What percentage of the land is arable? What percentage of the gross domestic product is contributed by agriculture? What crops are grown?



# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS *the Middle East*

What role have natural resources played in the politics and economy of the Middle East?

## Lesson 1: Middle East: Land, Resources, and Economics (cont'd.)

How much does the country import? Export? What are the major imports/exports?

