

I. Physical Features

- A. Continental United States - “lower 48” (excluding Alaska & Hawaii)
- B. Geographic regions
 - 1. Central Plain – good for farming
 - 2. Appalachian Mountains – Oldest mtns, located in the East
 - 3. Rocky Mountains – Highest elevation, located in the West
 - 4. Sierra Nevada Mountains – on Pacific coast, smaller, by California
 - 5. Hawaii – made up of lots of volcanoes
 - 6. Mississippi River – Good for transporting goods
 - 7. Coastal Plain – lowest elevation, located along Gulf of Mexico

II. Climate and Resources

A. Climate

- 1. *climate-The average temperature and precipitation over a long period of time.*
- 2. *temperate-moderate (cool winters and warm summers)*
- 3. Wind Patterns – travel from west to east
- 4. Natural Disasters – most common is flooding

B. Resources

- 1. Corn and Soybeans are most widely grown crops
- 2. Energy – oil, coal, gas

III. Migration and Settlement

- A. Waterways – cities settled along water for transportation
- B. Resources – cities settled where resources were located
- C. Railroads – cities sprang up along railroads
- D. *migration - moving from one place to another*
- E. 1800s-1900s – Most immigrants came from Europe.
- F. *metropolitan areas - several cities close together*
- G. *population density – number of people who live in one area*

IV. Environmental Impact

- A. Using raw materials creates pollution
- B. Today, people are trying to minimize pollution.
 - 1. Making more trees available
 - 2. use less resources

Drawings or pictures: