**Unit 2 Study Guide: Middle East (North Africa & Southwest Asia)**

Explain these topics on a separate sheet of paper (**where are they, what are they, why are they significant?**).

1. What physical feature acts as a land bridge between SW Asia & North Africa? Where is it located? (Which country?)
2. What is the importance of this land bridge (#1) to the country controlling it?
3. Continents connecting the region.
4. Two natural resources nations go to war over.
5. Arabian Peninsula
6. Anatolian Peninsula
7. Know what bodies of water surround each peninsula
8. Suez Canal
9. What are straits and canals and why are they important?
10. Identify water scarcity and explain its connection to the ongoing water crisis.
11. Explain the Importance of mountains and rivers.
12. What similarities link North Africa with the Middle East? (think physical and cultural)
13. Explain the importance of Tigris, Euphrates, and Nile rivers (nickname of Tigris and Euphrates)
14. What is the significance of the Jordan River; what are the implications if the current nation ruling it were to grant independence to the peoples occupying it?
15. Identify and explain the importance of the Dead Sea
16. RANK the climates of this region (also, what percentage is desert?)
17. Explain the importance of Irrigation systems.
18. What is the Empty Quarter? Provide its location.
19. Explain the importance of oil in the region.
20. What does OPEC stand for and what is its purpose?
21. Why is the U.S. dependent on foreign oil? How much of the world’s oil is found in the Middle East?
22. What is the division in Islam? Name the groups.
23. Be able to explain the three major religions of this region and their beliefs and ideology
24. Explain the Zionist Movement and its connection to Israel.
25. Explain why is Jerusalem considered a holy city to the different religions.
26. Identify and explain the term ‘guest worker’.
27. Identify the different ethnicities of North Africa/the Middle East and what languages they speak
28. Explain how the Kurds reflect a stateless nation (also, define stateless nation)
29. Explain the clashes over land (namely, the Persian Gulf war and oil in Kuwait)
30. Identify Saddam Hussein (connect to the Persian Gulf War as well).
31. Arab-Israeli conflict (Israel and Palestine) [Be able to explain the Arab-Israeli conflict and its impact on the youth of the region learned from the documentary *Promises*]
32. What does PLO stand for? What is its purpose? Identify Yasir Arafat.
33. What is the War on Terror (9/11)?
34. Identify Osama bin Laden and the Taliban/al Qaeda (make connection to 9/11)
35. Explain Operation Iraqi Freedom
36. Identify Desert Bedouins
37. **\*\*\*BE FAMILIAR WITH ALL OF YOUR HOT TERMS\*\*\***