

# Summary: Comparing Regions

## Regions of the World

Geographers study and compare formal regions to learn about the world. A formal region has one feature that is the same across the region. The feature can be physical, such as a landform. A mountain region is a formal region based on landform. The feature can be human, such as language. The feature can also be climate.

You can compare and contrast formal regions based on the same feature. For example, the climate region of Tennessee is different from the climate region of the southwestern United States. Tennessee has mild winters and hot, wet summers. The southwestern United States has mild to cold winters and hot, dry summers.

## Differences Within Regions

Geographic regions have many features. The same feature can be different in different parts of the region. For example, one part of the region may have a warmer climate than another part. Different plants may grow in different parts.

A geographic region can have borders to separate areas. Cities, states, and countries have borders. A geographic region can also have boundaries. Mountain ranges and rivers are natural boundaries that divide the land into sections. Different kinds of regions overlap. This gives regions a variety of features.



### Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

**border** *noun*, an official line that shows where a political area begins and ends

**boundary** *noun*, the edge of an area



### After You Read

**REVIEW** Name examples of two kinds of formal regions.

Highlight an example of a landform region and two examples that are not based on landforms.

**REVIEW** Why is there variety within regions? Circle the answer.