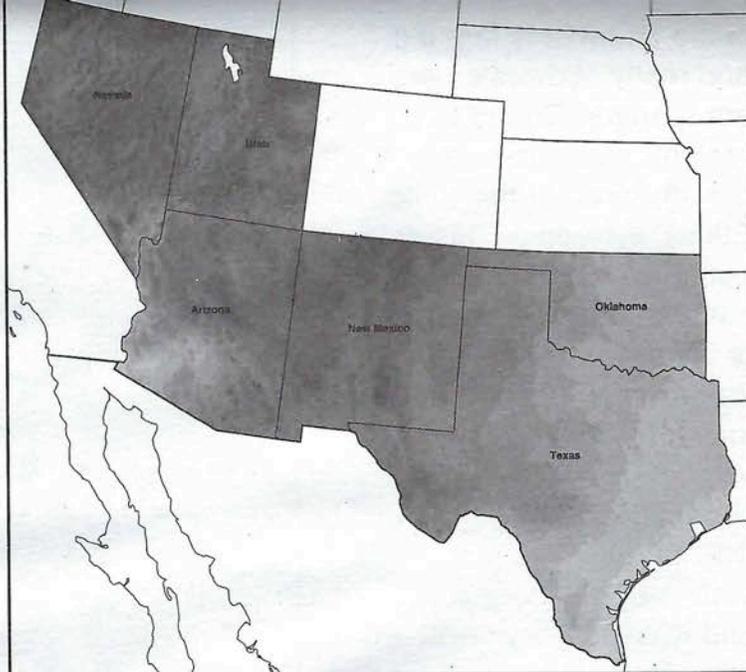


The Southwest region borders Mexico, the Gulf of Mexico, and the West, Midwest, and Southeast regions. In this study of the Southwest, there are six states: Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah. Population density of the Southwest varies. In large cities such as Las Vegas, Nevada, and Phoenix, Arizona, the populations are very dense with thousands of people living in every square mile. In areas such as rural Utah, there are very few people for every square mile of land.



Most states in the Southwest have a hot and dry climate. Arizona experiences some of the hottest summers in the United States, while New Mexico's mountains get snowfall even in early fall. The northern area of the Southwest gets cold winters. In the southern part, they have very warm winters. Sometimes parts of the Southwest can be damaged by powerful storms, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Except for the easternmost edges, most areas of the Southwest get very little rainfall. However, some mountainous areas of the Southwest receive enough snowfall for skiing.

The physical geography of the Southwest is widely varied. There are deserts in southern areas of the Southwest and flat, fertile fields in the eastern portion. Along the northern borders are mountain ranges, including parts of the Rockies.

Answer each question below.

1. Name two densely populated cities in the Southwest. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name two types of climates found in the Southwest. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name three types of physical geography found in the Southwest.  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which states in the Southwest border Mexico?  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which state borders the Gulf of Mexico? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Name two types of storms that affect the Southwest. \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_