

# GEOGRAPHY OF SPAIN

## NOTES

### A. Location

1. southwestern part of Europe
2. shares borders with Portugal to the west and France to the north
3. shares *Iberian Peninsula* with Portugal

### B. Size and population

1. about 200,000 square miles
2. four times the size of New York State
3. about 40,000,000 inhabitants



### C. Mountains

1. *Pyrenees*: (northeast). Separates Spain from France
2. *Cantabrian*: (northwest)
3. *Guadarrama*: (central)
4. *Sierra Nevada*: (south)
5. *Sierra Morena*: (south)

#### **D. Rivers**

1. *Ebro*: (northeast) flows into the Mediterranean Sea
2. *Tajo*: (central) longest river in Spain
3. *Guadalquivir*: (south) deepest and most navigable river of Spain

#### **E. Outlying Possessions**

##### **1. Balearic Islands**

- a. a group of islands in the Mediterranean Sea
- b. popular resort area

##### **2. Canary Islands**

- a. a group of islands in the Atlantic Ocean
- b. off the coast of Africa

3. *Cueta* and *Melilla*: two port cities in Morocco, Africa

#### **F. Important Products**

1. principal agricultural products include olives, oranges, grapes, rice, almonds, and cork
2. world's leading producer of *olive oil*

#### **G. Regions of Spain**

1. Spain is divided into 15 regions, which were at one time separate kingdoms.
2. regions are similar to states
3. *Andalucia*: largest and southern most region

#### **H. Languages**

1. *Castellano* (Spanish): principal language spoken by all Spaniards
2. *Gallego*: regional language spoken in the northwest
3. *Vascuence*: regional language spoken in the north central part of the country
4. *Catalán*: regional language spoken in the northeast

## GEOGRAPHY OF SPAIN EXERCISES

### A. Match column A with column B.

- | <i>A</i>          | <i>B</i>                                     |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. Castellano     | a. located in the Atlantic Ocean             |
| 2. Sierra Morena  | b. southern mountain chain                   |
| 3. Gallego        | c. Spain's longest river                     |
| 4. Tajo           | d. deepest river                             |
| 5. Andalucia      | e. regional language spoken in the northeast |
| 6. Catalán        | f. port city in Africa                       |
| 7. Canary Islands | g. largest region                            |
| 8. Guadalquivir   | h. principal language                        |
| 9. Iberian        | i. regional language spoken in the northwest |
| 10. Melilla       | j. peninsula occupied by Spain and Portugal  |

### B. True / False. If the statement is false, correct it by changing the word(s) in italics.

11. The Pyrenees Mountains separate Spain from *Portugal*.
12. The Mediterranean Sea is situated to the *west* of Spain.
13. Spain and *Portugal* occupy the Iberian Peninsula.
  - a. Spain has a population of about *40,000,000*.
  - b. Spain is *four* times as large as New York State.
  - c. The Cantabrian Mountains are in the *south* of Spain.
  - d. The most navigable river of Spain is the *Guadalquivir*.
  - e. *Cueta* is a city in Africa that belongs to Spain.
  - f. The principal language of Spain is *Vascuence*.
  - g. The *Balearic Islands* are located in the Atlantic Ocean.

**14. Multiple Choice. Select the word that correctly completes each sentence.**

- a. The (**Guadarrama, Pyrenees, Cantabrian**) Mountains separate Spain from France.
- b. (**Apples, Oranges, Bananas**) are an important product of Spain.
- c. Spain is located in the (**southwestern, northeastern, central**) part of Europe.
- d. Spain has two ports that are situated in (**South America, Africa, Mexico**).
- e. (**The Canary Islands, The Balearic Islands, Andalucia**) are located in the Atlantic Ocean.
- f. The (**Tajo, Ebro, Guadalquivir**) River is in central Spain.
- g. (**Gallego, Iberian, Andalucia**) is a region in Spain.
- h. The regional language spoken in the northeast of Spain is (**Gallego, Vascuence, Catalán**).
- i. Spain is divided into (**15, 25, 50**) regions.
- j. (**Vascuence, Catalán, Castellano**) is the language spoken by all Spaniards.

**15. Complete the following statements.**

- a. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the longest river in Spain.
- b. The \_\_\_\_\_ are islands in the Mediterranean Sea that belong to Spain.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest region of Spain.
- d. Spain is the world's leading producer of \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. The Sierra Nevada is a mountain in the \_\_\_\_\_ part of Spain.
- f. The regional language in the north central part of Spain is \_\_\_\_\_.
- g. Spain consists of \_\_\_\_\_ regions.
- h. A Spanish river that flows into the Mediterranean Sea is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- i. Spain and Portugal are located on the \_\_\_\_\_ Peninsula.
- j. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are two port cities in Africa that belong to Spain.



# GEOGRAPHY OF SPAIN WORKSHEET

## Part A Matching

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Guadalquivir | a. port city in Africa                 |
| 2. Ebro         | b. longest river                       |
| 3. Pyrenees     | c. northwest mountains                 |
| 4. Cueta        | d. spoken exclusively in the northwest |
| 5. Castellano   | e. islands in the Mediterranean Sea    |
| 6. Guadarrama   | f. river in the northeast              |
| 7. Balearic     | g. central mountain range              |
| 8. Catalán      | h. principal Spanish language          |
| 9. Cantabrian   | i. deepest and widest river            |
| 10. Tajo        | j. separate Spain from France          |

## Part B True / False. If the answer is false, change the word in *italics* to make the statement true.

11. The *Canary Islands* are in the Atlantic Ocean.
12. The largest region of Spain is *Galician*.
13. Spain and *France* are located on the Iberian Peninsula.
14. *Basque* is spoken in the north central part of the country.
15. The *Guadalquivir* flows into the Mediterranean Sea.
16. The Sierra Morena mountain chain is in the *south*.
17. *Catalán* is spoken in them northwest.

## Part C Short Answer.

18. What are the two Spanish port cities in Africa?
19. What language do all Spaniards speak?
20. Name four import products.
21. Which two countries occupy the Iberian Peninsula?
22. Which two rivers flow into the Atlantic Ocean?
23. Which language is spoken exclusively in the northwest?
24. Which language is spoken exclusively in the northeast?
25. Which island chain is in the Mediterranean Sea?

