

Where is the Middle East?

- The Middle East is a region with the continent of Asia.
- It is made up of 20 countries, all with differing landscapes and populations. Iran is the most populous country with over 8.7 million people who live in the country.
- As the population of the region grows there will be an increase stress on resources such as water, oil and gas and this will effect the growing population of the area.
- Saudi Arabia's capital is Riyadh (population of 4.2 million) and the capital of Iran is Tehran.

Why might water be the biggest reason for conflict?

- **The Middle East is a region of low precipitation, in some places not raining many more than 30mm a year.**
- The two main rivers in the Middle East that are source of conflict are the Tigris and the Euphrates that both run through the country of Iraq.
- It is thought that there will be 4 main reasons for conflict over water in the Middle East
 - (1) Climate change—as the earth heats up, there will less rainfall and therefore less water in the rivers.
 - (2) Terrorism—many young males who used to work in farming cannot any more because of lack of water and this means that crops aren't growing, and some join terrorist organisations because they will get paid more.
- Population growth—as the population grows there will more demand for water, but human activities such as dams will stop this from happening as other countries can control the supply of water to other countries.
- The two main rivers in the Middle East that are a source of conflict are the Tigris and the Euphrates, that both run through the country of Iraq.
- It is thought that there will be 4 main reasons for conflict over water in the Middle East

Key Words

Middle East	A region within Asia that has unique human and physical geography.
Misconceptions	This is a view or opinion that is incorrect because its based on faulty thinking or understanding.
Oil	This is thick, sticky substance that is created by millions of years of heat and pressure. Many HICs are oil dependant economies.
Conflict	A fight over something. In the Middle East, it is predicted that most conflicts in the future will be over water.
ISIS	This stands for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. They are a large terrorist group in the Middle East.
Sustainable	This is meeting the needs of today without compromising the needs for the future.
Modern Day Slavery	These are conditions that are experienced by migrants that have moved to the Middle East to find better pay. They are exploited and often trapped in the country they have moved to.

Should the World Cup be hosted in Qatar?

- In 2013, Qatar received the rights to host the world cup—this was the first Middle Eastern country to ever receive these rights. However, there have been lots of controversy around the games.
- Disadvantages—many migrant workers are paid very little, live in appalling conditions and have their passports take from them.
- Advantages—it will allow the economy to develop and improve quality of life further for the residents of the city.



Why is there oil in the Middle East?

- Around 100 million years ago, there was a region covering the Middle East called the Tethys Ocean. Due to dead animals, heat and pressure, oil was created in the Middle East.
- There have been large conflicts that people argue were for the oil of the region. This includes the Iraq war in 2003, where the public were told that the Americans were looking for weapons of mass destruction but in fact were looking for oil.

How has ISIS gained so much control?

- ISIS stands for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and became a large force in 2013.
- It largely wanted to create a 'caliphate' (a true Islamic State) that is run by Sharia law—an extreme interpretation of the Qur'an.
- ISIS spread very quickly due to social media, where they recruited young men to come and fight. ISIS has a large amount of money, around \$2 billion.
- They often used fear to control the cities that they took over enforcing the population to follow or be killed.

How did Dubai grow so quickly?

- Dubai is large city in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It has grown initially due to the oil revenue (money) but more recently because of buying of real estate and the growth of the luxury tourism industry.
- It has been questioned how sustainable the growth of Dubai is, and how successful it has been.
- Environmentally—it has the lowest precipitation rates in the world, but is the largest consumer of water due to the demand from hotels.
- Economically—there have been allegations over the abuse of migrant workers that work long hours for poor pay.
- Socially— the standard of healthcare in Dubai is very high, however, it is private and migrant workers often can't afford to pay for this.



Trinity TV

For more help, visit Trinity TV and watch the following videos:

Trinity TV > Year 8 > Geography > KO > Term 6