Areas on the Earth that share similar characteristics.

**Physical Regions**

Areas that share similar natural characteristics:
- Mountains
- Deserts
- Climate

**Cultural Regions**

Areas that share similar human characteristics:
- Language
- Religious Beliefs
- Customs

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**Middle East**

**Cultural Region**

- Countries of **SW** Asia & **North** Africa
- People share the **Arabic** language
- People share the religion of **Islam**
- People share common **traditions**

**Maghreb**

A smaller cultural region within the Middle East

- Located in **Morocco**, Algeria & Tunisia
- People share a special **dialect** of Arabic (**Derija**)
- People share Berber **customs**
  - Berbers were the original inhabitants of North Africa ♦