# Regions

Areas on the Earth that share

**SIMILAR** characteristics

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**Mediterranean Sea Region**

Is an example of a **PHYSICAL** region.

- Countries located **NEAR** the Mediterranean Sea.
- Area experiences a similar **CLIMATE**
- The countries share similar **VEGETATION**

Cyprus is divided into two **Cultural** regions separated by the United Nations Buffer Zone also known as the **GREEN** Line.
Republic of Cyprus

- Independent Country since 1960
- Greek Cypriots
- Population 700,000

Northern Cyprus

- Also known as the Turkish National Republic of Cyprus since 1983 (not recognized by international community) Control about 1/3 of the Island
- Under the Military Occupation of Turkey since the Turkish intervention in 1974
- Turkish Cypriots

Cyprus come from Greek word Kypros meaning land of cypress trees. Word for metal "copper" (cuprum) comes from Latin word "metal of Cyprus".

The Geography Theme

**PLACE**

Answers the Question:

____________________________________________________?

A Place is defined by its:

**Physical** = ______ Natural characteristic

**Human** = ______ Cultural characteristics
| **Landforms** | 1. Cyprus is an **ISLAND**.  
2. Two mountain ranges **KYRENIA** in the north and the Troodos in the **SOUTH**.  
3. Between the mountains lies a broad **FERTILE** plain called the Mesaoria.  
4. The forest covers about **32%** of the island.  
5. Mostly surrounded by **COASTAL VALLIEYS** with good soil for agriculture. |
| **Climate** | 1. Mediterranean climate  
   Summers = hot and **DRY**  
   Winters = **MILD** and rainy  
2. Cyprus is the **DRIEST** island in the Mediterranean.  
3. Averages **326** days of sunshine a year.  
4. **SNOW** falls on the mountains in the winter. |
| **Major Religions:** | 1. **RELIGION** plays a defining role in the lives of Cypriots.  
2. **80%** of the people in Cyprus are Greek Orthodox Christians.  
3. 18% follow Islam and are referred to as **MUSLIMS**.  
4. Muslims worship in a building called a **MOSQUE**. |
| **Major Languages:** | 1. **GREEK** spoken by Greek Cypriots  
2. Turkish is spoken in **TURKISH** Cyprus.  
3. English is widely spoken and taught in school. |
| **Popular Foods** | 1. Famous **HALLOUMI** cheese.  
2. **MEZE** is short for mezedes “little delicacies”.  
3. Shoushoukko is a rubbery candy made from **GRAPE** juice.  
4. **COFFEE** is a popular drink  
5. **OLIVES** and its production has played an important role in the diet, economy, religious ceremonies, habits and customs of the Cypriots. |
### Way of Life: Rural (Villages)

1. **AGRICULTURE**: such as olives, grapes, citrus fruit and produce, and **POTATOES**.
2. Herders of mountain **GOATS** and sheep.
3. Rural families are very **SELF-SUFFICIENT** - produce almost everything they need.

### Way of Life: Urban (Cities)

1. Largest town is Lefkosia (Nicosia), the capital, in the **CENTER** of the island.
2. Nicosia is the only **DIVIDED** capital city.
3. Most of the population lives in **COASTAL** cities/towns.
4. **TOURISM** is a very important part of the economy.

### Customs

1. Greeks and Turkish Cypriots share many customs, but **IDENTIFY** is tied to religion, language and close ties with motherlands.
2. **FAMILY** is extremely important to both the Turkish Cypriot and the Greek Cypriot
3. Shops close from 2-5 pm daily.
4. Favorite past time of men- visit the **COFFEE SHOPS** and play backgammon (tavali).
5. Dancing is usually done **SEPARATELY** by men and women.
6. Most of shopping is done on **MARKET** days.
7. **LACEMAKING** and woodworking are examples of folk crafts in Cyprus.
8. There are many celebrations and **FESTIVALS** in Cyprus.
9. **NAME DAY** (Greek Cypriots) is more important than a birthday.