

Name _____



Natural France

Directions: Read the passage about the physical geography of France. Then answer the questions that follow.

France has a wide variety of physical features that shape daily life, travel, and culture. In the southeast, the **Alps** rise sharply, creating high peaks, cold temperatures, and popular winter sports areas. To the south and west, wide coastal plains meet the **Mediterranean Sea** and the **Atlantic Ocean**, bringing mild winters and warm summers. Major rivers such as the **Seine**, **Loire**, **Garonne**, and **Rhône** help connect cities to farmland and transportation routes. Across the country, climate zones vary from **oceanic** in the northwest, to **Mediterranean** in the south, to **mountain climates** in the highest elevations.

1. What mountain range in France creates high peaks and colder temperatures in the southeast
2. Which two bodies of water shape the climate of France by bringing mild winters and warm summers
3. Why are major rivers important to cities and farmland in France
4. Which climate zone would you expect to find in the northwest of France
5. Which climate zone in France is known for warm, dry summers and mild, wet winters
6. How might life be different for people living in mountain climates compared to people living near the Mediterranean coast
7. Why do you think rivers help connect cities across France Provide a complete explanation.
8. Based on the passage, which physical feature do you think has the biggest effect on tourism in France Explain your reasoning.