Name _____ Period _____ Due _____

Central & SW Asia Reading Guide
Chapter 22 Section 2

Define:
chernozem
yurt
fundamentalism
desertification

1. Five nations that emerged as new independent nations from the breakup of the Soviet Union are: 1 _____ 2 _____ 3_____ 4_____ 5 _____
2. The 'stan' at the end of the name means _____. What does the first part of the country name stand for? Give 2 examples.

Physical Characteristics

3. Describe the climate of the Central Asian nations. What two deserts are found in the area?

4. Why is the area so good for agriculture?

People and Cultures

5. Why are Russians a large ethnic minority in several of the Central Asian nations?

6. What is the major religion in the area? Why is it different than the Arabian core?

Economic Activities

7. Describe the lifestyle of the nomadic herders of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

8. What effect did the Soviet Union have on the nomadic peoples?

Name _____ Period _____ Due _____

9. Since independence what has happened to industry and cities?

10. What is the Silk Road? Why is it important today?

Environmental Change

11. Describe the change in the Aral Sea. What effect does it have today?

12. What effects does pollution have in the area?

Bonus

Complete 'Reading a Chart' on page 467 (#21 – 24)

1. What Caucasus nation has the most airports? _____
2. Vehicles are rare in what Caucasus nation?_____
3. What Central Asian nation has the most railroad track and the most motor vehicles per 1000 people? _____
4. In what Central Asian nation would it be easiest to find an airport? _____

Next, using some of the data shown on the chart on page 467, create a bar graph or a pie chart below. Be sure to give it a title and label the information.

What do you learn from the chart you created? _____

_____