

CHAPTER 7

Guided Reading Strategies 7.2

Natural Environments of North America

READING THE SECTION As you read the section, examine each of the pairs of statements below. Circle the letter of the statement in each pair that is true.

1. **a.** The United States and Canada have only three climate types.
b. The United States and Canada have a great variety of climates.
2. **a.** The very southern tip of Florida has a marine west coast climate.
b. The very southern tip of Florida has a tropical wet and dry climate.
3. **a.** The Gulf Stream is a current in the Atlantic Ocean.
b. The Gulf Stream is a current in the Pacific Ocean.
4. **a.** Areas in North America that have a humid continental climate have four distinct seasons.
b. Areas in North America that have a tundra climate have four distinct seasons.
5. **a.** The semiarid climate of the Great Plains supports many trees but no grasses.
b. The semiarid climate of the Great Plains supports vast grasslands but few trees.
6. **a.** The Rockies have an ice cap climate.
b. The Rockies have a highland climate.
7. **a.** Alaska lies completely within the tropics.
b. Hawaii lies completely within the tropics.
8. **a.** Redwood trees can be found along the coast of northern California.
b. Redwood trees can be found along the coast of northern Florida.
9. **a.** A grassland biome stretches along the interior of North America.
b. A desert biome stretches along the interior of North America.
10. **a.** Lichens are small animals that live only in desert regions.
b. Lichens are small plants that consist of algae and fungi.

POST-READING QUICK CHECK After you have finished reading the section, in the space provided, identify the four factors that influence the distribution of climates in the United States.

1. Factor: _____
2. Factor: _____
3. Factor: _____
4. Factor: _____