

Cape Verde Study Guide

6. Cape Verde consists of _____ volcanic islands with sharp, jagged mountains.

7. What benefits does the ocean provide to Cape Verdeans?

8. Cape Verdeans, who were “hosts” to slave ships and slaves in the American South, shared some common methods of dealing with hardship. Name them.

9. Five buckets of water a week is the standard ration of water for Cape Verdean families. Describe all the activities that must be undertaken with this limited amount of water.

10. How does lack of access to safe water and sanitation impact public health?

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Answer Sheet

1. Desalination, pumping water from mountain springs, digging wells, a very short rainy season
2. The climate; an extended period of years of below average rain in the rainy season; inability to store rain during the rainy season; the land lets the rain “run off” instead of “soaking in” because of the terrain; poor water management practices by people living there.
3. Collecting rainwater in huge cement basins, and drip irrigation
4. Using buckets to collect rainwater from roadside barrels; digging holes in dry stream beds
5. Storing water on roofs of houses in huge “catch basins.”
To maximize use of space around the home because of the difficulty in creating space for peoples’ homes, and the number of people who need to use the available space. It also cuts down on the amount of labor and materials needed for water storage.
6. Nine inhabited islands
7. Transportation; fresh water; food; salt
8. Using music and prayer to dramatize and communicate their distress during times of trouble; forming close-knit communities to support each other during these times
9. Cleaning laundry, bathing, toileting, doing dishes, drinking, cooking
10. Diarrhea and waterborne diseases continue to be the primary cause of infant mortality in Cape Verde.