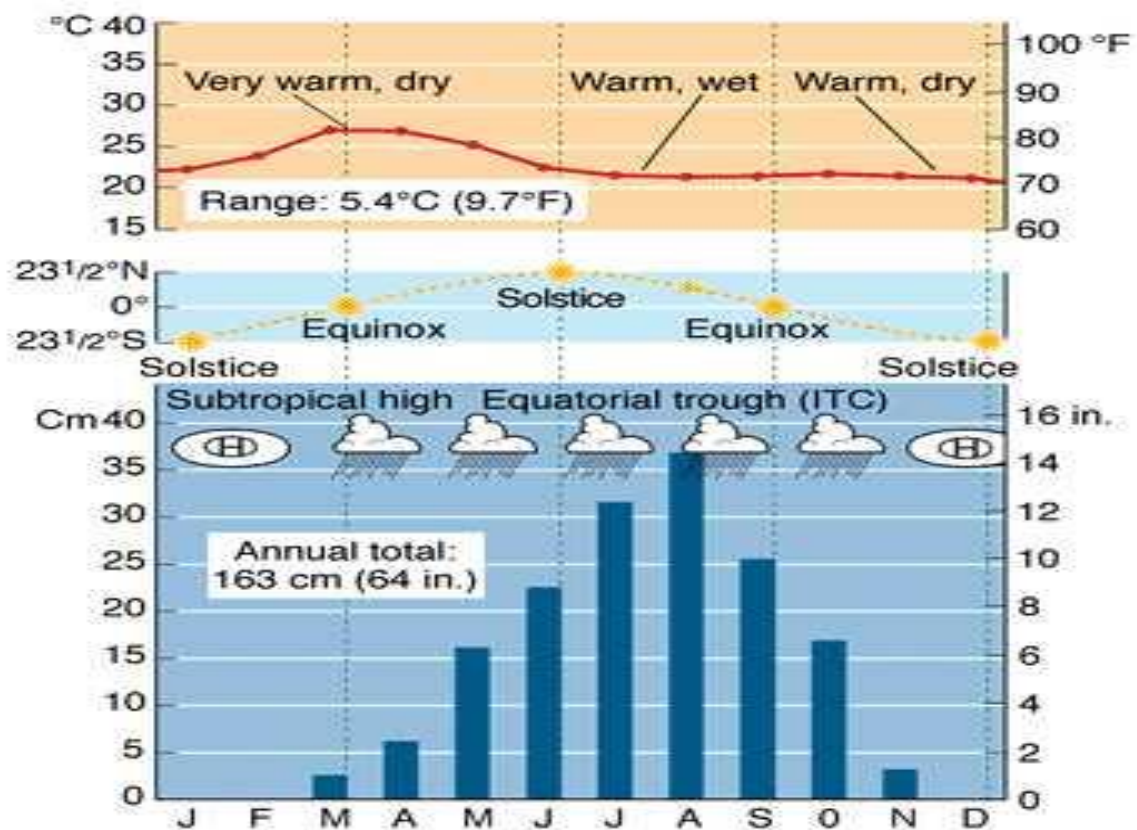
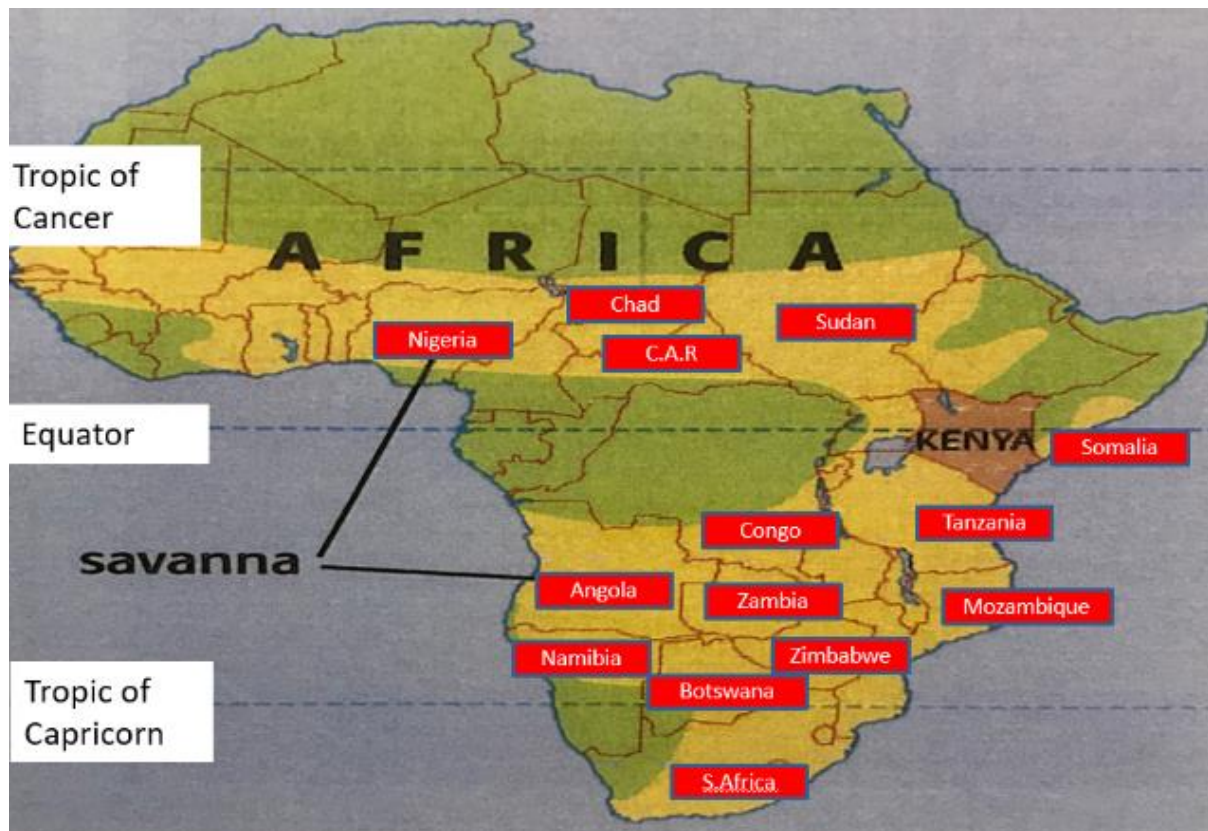


Desertification



A drought is a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.

Desertification is the process by which fertile land becomes desert, typically as a result of drought, deforestation, or inappropriate agriculture.

A Savanna is a plain characterized by coarse grasses and scattered tree growth, especially on the margins of the tropics where the rainfall is seasonal.

Causes of desertification

Deforestation is the cutting down of trees in a large area, or the destruction of forests by people.

Pastoralists – move from place to place in search of grass, grazing their animals

Over grazing – animals taking so much grass from the land that it cannot recover

Deforestation – for fuel and building

Desertification – so much vegetation is removed from the land it cannot recover – it turns to desert

Over grazing – animals taking so much grass from the land that it can not recover. Animals also tramp the soil so it compacts and does not take in moisture.

Deforestation – for fuel and building. Trees are chopped down for fire wood and building new homes etc.

Questions

1. Describe the location of savanna in Africa and name countries it is found in
2. Explain what is meant by drought and why Kenya has drought.
3. Many farmers are pastoralists. What does this mean and why do they have to keep moving from place to place?
4. Explain what deforestation means. Why is deforestation taking place in the African savanna?
5. Explain what desertification means. Make a table to show human and physical causes of desertification.
6. Try to explain why humans are BOTH the cause and victims of desertification