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Geography Terms List

List A

archipelago—a group of many islands
bay—part of an ocean or lake extending into the land and usually smaller than a gulf
cape—a point of land extending into a body of water
delta—a triangular deposit of sand and soil that collects at the mouth of some rivers
gulf—part of an ocean extending into land and usually larger than a bay
harbor—a sheltered area of water where ships can anchor safely
isthmus—a narrow strip of land with water on both sides, connecting two larger area
of land

oasis—a fertile place in the desert where there is water and some vegetation strait—a narrow waterway connecting two large bodies of water tributary—a stream or river that flows into a larger stream or river

List B

canal—a waterway dug across land through which ships can pass through channel—a narrow, deep waterway connecting two bodies of water; the deepest part of a river or waterway

desert—a dry, barren region that may be sandy and without trees
glacier—a huge mass of ice that moves slowly down a mountain
island—an area of land completely surrounded by water
lake—a large body of water surrounded by land
mountain—a land form with high elevation and a pointed or rounded top higher than
a hill

mountain range—a row of connected mountains
mouth (of a river)—the part of a river where its waters flow into another body of
water

peninsula—land surrounded by water on all sides but one
plain—a broad and flat or gently rolling area usually low in elevation
river—a large stream of water that flows into a lake, ocean, or other body of water
swamp—low, wet land that supports grass and trees
valley—low land between hills or mountains
volcano—an opening in the earth's surface through which steam, ashes, and lava are
forced out