**Chapter 5: Geography of Russia**

1. Russia’s Vast Land

* Russia is the world’s largest country (Area)
* 1.7 times larger than the land area of the U.S.A.
* Russia has around 140 million people or less than half America’s population
* Russia borders 14 countries and covers eleven time zones

B. One Country, Two Continents

* 3 out of every 4 Russians live west of the Ural Mountains or in European Russia
* **Siberia** –
* **Permafrost** –
* **Lake Baikal** –
* Over a mile deep
* Holds around 20% of the world’s fresh water supply

1. Russia Climate

* **Tundra –**
* Long winter that where some of the coldest temperatures on Earth have been recorded
* **Taiga** –
* Very few people live in the Taiga
* **Steppes** –

D. Russia’s Resources

* Russia has more natural resources than any country on earth
* Vast reserves of coal, oil, and natural gas
* Many resources are in hard-to-reach parts of Siberia
* Long distances and harsh climates make it difficult and expensive to bring many of the resources to market

E. Russia’s People

* Majority of Russia’s population and major cities are east of the Ural Mountains
* **Moscow –**
* **Slavs –**
* Russia is home to around 100 ethnic groups
* Has sometimes resulted in violence