III. Turkey Today

1. Turkey’s Geography

* Compared to other countries in the Middle East Turkey’s climate is milder with more rain
* Turkey is considered the crossroads between the Middle East and Europe
* Because of its location, Turkey has been a major trading area for over 2,000 years

B. Short History of Turkey

* **Ottoman Empire –**
* Sided with the Germans during World War I
* After the Ottoman Empire lost World War I the empire broke collapsed

C. Powerful Ruler

* **Mustafa Kemal –**
* Changed the countries name from the Ottoman Empire to Turkey
* **Turkey –**
* Kemal was a soldier during World War I
* Liked what he saw in European cities
* Called for the westernization of Turkey
* **Secular –**
* Replaced Islamic traditions with western traditions

D. Modernization

* Women have more rights in Turkey than in most countries of the Middle East
* Allowed to vote in the 1930s
* World’s first women supreme court justice
* **1990s –**