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Section 5

GUIDED READING *Central Asia Struggles*

A. Drawing Conclusions As you read about the struggles of Central Asia, take notes to answer the following questions.

Freedom in Central Asia brings new challenges

1. Since gaining independence, why have the nations of Central Asia struggled economically?	
2. Why have many regional wars been fought in Central Asia?	

Afghanistan Struggles for Freedom

3. During the 1800s, why did Britain want to gain control over Afghanistan? Why did Russia want control over this region?	
4. Why did the Soviet Union invade Afghanistan in 1979?	

Rise and Fall of the Taliban

5. How did rule by the Taliban affect Afghanistan?	
6. How did the United States help to defeat the Taliban?	

B. Perceiving Cause and Effect On the back of this paper identify each of the following.

Transcaucasian Republics Central Asian Republics mujahideen Taliban