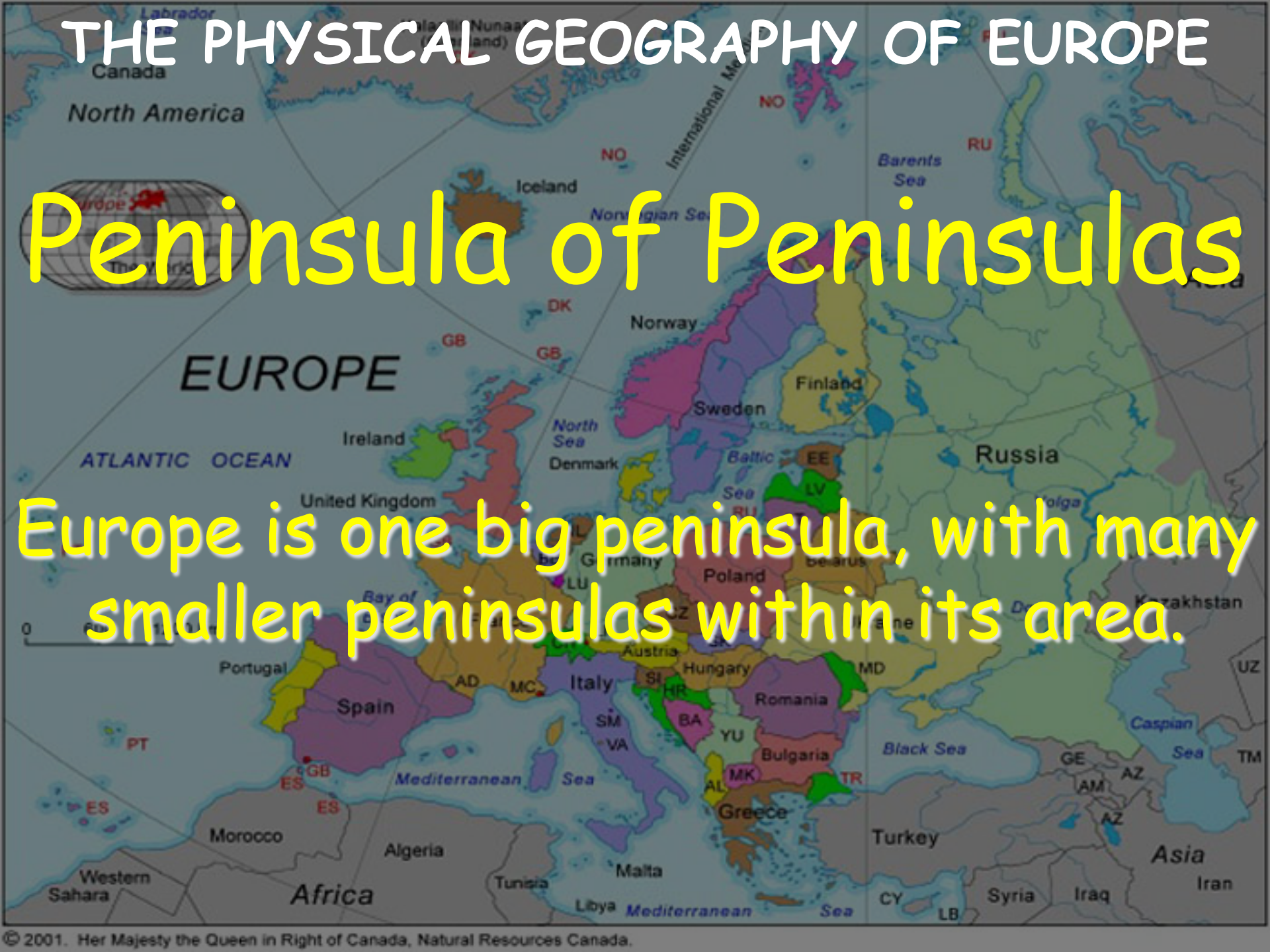


THE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE

Peninsula of Peninsulas

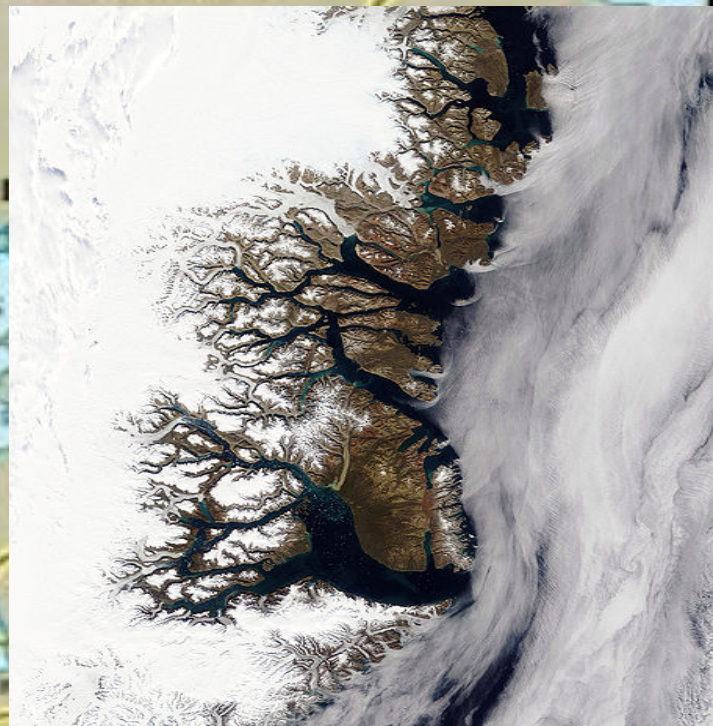
Europe is one big peninsula, with many smaller peninsulas within its area.



PHYSICAL EUROPE

THE NORTHERN PENINSULAS

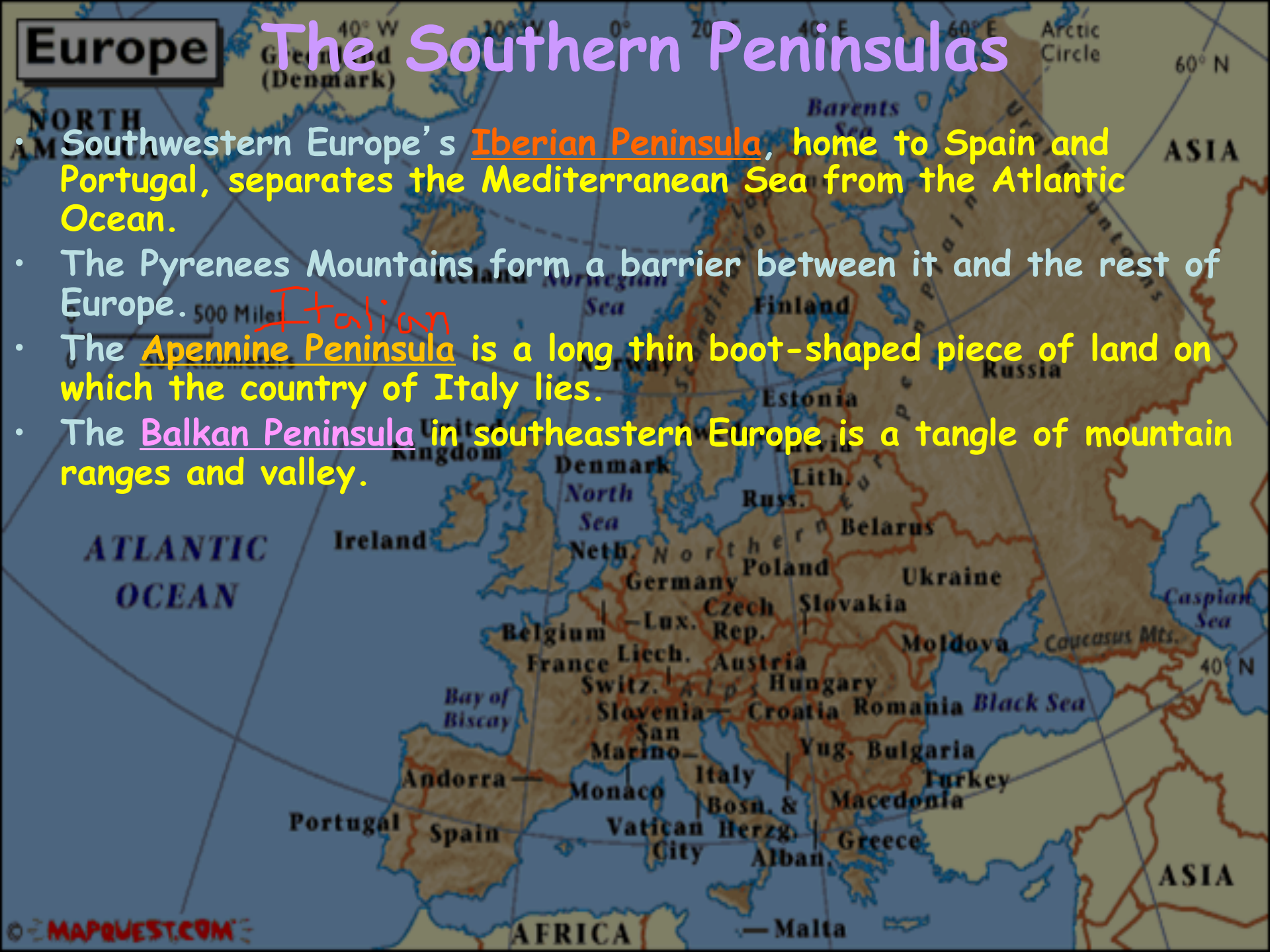
- The Scandinavian Peninsula in northern Europe is mountainous
- Ice age glaciers melted here, leaving thousands of lakes. Other glaciers carved out fjords along the coastline.
- Fjords—steep U-shaped valleys that connect to the sea.
- The Jutland Peninsula makes up the largest part of Denmark. This peninsula is much more flat than the Scandinavian Peninsula.



Europe

The Southern Peninsulas

- Southwestern Europe's Iberian Peninsula, home to Spain and Portugal, separates the Mediterranean Sea from the Atlantic Ocean.
- The Pyrenees Mountains form a barrier between it and the rest of Europe.
- The Italian Apennine Peninsula is a long thin boot-shaped piece of land on which the country of Italy lies.
- The Balkan Peninsula in southeastern Europe is a tangle of mountain ranges and valley.



EUROPE'S ISLANDS



- Iceland, an island south of the Arctic Circle in the North Atlantic Ocean features volcanoes, hot springs, and geysers.

THE BRITISH ISLES

- The British Isles—
primarily
Ireland and
Great
Britain—are
cool, hilly,
and rainy



THE EUROPE MEDITERRANEAN ISLANDS

ISLAND OF CORSICA

- In the Mediterranean, 5 large islands—Sicily, Corsica, Sardinia, Cyprus, and Crete—all have rugged terrain and volcanic mountains.
- Greece's nearly 2,000 islands in the Aegean Sea have rugged landscapes and a sunny climate that attracts many tourists.

Countries that border the Mediterranean Sea



ISLAND OF SARDINIA

ISLAND OF CYPRUS

ISLAND OF CRETE

ASIA



Matterhorn Peak found in the Alps on the Swiss/Italian border



Alps during summer

© Tom Dempsey / Photoseek.com

EUROPE'S MOUNTAINS

- Europe's mountains have acted as a natural barrier between different groups of people.
- The Alps are Europe's most famous mountain range. They run across parts of Austria, Switzerland, Italy, France and Germany.
- The Pyrenees Mnts. Separate Spain and Portugal from the rest of Europe.

- The Apennine Mnts. run down the middle of Italian peninsula.
- The Carpathian Mnts are the largest mountain range in Europe.
- Balkan Mnts. isolate the Balkan peninsula from Europe and Asia.



Uplands

- Uplands are not quite as high in elevation as mountains are. Examples of Uplands would be:
- Meseta the central plateau in Spain
- Massif Central —the uplands that make up 1/6th of France.



Spain

France

EUROPE



GREAT HUNGARIAN PLAINS

THE PLAINS REGIONS

N. EUROPEAN PLAINS

- The fertile North European Plain stretches from southeastern England and western France to Russia. It consists of a major agricultural region, the plain is home to some of Europe's largest cities.
- The Great Hungarian Plain, another fertile region, extends from Hungary to Croatia, Serbia and Romania.



Europe's Waterways

- The rivers of Europe flow from inland mountains and highlands to the coasts.
- Europeans have built networks of canals that aid transportation and irrigation.
- Two major rivers are the Danube and the Rhine.

Rivers

