The Geography of Afghanistan

Instructions: Follow the directions below as you fill in the map called “Afghanistan.” Refer to the maps on the following pages as directed and any other resources you may have in your classroom. You may want to use the internet, maps on the wall, or other textbooks. Different colored pencils may also be helpful.

Refer to the “Afghanistan and its Neighbors” map to answer questions 1-3.
1. List the countries that border Afghanistan. Label them on the map “Afghanistan”

2. a. With which country does Afghanistan share the longest border?
   b. Use the key to estimate the length of the border.
   Length:__________

3. a. The capital city of which neighboring country is closest to Afghanistan’s capital?
   Name of city:______________ Name of neighboring country:______________
   b. Use the key to estimate the distance between the two capitals.
   Distance:______________

Refer to the “Physical and Political Map of Afghanistan” to complete tasks 4-8.
4. Mark and label the following major cities on the map “Afghanistan”: Herat, Qandahar, Mazar-i-Sharif, and Kabul. Mark the country’s capital city with a star.

5. What are the names of the two largest mountain ranges? Shade in and label the mountain ranges on the map “Afghanistan.”

6. Highlight the rivers on the map “Afghanistan.” Based on the map and your reading, what is the source of water for the rivers in Afghanistan?

7. Which of the four major cities are located along rivers?

8. What physical feature might explain why much of southern Afghanistan is sparsely populated?

Refer to the “Ethnic Groups in Afghanistan and Pakistan” map to complete tasks 9-10.
9. Record the largest ethnic group for each country:
   Afghanistan—Ethnic Group:__________ Percentage of population:__________
   Pakistan—Ethnic Group:__________ Percentage of population:__________

10. a. What is the name of the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan? Label this on the map “Afghanistan.”
    b. Which ethnic groups does this line divide in half?