Southwest Asia’s Ethnic Groups

Review Questions

1. What is a community of people sharing a common culture, ancestry, customs, and language known as?
2. What is a group of people who share a belief system in a god or gods known as?
3. Which religion do most of the people of Southwest Asia follow?
4. Most Arabs are followers of which religion?
5. Which ethnic group is trying to create its own country?
6. Which modern day country is home to Persians?
7. Which ethnic group is most numerous in Southwest Asia?
8. What language do Persians speak?
9. Most Kurds practice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Islam, while most Persians practice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Islam.
10. True or False (and why): “Arabs, Persians, and Kurds all live in roughly the same region of the world and are virtually the same people except they live in different countries.”

Answers

1. Ethnic group
2. Religious group
3. Islam
4. Most Arabs are Sunni Muslim, but the Arab population in southern Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, northern Syria, & northern Yemen are mainly Shi’a
5. Kurds
6. Iran
7. Arabs
8. Farsi
9. Sunni; Shi’a
10. False—ethnic groups are different; different beliefs, languages, customs, heritage, etc.