

Lesson 12

More from Tanzania

Tanzania (Tan zah **nee** uh) is a fascinating country on the continent of Africa. The climate of Tanzania is tropical. That means the weather is warm and humid. Eight African countries surround Tanzania. These countries lie to the north, west, and south. The Indian Ocean borders Tanzania to the east. Africa’s tallest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro (kil uh mun **jar** oh), is in Tanzania. Lake Victoria is Africa’s largest lake, and Lake Tanganyika (tan guh **nee** kuh) is the continent’s deepest lake. These two beautiful lakes are also in Tanzania.

The country is home to many interesting animals, like the red colobus monkey and the wildebeest. Tanzanian farmers grow sugarcane, coffee, tea, wheat, corn, cloves, nuts, and tobacco. They also harvest vegetables and tropical fruits, like bananas. The people of Tanzania raise livestock, such as cattle, sheep, and goats. Over 100 languages are spoken in Tanzania. However, the two most common languages are English, and Swahili. Swahili is the national language.



Credit: Dave Keiger

An elephant herd in Serengeti National Park

Serengeti National Park is Tanzania’s oldest national park. In 1951, it was set aside to preserve wildlife, especially lions. Lions became scarce because people hunted them for sport. Scientists, researchers, and tourists come to the park to study the “Big Five.” The Big Five animals are lions, leopards, elephants, black rhinoceros, and African buffalo.

Swahili Word	How It Sounds	English Meaning
jambo	jam bō	hello
kwaheri	kwa hah rē	good-bye
toto	tō tō	child
kitabu	ki taw boo	book
safari	sə fa rē	journey
rafiki	rə fee kē	friend

1. Which ocean is closest to Tanzania? _____
2. How many countries surround Tanzania? _____

3. In which part of Africa is Tanzania?
 northwest northeast southwest southeast



4. What is special about Mount Kilimanjaro?
 A) It is the only mountain range in Africa.
 B) No one has ever climbed Mount Kilimanjaro.
 C) Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa.
 D) all of these

5. What Swahili word is a common English word? _____

6. Match each term with its clue.

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|-----------------|--|
| _____ tropical | A) animals living in their natural environment |
| _____ harvest | B) gather what has been grown |
| _____ livestock | C) farm animals |
| _____ preserve | D) type of weather that is warm and humid |
| _____ wildlife | E) keep safe from harm or injury |

7. Complete the graphic organizer with information from the text.

Tanzania	
Location	
Climate	
Most Common Languages	
Livestock (2 examples)	
Crops (2 examples)	