

Name: _____

Map Activity: Comparing the Ancient and Modern Middle East

Instructions: Use the provided maps to compare and contrast the region of modern Israel and Palestine with the Middle East during the time of the Hanukkah story (circa 2nd century BCE). Answer the questions below to identify geographical, cultural, and historical differences and similarities.

Part 1: Observations

Look closely at both maps and take notes on the following:

- Major cities and their locations
- Borders and territories
- Natural features (rivers, seas, mountains)

Part 2: Map Comparison Table

Fill in the table below based on your observations:

Feature	Modern Israel/Palestine	2nd Century BCE Middle East
Major Cities		
Borders/Territories		
Religious/Cultural Significance		

Part 3: Analysis Questions

1. What are some major differences between the borders of modern Israel/Palestine and the territories during the 2nd century BCE?
2. Identify any cities that appear on both maps. Why do you think they were important historically and remain important today?
3. How do natural features like rivers or seas impact the borders and territories on each map?