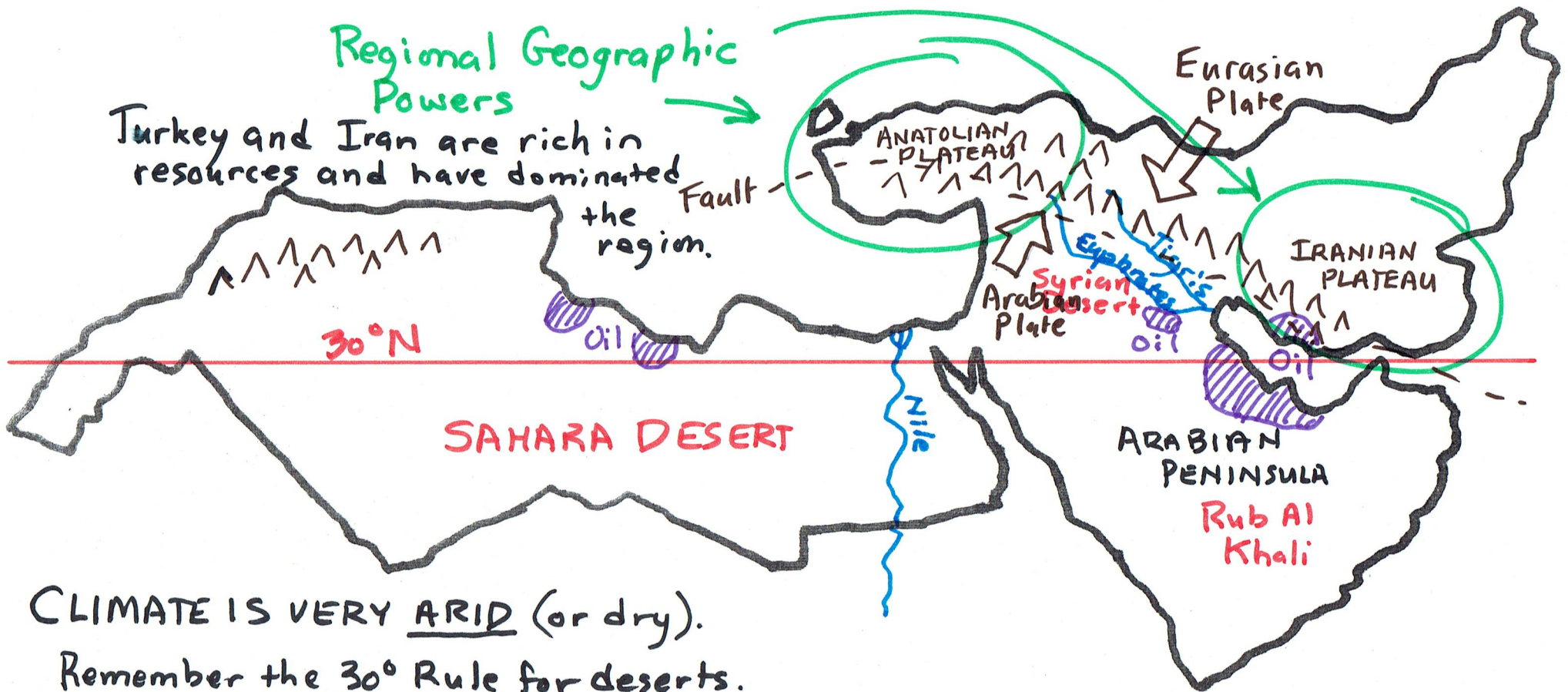


Notes 3.1 - Physical Geography of S.W. Asia/N. Africa



CLIMATE IS VERY ARID (or dry).

Remember the 30° Rule for deserts.

Deserts have less than 10" of rain/yr.

CLIMATE IS VERY HOT.

Desert temperatures can range up to 130°F in daytime in the Arabian Peninsula.

ACTIVE CRUSTAL PLATES HAVE SHAPED THE REGION.

The high Anatolian and Iranian Plateaus were created by this process. Both experience large earthquakes.

WATER RESOURCES ARE LIMITED.

Few rivers are called exotic rivers (that flow through desert areas).

Evaporation rate is high. Very dry.

76% of water used for agriculture.

Future water stress will rise.

REGIONS ARE RICH IN OIL AND GAS.

Has transformed many countries.

Saudi Arabia = 25% of world reserves.