Name _____ Date_____

Rivers Run Through It

A **physical map** shows the **landscape** of the area covered: its mountains, rivers, and valleys, for example. A **relief map** is a one kind of physical map; it shows the heights and steepness of these features of the landscape. Like all maps, relief maps have a **legend**, a **compass rose**, and a **scale**.

Use the Relief Map of New York State to answer the questions below.

1. The following states border New York. Fill in the blank boxes on the map with the correct state names.

Pennsylvania New Jersey Connecticut Massachusetts Vermont

2. On the map, major bodies of water are labeled with numbers. Identify each one by writing the proper number next to each name below.

_____Atlantic Ocean
_____Long Island Sound
_____Lake Champlain
_____Lake Erie
_____New York **Harbor**
_____Hudson River
_____Mohawk River
_____Lake Ontario

3. An **estuary** is a body of water in which salty ocean water mixes with fresh water. Estuaries are located near the ocean and connected to it but partly surrounded by land. Three of the water bodies listed in Question 2 are estuaries. Which three are they?

4. The Hudson flows through or past three large sets of mountains. They are labeled with numbers on the map. Identify each one by writing the proper number next to its name below.

_____Adirondack Mountains _____Catskill Mountains _____Hudson Highlands

Hudson River Estuary

5. Using the compass rose on the map, complete the following sentences by writing in the proper direction—north, south, east, or west.

Example: Vermont is ***north*** of Massachusetts.

a. Near Kingston, the Catskill Mountains are _____ of the Hudson River.

b. The Hudson flows _____ from the Adirondacks to New York Harbor.

c. Albany is _____of New York City.

d. Starting near Syracuse, the Mohawk River flows _____ to the Hudson.

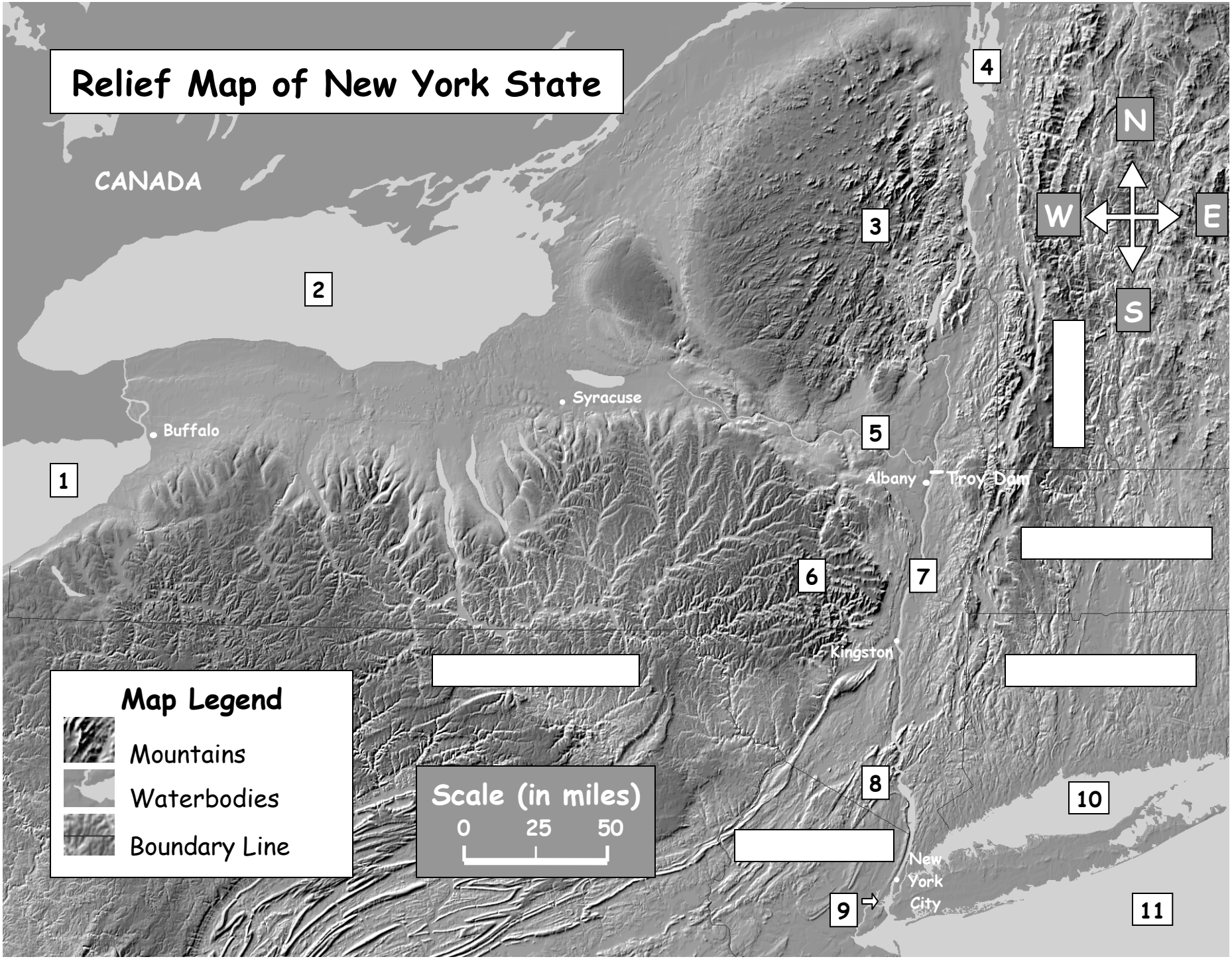
6. Using the scale on the map, estimate the distances below.

a. The length of the Hudson from Kingston to Albany _____

b. The distance between Syracuse and Albany _____

c. The length of the Hudson from the Troy Dam to New York Harbor _____

7. The Erie **Canal** was built so that **cargo** and people could travel by water all the way from Lake Erie to New York City. The canal ran from Buffalo to the Hudson River at Albany, following the Mohawk River for much of its length. Why didn't the canal run in a straight line from Buffalo to New York City?


Relief Map of New York State
CANADA
Buffalo
Syracuse
Albany
Troy Dam
Kingston
New York City
N
W
E
S
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
Map Legend
Mountains
Waterbodies
Boundary Line
Scale (in miles)
0 25 50