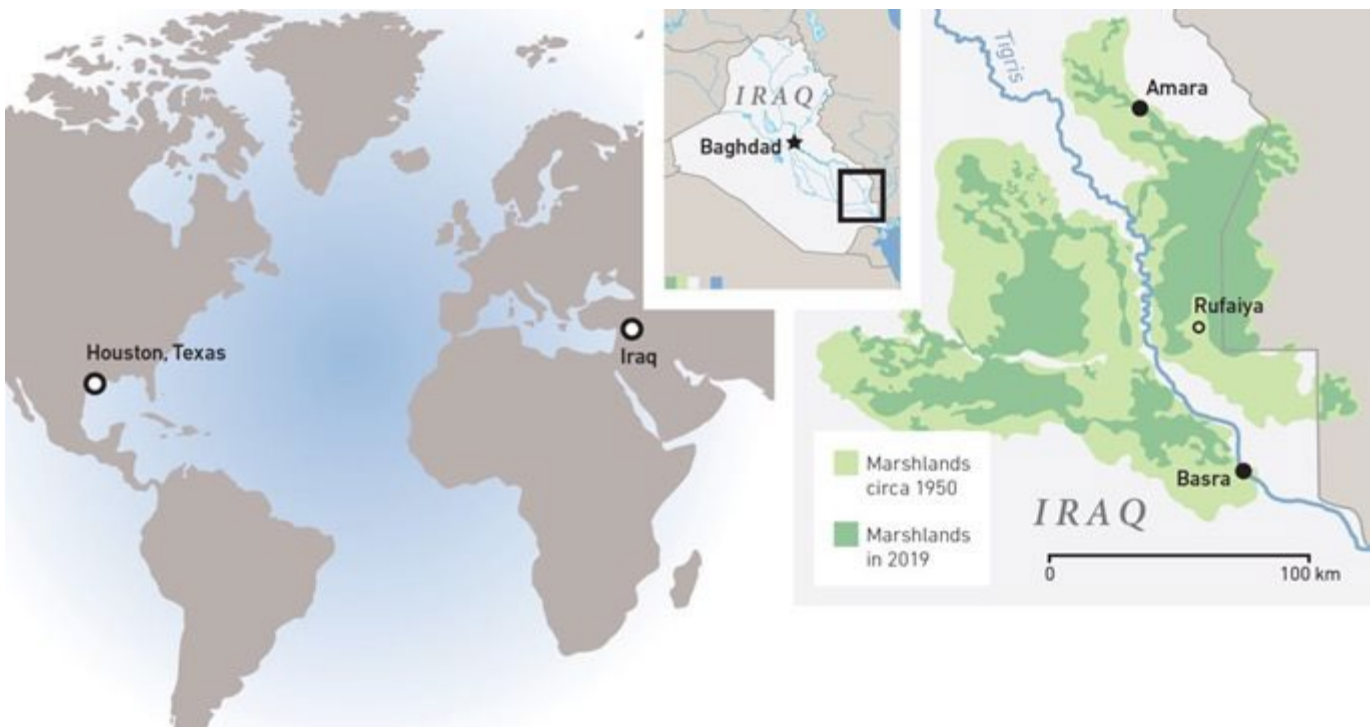


Visual Analysis ...

Look at the world map below and its inset maps of Iraq and the southern marshlands in Iraq. An inset map can also be referred to as a locator map or a small-scale map. It is a map that highlights and provides more information about a smaller region within a larger area. Use the internet or an atlas to answer questions.



Calculate the distance between Iraq and Houston, Texas.

- 1) Label on the world map: a) the five continents displayed b) Persian Gulf c) Sea of Oman d) Red Sea e) Mediterranean Sea f) Suez Canal g) Strait of Gibraltar h) Track the likely sea route that the ship took carrying the “phragmites” from the southern Iraqi Marshlands beginning in the Arabian Gulf to Houston on the world map using a dotted line.

2) Explain why the “likely sea route” took so long to get to Houston.

3) Using the inset map of the Iraqi Marshlands and the information from the article, explain what has happened to the Iraqi Marshlands in the past 70 years and why?

Common Core Standard(s) Met:

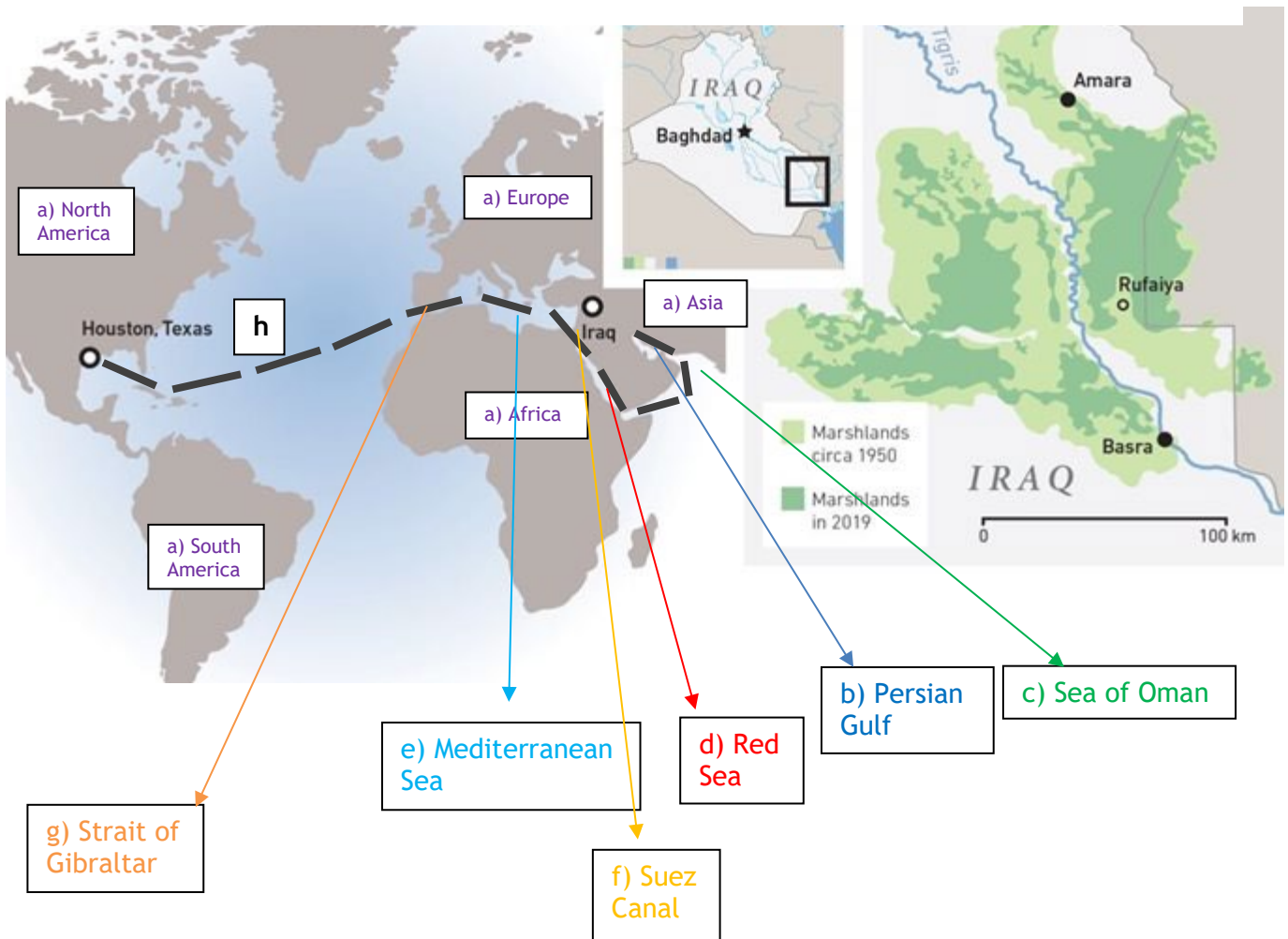
CCRA.R.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

CCRA.R.7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

CCRA.R.9 Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

Visual Analysis Answer Key

- 1) 11,875 km (7,323 miles)
- 2) Map labeling:



3) Answers will vary but might include: The Iraqi Marshlands have drastically decreased due to environmental and political problems. In early 90's, Saddam Hussein attempted to drain the marshlands to deny rebels a hiding place following the Gulf War, which dried up 90% of the marshes. The work of environmental activists such as Iraq Now and the UN's Food & Agricultural Organization have influenced the restoration of 3 national parks within the Iraqi Marshlands back to 40% of their original size. The area continues to suffer from the drying of the Tigris and Euphrates river system due to global warming.