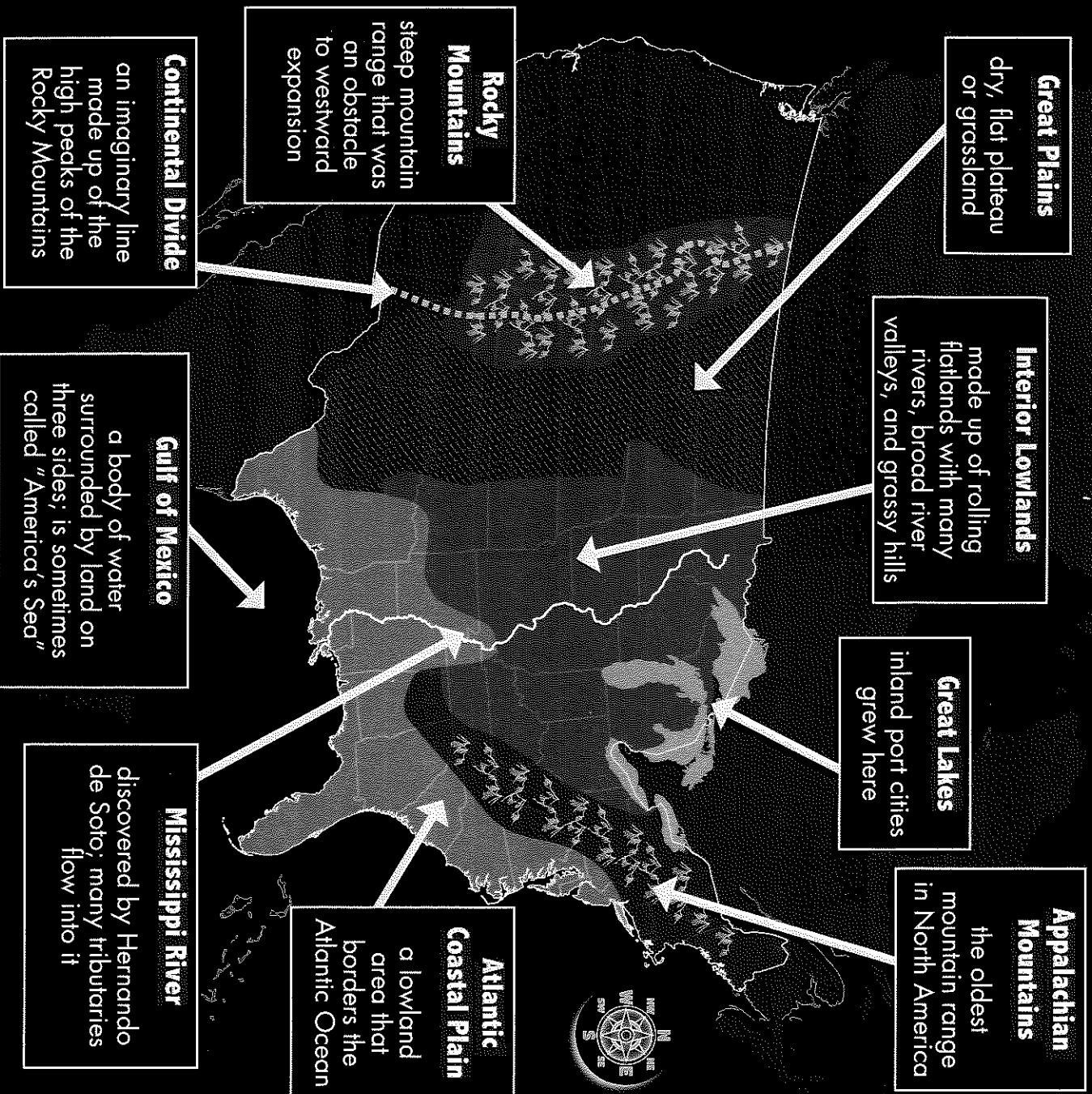


Natural Physical Features of the United States

(selected list—there are many more!)



Great Plains

dry, flat plateau or grassland

Interior Lowlands

made up of rolling flatlands with many rivers, broad river valleys, and grassy hills

Great Lakes

inland port cities grew here

Appalachian Mountains

the oldest mountain range in North America

Rocky Mountains

steep mountain range that was an obstacle to westward expansion

Continental Divide

an imaginary line made up of the high peaks of the Rocky Mountains

Gulf of Mexico

a body of water surrounded by land on three sides; is sometimes called "America's Sea"

Mississippi River

discovered by Hernando de Soto; many tributaries flow into it

Atlantic Coastal Plain

a lowland area that borders the Atlantic Ocean

Rollin' Down the River

U.S. rivers were a major transportation route for flatboats in the early 1800s, and later for steamboats. The flatboat was a popular method of transporting goods, such as lumber and hay.

