

## VOCABULARY: THE EARTH'S RELIEF.

The continental forms of relief:

- **Mountains** ⇒ great elevations of terrain (600 metres or more above sea level). They are usually together forming **ranges** (*cordilleras*), **systems** (*sistemas montañosos*) or **belts** (*cinturones*).
  
- **Plateaux** ⇒ flat surfaces elevated from the terrains around (about 400 metres above sea level, although they can be higher).
  
- **Plains** ⇒ flat terrains, usually less than 200 metres above sea level. **Rivers** run through plains, excavating long depressions named **valleys**.
  - ◆ **Rivers:** streams of water coming from the mountains and ending in a sea or ocean.
  - ◆ **Valleys:** long depressions between mountain ranges or through plains.
  
- **Depressions** ⇒ terrains or areas under sea level.

**Plateau:** An extensive and relatively flat upland.

**Mountain:** A very high hill, often with rocks near the top.

**Range of Mountains:** A line or group of mountains or hills.

**Hill:** An area of land that is higher than the land around it, but not as high as a mountain.

**Depression:** An area of land that is lower than the land around it.

**Plain:** A large area of flat land.

**Valley:** An area of low land between hills or mountains, often with a river flowing through it