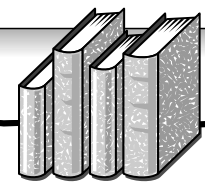


CHAPTER 7 Guided Reading Activity



7-1 Central America

DIRECTIONS: Answering Questions Reading the section and completing the questions below will help you learn more about Central America. Refer to your textbook to write answers to the questions.

1. From north to south, what seven countries make up Central America?

2. What country is north, what continent is south, what sea is east, and what ocean is west of Central America?

3. Describe the landscape of Central America from west to east, naming the regions.

4. Describe the climate of Central America from west to east, explaining why it changes.

5. What are Central America's two main resources?

6. What kind of farming takes place in Central America?

7. List three ways rain forests are used and two ways they are threatened.

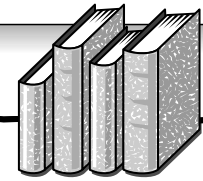
8. What mix of cultural backgrounds is common in Central America except in Belize?

9. What is the population distribution between urban and rural areas?

10. Explain how Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Panama significantly differ from each other.

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CHAPTER 7 Guided Reading Activity



7-2 The West Indies

DIRECTIONS: Filling in the Blanks Reading the section and completing the summaries below will help you learn more about the West Indies. Refer to your textbook to fill in the blanks.

The West Indies is an archipelago in the

(1) _____ . The

(2) _____ are closest to Florida. The Greater Antilles are in the north, while the

(3) _____ lie farther south. Varying in size, the islands are an underwater chain of mountains, including some active (4) _____ . Most of the

islands have central (5) _____ sloping to coasts with strips of fertile

(6) _____ . The region has a

(7) _____

climate but suffers strong (8) _____ .

(9) _____ and farming are the major economic activities. Large plantations grow crops to

(10) _____, while subsistence farmers feed their families. Trading

ships pass through the (11) _____ . Industry is limited.

The location of the West Indies resulted in a mix of (12) _____, Native American, Asian, and European backgrounds. In the 1500s Europeans set up colonies. They

forced islanders to work on farms and in

(13) _____. When these workers died, Europeans brought enslaved people from

(14) _____ .

Today some countries are republics while others are (15) _____

_____. Only one, Cuba, has a government based on (16) _____ .

Cuba is a top (17) _____ producer. Farmers work on government farms called

(18) _____ .

Most of Haiti's people are of

(19) _____ ancestry. Many Haitians are poor and live in

(20) _____ areas.

Jamaica was a (21) _____ colony.

Its economy relies on (22) _____,

although it exports (23) _____ and farm goods.

Puerto Rico became a United States

(24) _____

in 1952. Two thirds of the people live in urban areas. Puerto Rico has more

(25) _____ than other islands in the West Indies.