

Name _____ Period _____

Latin America: Physical Geography and Climates

Objective:

Latin America is divided into 2 regions

•A. Middle America: made up of _____, _____, and the _____.

•B. South America

•“_____” America identifies this as a _____ rather than a _____ region.

Physical Geography

Ring of Fire

•Covers _____.

•Earthquakes/volcanoes are consequences of crustal plates

Physical Geography

Mountains

• _____ and the _____ meet near _____ to form the sharp-peaked _____.

Physical Geography

Mountains

•Brazilian Highlands of Eastern Brazil: form an _____ (a slope or long cliff between a higher and lower surface)

Physical Geography

Mountains

•The Andes: _____ long—World’s _____ mountain chain.

• _____ range in the world.

Andes

•Mount Aconcagua is the highest peak in the range. It reaches up to _____ feet above sea level.

•The Andes were created from the _____.

Positives and Negatives of mountains

•Mountains often _____, isolating _____.

•They are also _____ resources.

Physical Geography

Plateaus and Hills

•Plateau is an _____ that rises sharply above nearby land on at least _____.

•High flatlands used _____.

•Anahuac—densely populated _____.

Physical Geography

Plateaus and Hills

•Altiplano: Means “_____” covers Bolivia and Peru

•Patagonia: _____, hills and low flatlands form a plateau area

Physical Geography

Plains Areas

•Llanos: run along the Caribbean coast of South America: _____.

•Amazon River Basin: _____.

•Pampas: _____. Rainfall and fertile soils needed for producing grain and grazing cattle and sheep.

Physical Geography

The Amazon

•Plains _____. The largest of these plains is the Amazon river basin. It covers near 2 million square miles.

•This plain _____.

Amazon River Basin

Physical Geography

Amazon

Physical Geography

Amazon

•The Amazon River is _____. It is the worlds LARGEST river by _____, and no other river drains as large of an area.

•So much water flows into the Atlantic that it dilutes the seawater _____.

Amazon Delta

Physical Geography

Amazon

•More than 150 inches of rain fall over the Amazon basin every year. That is over _____ as we do here in Utah.

•Anacondas, bats, jaguars, monkeys, piranha, and countless other species live in the forest.

Physical Geography

Pampas

•In the eastern edge of Argentina is where the Pampas are located. This is the _____ area of Argentina.

•It is a very _____ land. It is so fertile because of _____ that carried soil to the area.

Physical Geography

Pampas

- The Pampas fertile soils enable ranchers to raise cattle and grow grains. Argentina is the _____ because of this.

Physical Geography

Rivers, Lakes and Waterfalls

- Amazon:** _____ of water of any of World's rivers and _____ next to the Nile.
- Parana, Paraguay, Uruguay:** rivers _____. Near Buenos Aires, the Paraguay and Uruguay rivers _____, which means "_____".
- Lake Titicaca: _____ which is found in Bolivia.

Physical Geography

Landforms

- Yucatan Peninsula: _____.
- Found in _____.
- It separates the _____.

Physical Geography

Landforms

- The Antilles _____.
- The Greater Antilles are the large set of islands of _____.
- The Lesser Antilles are comprised of _____ and territories.

Physical Geography

Landforms

- Central America is an Isthmus (_____) that links North and South America together.
- To the _____ lies the _____ and a group of islands called the Greater and Lesser Antilles
- To the _____ lies the _____.

Climates of Latin America

- Tropical:** Climates cover most of Latin America: _____.
- Found in Southern Mexico, eastern shores of some Caribbean Islands, large parts of South America

Climates of Latin America

Rain Forest:

- Only covers _____, yet nearly _____ of the world's _____ of plants and animals are found there.
- What makes a tropical rain forest so unique is its _____.
- A person could walk for a mile through the rain forest and never find two trees of the same kind. Much of this diversity is due to the special layering of plant life, the millions of species and insects and animals, the hot, humid climate and rich fertile soil.

Climates of Latin America

Rain Forest Layers

- 1. Emergent Layer: Contains _____ . Some taller than _____ , such as eagles, are found in this layer.
- 2. Canopy: rises about 100-130 feet above the ground. It is _____ and gets a lot of sunshine. _____ in the rain forest live in the canopy.
- 3. Understory: the layer beneath the canopy. Bushes, shrubs and trees grow there about _____ above the ground. Plants do not grow tall in this layer because it gets _____ like ocelots live here.
- 4. Forest Floor: the _____ of the rain forest has _____ . It is usually bare except for decaying plants that don't need as much sun. _____ live here.

Interesting tidbits about the Rain Forest

- Americans use 50 million tons of paper annually -- consuming more than 850 million trees.
- Every day 50 to 100 species of plants and animals become extinct as their habitat and human influences destroy them.
- In Peninsular Malaysia, more tree species are found in 125 acres of Tropical Forest than in the entire North America.
- 63,000 square miles of Rainforests are being destroyed each year.
- A study has shown that there are possibly over 30 *million* species of insects dwelling in the canopies of tropical forests.
- Greater than a quarter of our rainforest is in Brazil

Climates of Latin America

- Humid Subtropical: _____

Southeastern South America (Rio de Janeiro to Pampas)

Climates of Latin America

- Desert: northern Mexico and southern and northwestern Argentina: _____ most of the time: In some parts of the _____ (border between Chile and Peru), _____ has ever been recorded.

Climates of Latin America

- Steppe: _____ : northern Mexico, highland areas in South America near the Andes

Climates of Latin America

- Highland Climate: depends on Altitude: Altitudinal Zonation
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