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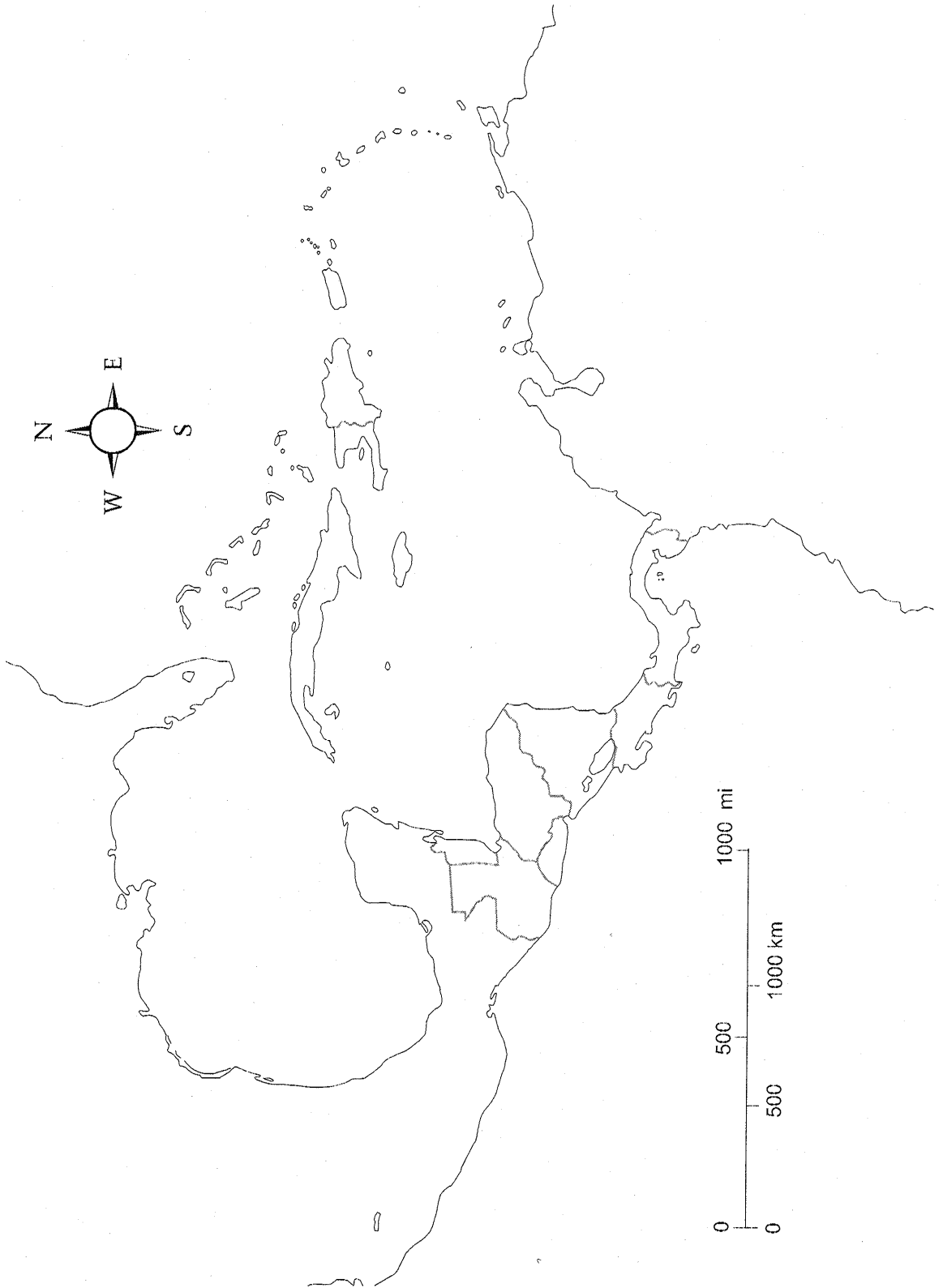
Period _____

Chapter 4

Map Activity

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Central America and the Caribbean



Central America and the Caribbean

Directions: Fill in the outline below. Filling in the blanks will help you as you read and study Chapter 4.

I. Section 1: Central America and the Caribbean (pp. 100–102)

A. Location

1. Central America is on the continent of _____
2. Caribbean islands are an _____ in the Caribbean Sea

B. Subregions

1. The _____ is a continent or part of a continent that is not an island
2. The _____ is the islands and coastal plains of Central America

C. History

1. Mainland divided into large farms, or _____, by Spanish conquerors
2. Island land divided into large _____ where only one crop was grown

II. Section 2: Physical Features and Climate (pp. 103–105)

A. Mainland

1. High _____ and coastal _____
2. Eastern side has thick _____; Pacific side has rich _____

B. Rimland

1. Most islands are tops of dormant _____
2. _____ from active volcanoes is used to make electricity
3. Some islands are _____, made from the buildup of dead coral

C. Climate

1. Most people in Central America live in a _____ climate
2. Caribbean lowlands have a _____ climate
3. _____ bring strong winds, heavy rainfall, and huge waves

III. Section 3: The People (pp. 106–110)

A. Culture

1. Central American culture affected most by _____
2. _____ also set up colonies in the area
3. _____ are descendants of Africans and Europeans
4. _____ were brought to Caribbean islands to work on plantations

Central America and the Caribbean, continued**B. Religion**

1. Most people in the region are _____
2. _____ is the belief that good and evil spirits affect daily life

C. Language

1. _____ is spoken most often in Central America
2. People also speak _____, _____, and _____—a mix of French and African languages

D. Where People Live

1. Most people live in _____ areas
2. _____ is the only country with a high population density

E. Problems

1. Great differences between the _____ and the _____ people
2. Need to develop new _____
3. _____ growth has reduced natural resources

IV. Section 4: Economy and Environment (pp. 111–113)**A. Natural Resources**

1. Major resources of islands are good _____ and much _____
2. Great resource of Central America is _____
3. Neither has great _____ resources

B. Industries in Central America

1. Most economies dependent on _____
2. _____ farming provides only enough for a family

C. Industries in the Caribbean

1. Most people work in _____
2. _____, _____, _____, and _____ are grown on plantations

D. Environmental Challenges

1. Native trees and plants cut down because of _____
2. Too many people living in areas causing _____ pollution
3. Destruction of the _____

Central America and the Caribbean: Just the Facts!

Directions: Write the term from the Word Bank that is described in each sentence.

Word Bank

Bahamas	plantations	Lesser Antilles	rimland
North America	Greater Antilles	haciendas	mainland
	mestizos	Belize	

- _____ 1) This part of a continent is not an island.
- _____ 2) Central America is part of this continent.
- _____ 3) This group of islands forms the eastern boundary of the Caribbean Sea.
- _____ 4) This country is part of the mainland of Central America.
- _____ 5) These people are of mixed Spanish and native ancestry.
- _____ 6) All Caribbean islands except these lie between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
- _____ 7) This land is often islands and coastal plains.
- _____ 8) Puerto Rico is a part of this island group.
- _____ 9) Spanish landlords owned these large self-sufficient farms.
- _____ 10) These large farms grew only one crop.

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Physical Features and Climates of Central America and the Caribbean

Directions: Write the answers to these questions using complete sentences.

1) Which coast of Central America has better soil for farming? Why?

.....

2) How is a dormant volcano different from an active volcano?

.....

3) How does lava from an active volcano help farmers?

.....

4) What is geothermal power?

.....

5) How are atolls formed?

.....

6) How do most people who live on atolls earn a living?

.....

7) Who built the Panama Canal? When was it completed?

.....

8) How did the Panama Canal improve shipping?

.....

9) What is the climate like in the Caribbean lowlands?

.....

10) What kind of climate do the Pacific lowlands have?

Cultures of Central America and the Caribbean

Directions: Read each sentence. Write *T* if the statement is *true* or *F* if it is *false*.

- _____ 1) The people in Central America and the Caribbean share one culture.
- _____ 2) About 90 percent of the people in Honduras are mestizos.
- _____ 3) Belize is on the Caribbean coast of the Yucatán Peninsula.
- _____ 4) Millions of Europeans were brought to the islands to work as slaves.
- _____ 5) Great Britain once ruled some of the Caribbean islands.
- _____ 6) Creole is a mix of the French and Spanish languages.
- _____ 7) Reggae music was first developed in Jamaica.
- _____ 8) Most people of Central America are Christians.
- _____ 9) The people of Guadeloupe speak mostly French.
- _____ 10) Most people of Central America and the Caribbean live in rural areas.
- _____ 11) Cuba has the lowest overall life expectancy of countries in the Caribbean.
- _____ 12) A civil war is a war fought by people from different countries.
- _____ 13) Communism is a government in which everyone owns his or her own property.
- _____ 14) To improve living conditions in Central America, countries need to grow the same crops.
- _____ 15) In most Central American and Caribbean countries, the majority of people are wealthy.

Economic and Environmental Issues

Directions: Write a word to complete each sentence.

- 1) Beautiful beaches and sunny weather draw many _____ to the Caribbean islands.
- 2) _____ are a great resource of Central America and provide many kinds of wood.
- 3) Jamaica has a large supply of the mineral _____.
- 4) _____ is the main occupation of most people in Central America.
- 5) _____ farming provides only for the basic needs of a farmer's family.
- 6) Cash crops account for most of Central America's _____ income.
- 7) Some people on the Caribbean Islands work on _____ that grow sugarcane, cacao, coconuts, and bananas.
- 8) Although tourism is a big part of the Caribbean economy, it has brought _____ to this area of the world.
- 9) The destruction of the _____ is a serious problem in Central America.
- 10) Animals and plants that no longer exist anywhere are _____.

Facts About Central America and the Caribbean

Directions: Circle the word(s) in parentheses that best complete(s) each sentence.

- 1) In the north, Central America borders (Colombia, Mexico).
- 2) The Antilles are a(n) (archipelago, rimland).
- 3) Another name for the Greater and Lesser Antilles is the (Bahamas, West Indies).
- 4) (Jamaica, Hispaniola) is divided into two nations: Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
- 5) The Bahamas lie farther (south, north) than the rest of the Caribbean islands.
- 6) Geographers divide Central America and the Caribbean into two (continents, subregions).
- 7) (Panama, Cuba) is on the mainland of Central America.
- 8) Most mainland people are (mestizos, African).
- 9) Many Caribbean islands were once ruled by (the United States, European countries).
- 10) After conquering the mainland, the Spanish divided the land into (haciendas, cities).
- 11) (Spanish landlords, Native people and mestizos) did most of the work on haciendas.
- 12) People who are (dependent, self-sufficient) take care of their own needs without outside help.
- 13) The Spanish divided the land on the islands into (plantations, haciendas).
- 14) On a (hacienda, plantation), many crops were grown.
- 15) Crops that are sold are called (food crops, cash crops).

Physical Features Crossword Puzzle

Directions: Read each clue. Choose a word from the Word Bank to complete the puzzle.

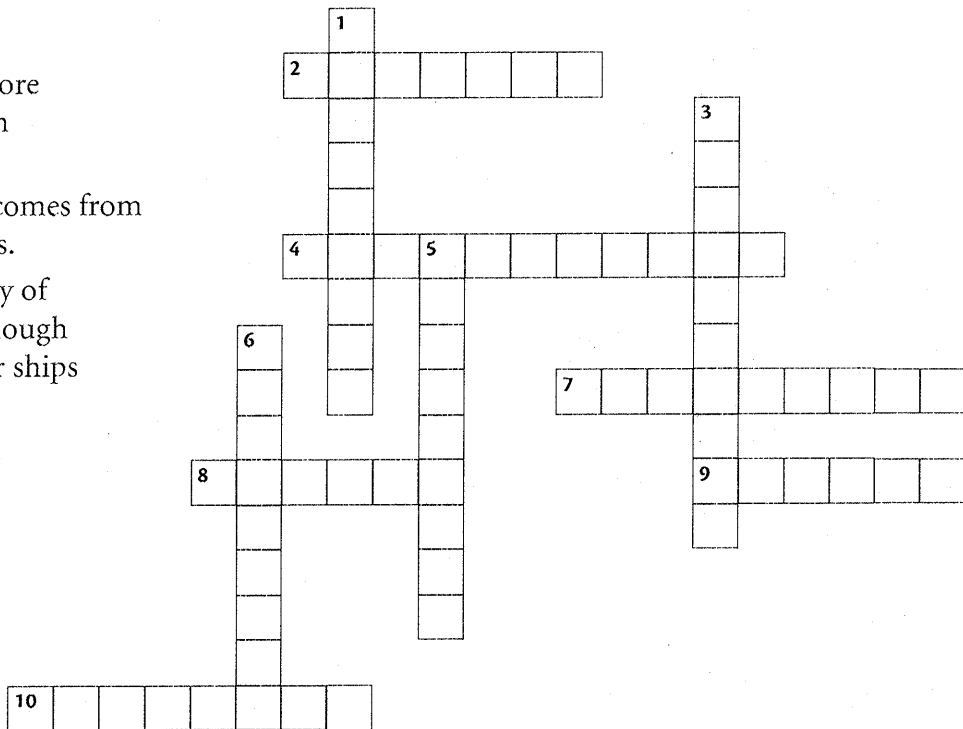
Word Bank				
highland	hurricane	dormant	atolls	rain forests
Nicaragua	mountains	Panama	navigable	geothermal

Across

- 2) Many islands in the Caribbean are the tops of this kind of volcano.
- 4) These cover the eastern side of Central America.
- 7) This tropical storm brings strong winds and heavy rainfall.
- 8) This country owns and runs the Panama Canal.
- 9) These nonvolcanic islands are made from the remains of corals.
- 10) This is the type of climate that mountain areas of Central America have.

Down

- 1) Some of these are more than 13,000 feet high in Central America.
- 3) This kind of power comes from the heat of volcanoes.
- 5) This describes a body of water that is deep enough and wide enough for ships to sail on.
- 6) This is an important lake in Central America.



Central American and Caribbean Cultures

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- 1) Half the population is native people in
 - a. Honduras.
 - b. Guatemala.
 - c. Costa Rica.
 - d. Panama.
- 2) Central American culture was heavily influenced by
 - a. Spain.
 - b. France.
 - c. England.
 - d. Mexico.
- 3) A large part of the population of Belize is descended from
 - a. Europeans.
 - b. Mexicans.
 - c. Africans.
 - d. Americans.
- 4) A person of mixed European and African descent is a
 - a. mulatto.
 - b. mestizo.
 - c. slave.
 - d. citizen.
- 5) Africans were originally brought to the islands to work as slaves
 - a. on haciendas.
 - b. on fishing boats.
 - c. in large cities.
 - d. on sugarcane plantations.
- 6) The mixture of French and African languages is called
 - a. creole.
 - b. voodoo.
 - c. reggae.
 - d. Spanish.
- 7) Most people in Jamaica and the Bahamas speak
 - a. Spanish.
 - b. English.
 - c. French.
 - d. creole.
- 8) The only country in Central America with a high population density is
 - a. Honduras.
 - b. Panama.
 - c. Guatemala.
 - d. El Salvador.
- 9) Oscar Arias Sánchez was the president of
 - a. Nicaragua.
 - b. Costa Rica.
 - c. the Dominican Republic.
 - d. Cuba.
- 10) The United States controls
 - a. Puerto Rico.
 - b. Cuba.
 - c. Haiti.
 - d. Panama.

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Section 4

Workbook

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Environmental Meaning

Directions: Define each of the following words. Then write a sentence using the word.

1) overdevelopment

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2) extinct

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3) subsistence farming

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

4) bauxite

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

5) tourism

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____