



UNIT
3

Middle and South America

*Chichén Itzá,
Mexico*

Chapter **10** *Mexico*

Chapter **11** *Central America and the Caribbean*

Chapter **12** *South America*

CONNECTING TO *Literature*

THE TEMPLE OF THE SUN

*from The Incas: The Royal Commentaries of the Inca
by Garcilaso de la Vega*

Garcilaso de la Vega

(1539–1616)—also known as El Inca—was the son of a Spanish conquistador and an Inca princess. Interested in Inca history, he spoke to many people in South America about the events they witnessed and took notes about what they said. He also learned Inca oral histories. In 1560 he went to Spain, where he eventually wrote his histories of Peru.

The Temple of the Sun was located on the site that today is occupied by the Church of San Dominique, and its walls, which are made of highly polished stone, still exist. . . .

The four walls were hung with plaques of gold, from top to bottom, and a likeness of the Sun topped the high altar. This likeness was made of a gold plaque. . . . There was no other idol in this temple, nor in any other, for the Sun was the only god of the Incas, whatever people may say. . . .

On either side of this Sun, were kept the numerous mummies of former Inca kings, which were so well preserved that they seemed to be alive. They were seated on their golden thrones resting on plaques of this same metal, and they looked directly at the visitor. Alone among them, Huaina Capac's body had assumed a peculiar pose, facing the Sun, as though from childhood, he

had been its favorite son who deserved to be adored for his unusual virtues. . . .

The temple was decorated with five fountains. . . . Their pipes were of solid gold and their stone pillars were covered with either gold or silver, for the sacrifices were washed in these waters. I remember the last of these fountains which was used to water the garden of the convent that the Spaniards established on this sacred ground. One day it stopped working, to the great despair of the Indians who, not knowing where the water came from, were unable to repair it; and the garden dried up, in spite of their desire and their efforts to save it. This only shows how quickly the Indians lost their traditions, since, in the space of forty-two years, there was not one left who could say from whence came the waters that circulated throughout the temple of their god the Sun.



Analyzing the Primary Source

- 1. Identifying Points of View** How does Garcilaso de la Vega portray the Inca?
- 2. Evaluating Sources** Did Garcilaso de la Vega witness everything he wrote about in this passage? Give reasons for your answer.

The World in Spatial Terms

Middle and South America: Political

- Places and Regions** Which South American country has two capitals?
- Places and Regions** What is the largest country in Middle America? In South America?

Critical Thinking

- Making Generalizations** How would you describe the shape of Chile? What problems might this shape create for Chile's government?





Middle and South America: Physical



Middle and South America: Climate

- Physical Systems** Compare this map to the physical map. How do the Andes appear to affect climates?
- Environment and Society** Compare this map to the political and population maps. Most of Brazil's population is concentrated in which climate regions?

Critical Thinking

- Making Generalizations** Much of South America's west coast has an arid climate. How might this climate be influenced by the cold Peru Current?



Middle and South America: Precipitation

- Places and Regions** Compare this map to the physical map. Which regions receive the most precipitation?
- Environment and Society** Compare this map to the land use map. How might precipitation patterns affect the location of hydroelectric power sites?

Critical Thinking

- Drawing Conclusions** Compare this map to the physical map. Which region of Argentina lies in a rain shadow? Based on the precipitation map, from which direction do you think the prevailing winds come?



Middle and South America: Population

- 1. Environment and Society** Compare this map to the physical map. How densely populated is the Amazon Basin?
- 2. Places and Regions** Which region of South America is the most densely populated?

Critical Thinking

- 3. Making Generalizations** Compare this map to the physical and climate maps. Which regions of Mexico are the least densely populated? How might climate affect population density there?



POPULATION DENSITY

Persons per sq. mile	Persons per sq. km
520	200
260	100
130	50
25	10
3	1
0	0

- Metropolitan areas with more than 2 million inhabitants
- Metropolitan areas with 1 million to 2 million inhabitants

Middle and South America: Land Use and Resources

- 1. Environment and Society** Where in Middle and South America would plantation agriculture likely be found?
- 2. Places and Regions** Compare this map to the political map. In which countries is oil production an important activity?

Critical Thinking

- 3. Analyzing** Compare this map to the climate map. Which climate areas have limited economic activity? What are some economic activities that are found in these areas?



UNIT
3
ATLAS

Time Line: Middle and South America



1494
Spain and Portugal sign a treaty to divide all lands to be explored.

1810–1830
Spanish colonies in South America gain independence.

1822
Brazil declares independence from Portugal.

1910–1917
The Mexican Revolution occurs.

1981
Belize becomes the last Central American country to gain independence.

1999
Panama takes control of the Panama Canal.

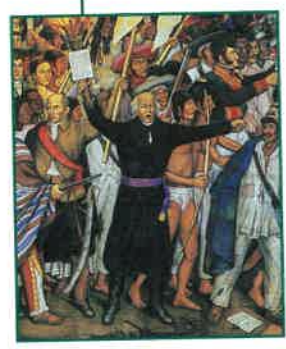


1492



Columbus arrives in the Caribbean.

1821
Mexico wins independence from Spain.



1898
The United States takes Cuba and Puerto Rico from Spain during Spanish-American War.

1959
Fidel Castro comes to power in Cuba.

1992



Mexico, the United States, and Canada sign NAFTA.

The United States and Middle and South America

Comparing Sizes



Comparing Standard of Living

COUNTRY	LIFE EXPECTANCY MALE (at birth, 2006)	LIFE EXPECTANCY FEMALE (at birth, 2006)	INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 births)	LITERACY RATE	DAILY CALORIC INTAKE
Argentina	72.4	80	14.7	97.1%	2,959
Brazil	68	76.1	28.6	86.4%	3,146
Colombia	68.2	76	20.4	92.5%	2,567
Costa Rica	74.4	79.7	9.7	96%	2,813
Cuba	75.1	79.8	6.2	97%	3,286
Ecuador	73.5	79.4	22.9	92.5%	2,641
Haiti	51.9	54.6	71.7	52.9%	2,109
Mexico	72.6	78.3	20.3	92.2%	3,171
Nicaragua	68.5	72.8	28.1	67.5%	2,291
United States	75	80.8	6.4	99%	3,754

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Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, CIA World Factbook, Food and Agriculture Organization

Fast Facts: Middle and South America



FLAG	COUNTRY Capital	POPULATION	POPULATION DENSITY (per sq. mi.)	AREA	PER CAPITA GDP (in US \$)	ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION (kilowatt hours per person)	TELEPHONE LINES (per person)
	Antigua and Barbuda Saint John's	69,108	406.9	171 sq. mi. 443 sq km	\$ 11,000	1,345.7	49.4
	Argentina Buenos Aires	39,921,833	37.8	1,068,301 sq. mi. 2,766,887 sq km	\$ 13,700	2,086.9	22.8
	Bahamas Nassau	303,770	78.2	5,382 sq. mi. 13,939 sq km	\$ 18,900	5,541.4	44.1
	Barbados Bridgetown	279,912	1,686.1	166 sq. mi. 430 sq km	\$ 17,400	2,721.1	50.1
	Belize Belmopan	287,730	32.6	8,867 sq. mi. 22,965 sq km	\$ 6,800	387.9	12.9
	Bolivia La Paz, Sucre	8,989,046	21.5	424,164 sq. mi. 1,098,580 sq km	\$ 2,700	440.8	7
	Brazil Brasília	188,078,227	57.5	3,286,486 sq. mi. 8,511,960 sq km	\$ 8,400	1,974.9	23.5
	Chile Santiago	16,134,219	55.7	292,260 sq. mi. 756,950 sq km	\$ 11,300	2,735.1	21.5
	Colombia Bogotá	43,593,035	108.8	439,735 sq. mi. 1,138,908 sq km	\$ 7,100	983.1	17.1
	Costa Rica San José	4,075,261	208.2	19,730 sq. mi. 51,100 sq km	\$ 10,100	1,747.2	31.6
	Cuba Havana	11,382,820	266.0	42,803 sq. mi. 110,859 sq km	\$ 3,300	1,284.4	6.8
	Dominica Roseau	68,910	237.8	291 sq. mi. 754 sq km	\$ 5,500	944.5	29.4
	Dominican Republic Santo Domingo	9,183,984	491.6	18,815 sq. mi. 48,731 sq km	\$ 6,600	1,275.5	10.7
	Ecuador Quito	13,547,510	126.7	109,483 sq. mi. 283,560 sq km	\$ 3,900	779.1	12.2
	El Salvador San Salvador	6,822,378	852.9	8,124 sq. mi. 21,041 sq km	\$ 5,100	628.9	13.4










Sources:
 Population: Census Bureau
 Per Capita GDP: CIA Fact book
 Electricity: Energy Information Admin.
 Telephones: Int'l Telecommunication Union

Fast Facts: Middle and South America

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	Grenada Saint George's	89,703	685.3	133 sq. mi. 344 sq km	\$ 5,000	1,656.4	31.8
	Guatemala Guatemala City	12,293,545	293.7	42,043 sq. mi. 108,891 sq km	\$ 5,200	490.1	8.9
	Guyana Georgetown	767,245	10.1	83,000 sq. mi. 214,969 sq km	\$ 3,800	944.2	13.4
	Haiti Port-au-Prince	8,308,504	780.9	10,714 sq. mi. 27,749 sq km	\$ 1,600	61.1	1.7
	Honduras Tegucigalpa	7,326,496	169.6	43,278 sq. mi. 112,090 sq km	\$ 2,800	596.4	5.6
	Jamaica Kingston	2,758,124	659.7	4,244 sq. mi. 10,992 sq km	\$ 4,200	2,220.4	14.6
	Mexico Mexico City	107,449,525	144.8	761,605 sq. mi. 1,972,548 sq km	\$ 10,100	1,804.3	17.2
	Nicaragua Managua	5,570,129	119.9	49,998 sq. mi. 129,494 sq km	\$ 2,400	420.6	3.8
	Panama Panama City	3,191,319	108.8	30,193 sq. mi. 78,200 sq km	\$ 7,100	1,526.1	11.9
	Paraguay Asunción	6,506,464	42.5	157,047 sq. mi. 406,750 sq km	\$ 4,900	542.2	4.7

Sea lion on the shore, Puerto Egas, Galápagos Islands



FLAG	COUNTRY Capital	POPULATION	POPULATION DENSITY (per sq. mi.)	AREA	PER CAPITA GDP (in US \$)	ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION (kilowatt hours per person)	TELEPHONE LINES (per person)
	Peru Lima	28,302,603	57.2	496,226 sq. mi. 1,285,219 sq km	\$ 6,100	745.1	7.4
	St. Kitts-Nevis Basseterre	39,129	281.5	101 sq. mi. 262 sq km	\$ 8,800	2,655.5	50
	St. Lucia Castries	168,458	714.1	238 sq. mi. 616 sq km	\$ 5,400	1,551.5	32
	St. Vincent and the Grenadines Kingstown	117,848	900.3	150 sq. mi. 388 sq km	\$ 2,900	749.7	27.3
	Suriname Paramaribo	439,117	7.0	63,039 sq. mi. 163,270 sq km	\$ 4,100	4,265.4	18.6
	Trinidad and Tobago Port-of-Spain	1,065,842	537.9	1,980 sq. mi. 5,128 sq km	\$ 12,900	5,301.6	24.6
	Uruguay Montevideo	3,431,932	51.3	68,039 sq. mi. 176,220 sq km	\$ 16,000	2,261.8	30.9
	Venezuela Caracas	25,730,435	75.6	352,144 sq. mi. 912,049 sq km	\$ 6,500	3,160.3	12.8
	United States Washington, D.C.	298,444,215	84.4	3,717,810 sq.mi. 9,629,084 sq km	\$ 42,000	12,251.8	0.61



Machu Picchu, Peru