

Name: _____

Geography of Latin America

Study Guide

1. Describe the air pollution problem in Mexico City:

The Sierra Madre Mountains act as a barrier around Mexico. They trap the air pollution over the area.

2. What export do Venezuela and Mexico have in common?

oil

3. Why do most Brazilians live along the country's coast?

Better climate, Access to water, Cities are located here (jobs!)

4. Describe Cuba's main industry:

farming

5. Explain why most Latin American countries speak either Spanish or Portuguese:

Spain and Portugal colonized Latin American countries

6. What 3 regions make up Latin America?

Central America, South America, & the Caribbean

7. Describe what a "literate" person can do:

Read and write

8. Describe how oil production is hurting Venezuela's environment:

Oil spills kill plants and animals; oil drilling machinery destroys the animals' habitats

9. What is the purpose of the Panama Canal?

Shortcut for trade between Atlantic and Pacific Oceans

10. Describe the location of Cuba:

Island in the Caribbean Sea

11. In which country would you find a lot of Portuguese speakers?

Brazil

12. What does the word "indigenous" mean?

native

13. Which 3 groups have made an impact on the culture of Latin America?

Europeans, Indigenous Americans, & Africans

14. What is the most populated country in Latin America?

Brazil

15. Describe "deforestation":

Clear-cutting trees and not planting new ones; happening in the Amazon rainforest

16. Where is the Panama Canal located (in regards to South America)?

North of South America

17. Which country is experiencing major problems with deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest?

Brazil

18. What impact has the slave trade in the Caribbean and South America had on the region today?

Many people in Latin America have ancestors of African descent

19. How could a country improve its standard of living?

Investing in literacy rate (human capital)

20. Because Cuba is so small, it can only produce a few resources. What must Cuba do in order to get more products for their people?

Import many goods