

# CONTENTS

Publisher's Note . . . . .	vii	Exploration . . . . .	153
Introduction . . . . .	ix	Political Geography . . . . .	161
Contributors . . . . .	xiii	South America . . . . .	161
		Central America . . . . .	164
<b>Regions</b>		Urbanization . . . . .	167
Overview . . . . .	3	South America . . . . .	167
The History of Geography . . . . .	3	Central America . . . . .	173
Mapmaking in History . . . . .	6		
Mapmaking and New Technologies . . . . .	10	<b>Economic Geography</b>	
South America . . . . .	13	Overview . . . . .	179
Central America . . . . .	21	Traditional Agriculture . . . . .	179
		Commercial Agriculture . . . . .	181
<b>Physical Geography</b>		Modern Agricultural Problems . . . . .	183
Overview . . . . .	29	World Food Supplies . . . . .	186
Climate and Human Settlement . . . . .	29	Agriculture . . . . .	191
Flood Control . . . . .	31	South America . . . . .	191
Atmospheric Pollution . . . . .	34	Central America . . . . .	198
Disease and Climate . . . . .	36	Industries . . . . .	203
Physiography and Hydrology . . . . .	39	South America . . . . .	203
Physiography of South America . . . . .	39	Central America . . . . .	209
Hydrology of South America . . . . .	48	Transportation . . . . .	213
Physiography and Hydrology of		South America . . . . .	213
Central America . . . . .	57	Central America . . . . .	220
Climatology . . . . .	61	Trade . . . . .	223
South America . . . . .	61	South America . . . . .	223
Central America . . . . .	66	Central America . . . . .	227
		Communications . . . . .	231
<b>Biogeography and Natural Resources</b>		South America . . . . .	231
Overview . . . . .	73	Central America . . . . .	237
Minerals . . . . .	73	Engineering Projects . . . . .	239
Renewable Resources . . . . .	76		
Nonrenewable Resources . . . . .	78	<b>Gazetteer</b> . . . . .	245
Natural Resources . . . . .	81		
South America . . . . .	81	<b>Appendix</b>	
Central America . . . . .	89	The Earth in Space . . . . .	279
Flora and Fauna . . . . .	93	The Solar System . . . . .	279
Flora of South America . . . . .	93	Earth's Moon . . . . .	283
Fauna of South America . . . . .	99	The Sun and the Earth . . . . .	285
Flora and Fauna of Central America . . . . .	110	The Seasons . . . . .	287
		Earth's Interior . . . . .	289
<b>Human Geography</b>		Earths Internal Structure . . . . .	289
Overview . . . . .	117	Plate Tectonics . . . . .	291
The Human Environment . . . . .	117	Volcanoes . . . . .	297
Population Growth and Distribution . . . . .	120	Geologic Time Scale . . . . .	301
Global Urbanization . . . . .	122	Earth's Surface . . . . .	305
People . . . . .	127	Internal Geological Processes . . . . .	305
South America . . . . .	127	External Processes . . . . .	307
Central America . . . . .	133	Fluvial and Karst Processes . . . . .	310
Population Distribution . . . . .	137	Glaciation . . . . .	312
Culture Regions . . . . .	143	Desert Landforms . . . . .	315
South America . . . . .	143	Ocean Margins . . . . .	317
Central America . . . . .	149		

Earth's Climates . . . . .	319	International Boundaries . . . . .	389
The Atmosphere . . . . .	319	Global Time and Time Zones . . . . .	392
Global Climates . . . . .	323	Global Education . . . . .	395
Cloud Formation . . . . .	328	Themes and Standards in	
Storms . . . . .	331	Geography Education . . . . .	395
Earth's Biological Systems . . . . .	335	Global Data . . . . .	397
Biomes . . . . .	335	The World Gazetteer of Oceans	
Natural Resources . . . . .	339	and Continents . . . . .	397
Soils . . . . .	339	The World's Oceans and Seas . . . . .	409
Water . . . . .	342	Major Land Areas of the World . . . . .	410
Exploration and Transportation . . . . .	345	Major Islands of the World . . . . .	411
Exploration and Historical Trade Routes . . . . .	345	Countries of the World . . . . .	412
Road Transportation . . . . .	348	Past and Projected World Population	
Railways . . . . .	350	Growth, 1950-2050 . . . . .	417
Air Transportation . . . . .	353	World's Largest Countries by Area . . . . .	418
Energy and Engineering . . . . .	355	World's Smallest Countries by Area . . . . .	419
Energy Sources . . . . .	355	World's Largest Countries by Population . . . . .	420
Alternative Energies . . . . .	359	World's Smallest Countries by Population . . . . .	421
Engineering Projects . . . . .	361	World's Most Densely Populated Countries . . . . .	422
Industry and Trade . . . . .	365	World's Least Densely Populated Countries . . . . .	423
Manufacturing . . . . .	365	World's Most Populous Cities . . . . .	424
Globalization of Manufacturing and Trade . . . . .	367	Major Lakes of the World . . . . .	425
Modern World Trade Patterns . . . . .	370	Major Rivers of the World . . . . .	426
Political Geography . . . . .	375	The Highest Peaks in Each Continent . . . . .	429
Forms of Government . . . . .	375	Major Deserts of the World . . . . .	430
Political Geography . . . . .	378	Highest Waterfalls of the World . . . . .	431
Geopolitics . . . . .	380	Glossary . . . . .	433
National Park Systems . . . . .	385	Bibliography . . . . .	481
Boundaries and Time Zones . . . . .	389	Index . . . . .	485