

# CONTENTS

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

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