

## South America Quiz

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the correct answer

- 1) The dominant economic activity of Venezuela's Lake Maracaibo Lowland is?
  - a) large-scale cattle herding;
  - b) oil production;
  - c) tourism;
  - d) iron ore mining;
  - e) plantation agriculture.
  
- 2) Which of the following has not been associated with a Brazilian boom and bust cycle?
  - a) coffee;
  - b) rubber;
  - c) sugar;
  - d) bananas;
  - e) all of the above have contributed to a boom and bust cycle.
  
- 3) The turning point in the economic development of Argentina as a nation was.:
  - a) the introduction of refrigerated railroad and ship transportation that facilitated the exporting of Argentine beef to Europe;
  - b) the importation of thousands of indentured farm laborers from Europe;
  - c) the rise to power of Juan Peron and his support of the descamisados;
  - d) the introduction of beef cattle by Spanish conquistadors;
  - e) none of the above.
  
- 4) Which of the following is false about US involvement in South America?
  - a) the United States hopes to foster democracy and encourage regional economic integration;
  - b) many South Americans remember past U.S. toleration of, and even support for, the realms former dictators;
  - c) Venezuela's populist former leader championed the poor and used oil income to counter American influence, and even after his death the country remains in disarray;
  - d) blaming the United States for the economic problems of South America finds a receptive ear in South America because the great majority of the people remain mired in poverty;
  - e) almost all countries in South America welcome the notion of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and see it as the only solution to increase wealth in their countries.
  
- 5) Which of the following is false about Colombia:
  - A. In the past, civil wars between conservatives and liberals, based mostly on Roman Catholic religious issues) developed into conflict pitting rich against poor, elites against workers;
  - B. People still refer to the last of these wars as La Violencia, a decade of strife beginning in 1948 during which as many as 200,000 people died;
  - C. In the 1970s, groups formed in the remote parts of the country that attempted to institute reforms by democratic means;
  - D. The U.S. market for narcotics expanded rapidly in the 1970s and many Colombians became involved in the drug trade;
  - E. Powerful and wealthy drug cartels formed in major cities such as Medellin and Cali, with networks that influenced all facets of Colombian life from peasantry to politicians.
  
- 6) All of these are true about Bolivia, except:
  - a) today, roughly 55 percent of the population are Amerindian;
  - b) Bolivia is at the center of South America's poorest region economically with lower incomes, higher number of subsistence farmers, and fewer opportunities for job seekers;

- c) the urbane lives of the landowning elite are worlds away from the hard-scrabble existence of the landless peonage;
  - d) today, this region is in further decline and oil and natural gas are the reasons;
  - e) the first elected President of Amerindian ancestry is trying to gain control over the energy industry.
- 7) All of these are true about Ecuador, except:
- a) Ecuador's Pacific coastal zone consists of a line of mountains, of which the most important lies in the south between Ecuador and Peru;
  - b) the lowlands of Ecuador support a thriving commercial agricultural economy built around bananas, cacao, cattle-raising, and coffee on the hillsides;
  - c) Ecuador's western sub-region is far less Europeanized than the central part of the country;
  - d) a greater proportion of whites are engaged in administration and hacienda ownership in the central Andean zone, where most of the Ecuadorians who are Amerindians also reside – and, not surprisingly, where land reform is an explosive issue;
  - e) the differing interests of the Guayaquil-dominated coastal lowland and the Andean-highland sub-region focused on the capital (Quito) have long fostered a deep regional cleavage between the two areas.
- 8) All of the following are true of Paraguay, except:
- a) the country's low GNI resembles that of the more disadvantaged south;
  - b) this is one of South America's least urbanized states;
  - c) poverty dominates the countryside as well as the slums encircling the capital, Asunción;
  - d) nearly 2/3 of the population live at or below the official poverty level;
  - e) research suggests that 1 percent of the population owns about 75 percent of the land, a record inequality in the South American realm.
- 9) All of the following are true of Chile, except:
- a) the sea has constituted an avenue of longitudinal communication while the Andes continue to form a barrier to encroachment from the east;
  - b) when confrontation loomed at the far ends of the country, Chile proved to be quite capable of coping with its rivals;
  - c) about 90 percent of population are concentrated in what is called Middle Chile where Santiago and Valparaiso are located;
  - d) prior to the 1990s, the arid Atacama region in the north accounted for more than half of Chile's foreign revenues as Chile possesses the world's largest reserves of copper;
  - e) income inequality – that realmwide affliction – has improved but nearly 80 percent of Chileans still live in poverty.
- 10) All of the following are true of Argentina, except:
- a) a sizeable immigration from Lebanon resulted in the diffusion of Arab ancestry to more than 8% of the Argentinian population;
  - b) Argentina has long been one of the realm's least urbanized countries with only 51% of its population concentrated in cities and towns, a much lower percentage than Europe or the United States;
  - c) Cordoba has become the second-ranking industrial complex and was chosen by foreign automobile manufacturers as the car-assembly center for the expanding South American market;
  - d) Argentina's agricultural product range is enormous and there is even oil on the coast of Patagonia;
  - e) political infighting and economic mismanagement have combined to ruin a vibrant and varied economy, and what was a severe recession in the late 1990s became an economic collapse in the following decade.