**Latin America Unit Test: Geography “Study Guide”**

**Location**

1. Know the locations of the following: Sierra Madres, Caribbean Sea, Pacific Ocean, Atacama Desert, Panama Cana. **Refer to physical map**
2. Know the locations of the following places: Mexico, Chile, Cuba, Haiti, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, and Colombia. **Refer to political map**

\*FYI – Know all physical features and countries you were required to know for the map quizzes. There will be NO word bank on your test!!!

1. Why this region is called “Latin” America? **The languages in this region (primarily Spanish and Portuguese) are derived from “Latin”.**
2. Where do most people in Latin America live? **Along the coastline/in cities**
3. Which country has the highest population in Latin America? **Brazil**
4. Why was the Panama Canal built? **To provide a shorter trading route to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans as well as to Latin America.**
5. What is Latin America’s largest country (square miles) and where do most people live there? **Brazil; along the coast**
6. Why would having arable land (good soil to grow crops on) be important to countries in Latin America? **Good soil allows the people to trade their crops**

**Environmental Problems**

1. What environmental problem does Mexico City have and how does geography contribute to it? **Air pollution; the Sierra Madre Mountains traps the polluted air inside the city**
2. Where is the Amazon Rainforest primarily located and what environmental problem does it have? **Brazil; deforestation**
3. What is Venezuela’s most important natural resource that is valuable to their economy? What environmental problem is associated with it? **Oil; oil pollution**

**Culture**

1. What are the two main languages of Latin America and where are each spoken? **Spanish and Portuguese; Spanish is spoken in all the countries except Brazil and Portuguese is spoken only in Brazil**
2. How did Latin America come to have two languages? **This region was colonized by Spain & Portugal.**
3. What three ethnic groups have blended to make Latin America so diverse? **Europeans, Native Americans, & Africans**
4. What religion does most of Latin America practice and why is this so? **Roman Catholic; the Europeans forced the people to convert to their religion**

**Review**

1. What does it mean to be “literate”? **The ability to be able to read and write.**
2. What does “standard of living” mean? **The quality of life a person has.**
3. How does literacy rate affect a country’s standard of living? **The higher the literacy rate, the better their standard of living will be.**