

Unit Essential Question: **What geographic and human characteristics make Latin America a unique place?**

Lesson Essential Question: **What political features make up the three regions of Latin America?**



Activating Activity!  
Lets book a vacation in Latin America



## Latin America

- \* Includes all the countries in the Western Hemisphere except the United States and Canada.
- \* Makes up 2 continents. (North and South America)
- \* Three sub-regions:
  - Mexico and Central America
  - Caribbean islands
  - South America
- \* 33 countries
- \* 500 million people
- \* Most people speak Spanish or Portuguese (Latin Languages... thus Latin America)

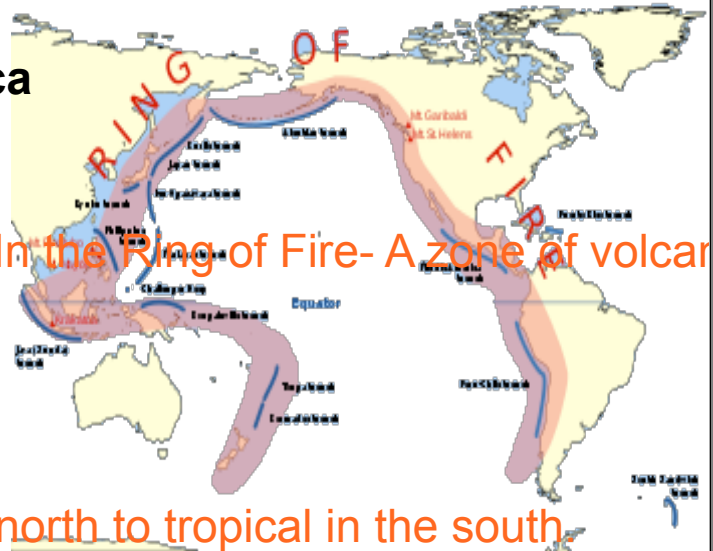


On your map circle and label the sub-regions.

## Mexico and Central America

### A. Physical Features

- Mountainous
- Active Volcanoes. (In the Ring of Fire- A zone of volcanic activity)
- Deserts in Mexico



### B. Climate

- Mexico- Arid in the north to tropical in the south
- Central America- tropical near the coast, cold near the mountains

## South America

### A. Physical Features

- Andes Mountains, plateaus.
- Amazon River- 2nd longest river
- Amazon Rainforest
- Atacama Desert- one of the driest places on earth.
- Angel Falls- worlds highest waterfall. (2/3 of a mile)

### B. Climate

- Tropical wet near the equator.  
Cooler the further south you get.



# The Caribbean Islands

## A. Physical Features

- 7,000 islands that go from Florida to South America.
- Islands are tops of mountains, volcanoes, or coral.

## B. Climate

- Tropical (good vacations)
- Hurricanes common during summer months.



With a partner, on your paper, separate the following countries into their proper region.

Mexico	El Salvador	Haiti	Panama	Bahamas	Costa Rica	
Cuba	Chile	Honduras	Brazil	Jamaica	Bolivia	Peru
Middle America	South America	Caribbean				



## Summary:

1. The region we are studying now is...?
2. The region is named this because...?
3. Brazil belongs in which sub-region?
4. Which sub-region are hurricanes most common?
5. Which sub-region is home to the Amazon rainforest and river?

## The 33 countries of Latin America Political Features

*For this activity you will need a blank map of Latin America, and to log onto Mr.Paolano's website, Unit 2: Concept 1 and use the political maps to fill in your map of Latin America.*

1. Title your map "Political Map of Latin America"
2. Fill in all 33 countries of Latin America.
3. Shade in or circle the 3 sub-regions of L.A. and label correctly.
4. When done peer check.



## Where is it game!

Look  
over  
your  
maps  
for 5  
minutes



# Formative Quiz

Log onto Socrative(Paolano1)



Review of Latitude and Longitude, Map Components and Geographic Principles Using the Map

## **Population Density of Latin America**

*\*\*If you do not want to flip your pages a copy of the map is available on the website under unit 2- Concept 1. You will see a PDF under the heading, population density map.*

1. Work on the worksheet for 15 minutes silently on your own.
2. After you will have 5 minutes to work with a partner to do the ones you didn't get and peer edit the ones you may have gotten wrong.
3. After that we will go over some of them as a class.

Unit Essential Question: **What geographic and human characteristics make Latin America a unique place?**

Lesson Essential Question: **What essential physical features make Latin America unique?**



*While watching this brief video, write down three ways in which the South American continent is unique.*

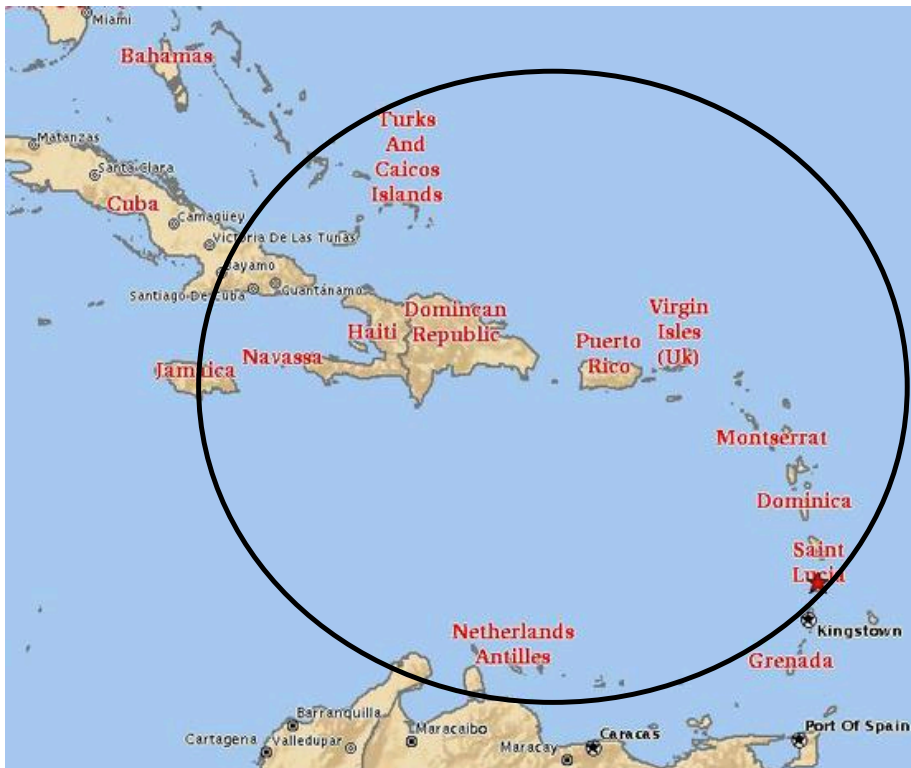
Isthmus- a narrow strip of land that links two larger landmasses.



Isthmus of Panama



Archipelago- a group or a chain of islands.



Caribbean  
Islands!

Peninsula- a long stretch of land surrounded by water on three sides.



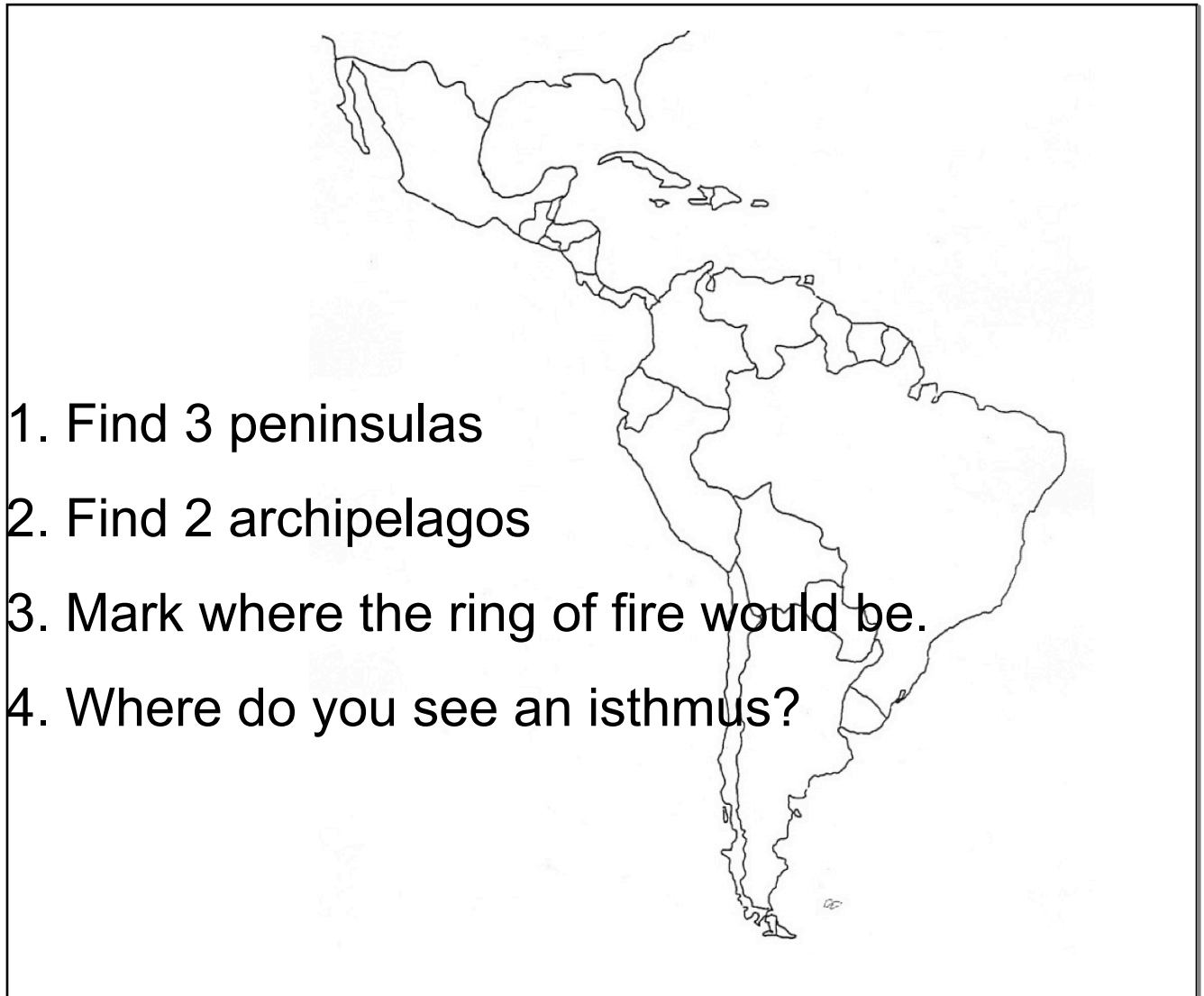
Rainforest- a thick evergreen forest found in areas of heavy rain.



Ring of Fire- A zone of tectonic activity around the pacific ocean, causes earthquakes and volcanoes.



Andes Mountains



## Ring of Fire Reading

Take 10 minutes to read the short reading on the Ring of Fire and answer the questions that follow.



1. Title your map **"Physical Map of Latin America"**

2. Log onto *mrpaolano.weebly.com* and go to the page, Unit 2:concept 1-map skills and climate.

3. Use those maps to fill in the following physical features.

Andes Mountains, Cape Horn, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Galapagos Islands, Rio Grande River, Yucatan Peninsula, Caribbean Sea, Isthmus of Panama, Caribbean Archipelago, Ring of Fire, Amazon Rainforest (Basin), Equator

4. On the back fill in the chart doing individual research using your iPad.





## Review of the Geographic Principles

**Hierarchy:** Measures the rank or importance of a place, usually larger cities are more important than smaller cities.

**Complimentarity:** The likelihood that two places will interact with each other.

**Diffusion:** The rate of spread. This spread could be of goods, ideas, cultures, disease etc.

**Accessibility:** The measurement of how easily one place can be reached from another.



*What physical features would limit accessibility and diffusion?*

*What physical features would increase accessibility and diffusion?*



If there was a ship carrying goods from Peru (point A) to Guyana (Point B), would these two places be easily accessible?

How would a ship have to travel to complete this journey?

What could be done to shorten this trip?

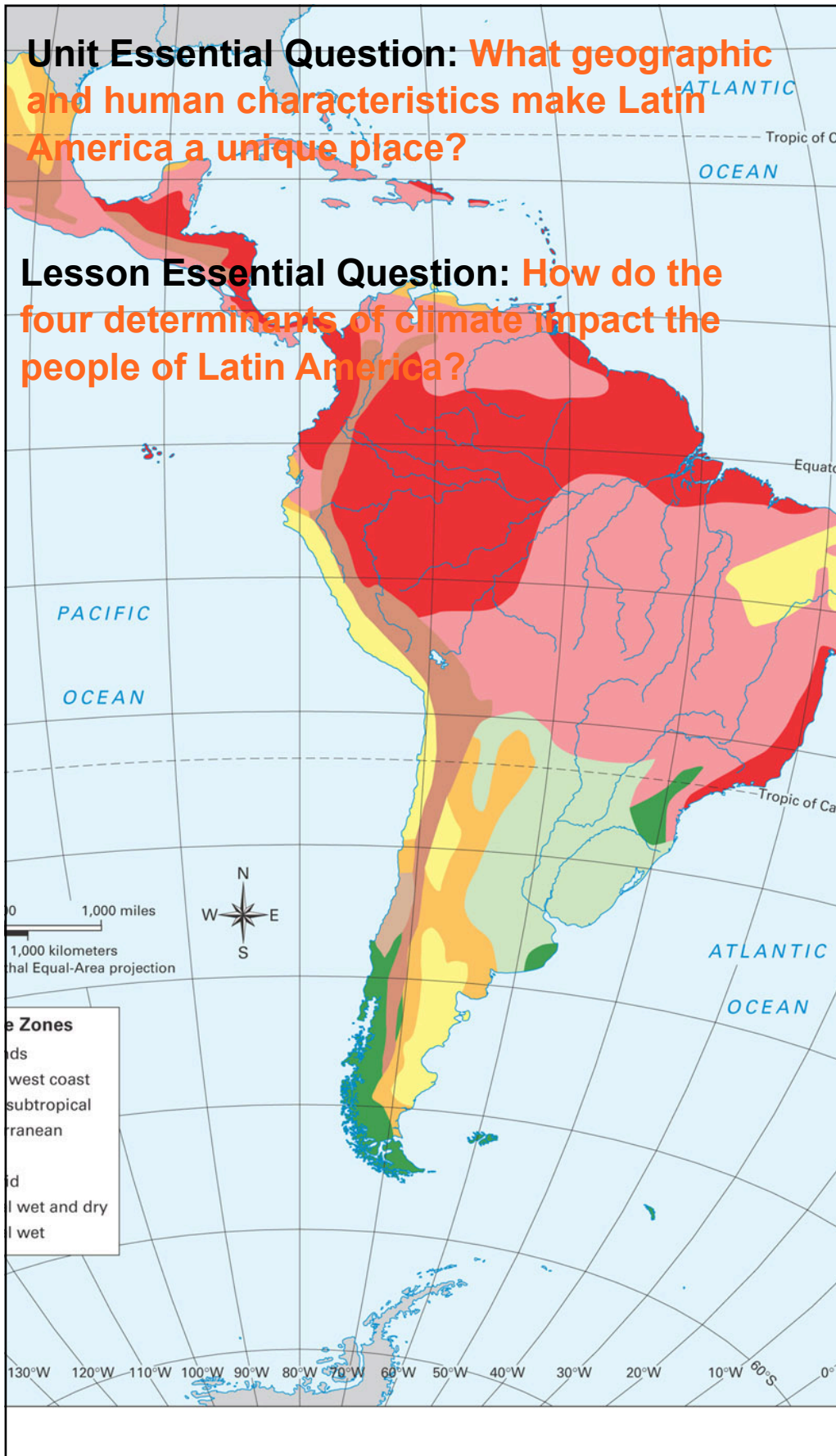
# Building the Panama Canal

## Why Panama?



**Unit Essential Question: What geographic and human characteristics make Latin America a unique place?**

**Lesson Essential Question: How do the four determinants of climate impact the people of Latin America?**



## Activating Activity

Describe in a complete sentence what the weather of Delaware is like today.

Describe in a complete sentence what the climate of Delaware is like.



## Climate Notes

**Weather** - the condition of the air (temperature and precipitation) over a short period of time

**Climate** – kind of weather in an area for a long period of time. (Average temperatures and precipitation)

*Summarize: What's the difference???*

*If you were moving to a place which one would you be most concerned with and why?*

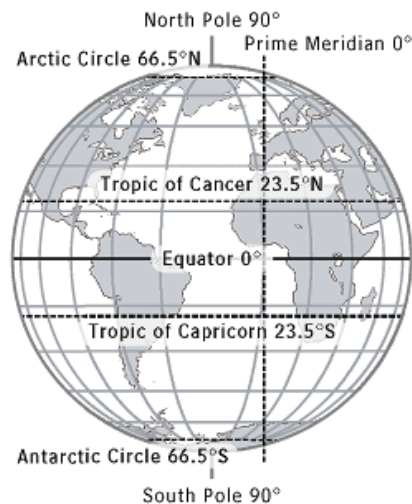


## Determinants of Climate

**Latitude-** How close or how far from the equator a location is.

Example:

Closer to equator the warmer it is, further from the equator, the colder it is.



*Image 1: Draw a globe and mark where it will be the warmest.*

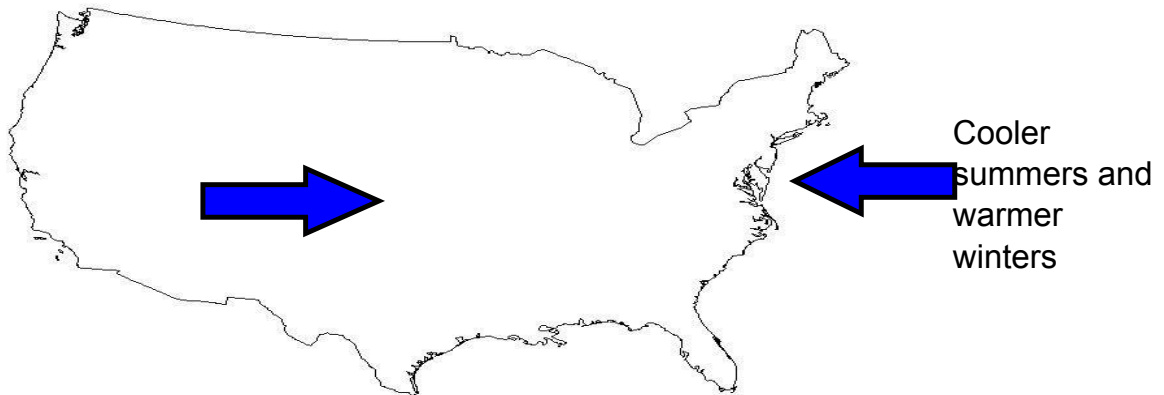
*Image 2: Draw a globe and mark where it will be the coldest.*

**Nearness to water- How close land is to a large body of water.**

**Example:**

- Water holds heat longer, land reflects heat
- The closer you are to water the wetter a place is due to evaporation.

*Image 1: Draw a bad sketch of the USA. Being close to water causes the temperature to remain more consistent.*



## Prevailing winds- The winds that carry air temperature and moisture.

### Examples:

- If the wind travels over water it will carry more moisture than it will over land.
- What will happen to that moisture depends on what the temperature of the air it hits is.
- If the air is coming from a warm latitude it will be warmer and a cold latitude cooler.

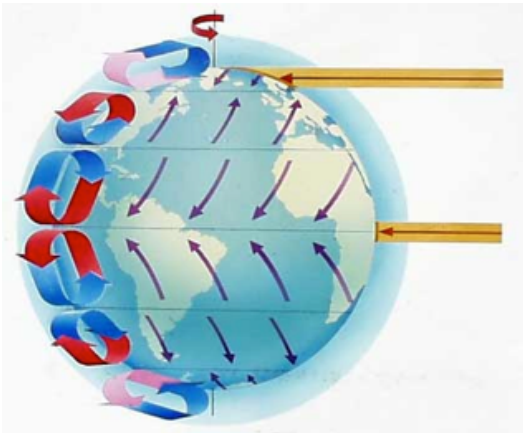


Image 1: Draw a globe and make wind come from the equator and mark it WARM. Then draw wind coming from the poles and mark it COLD.

Image 2: Draw a continent and draw wind coming from the ocean and mark it WET. Now draw wind coming from the land and mark that DRY.

## Elevation of the area- How high a location is (altitude)

Examples: the higher the colder, mountains also effect the levels of precipitation.

Windward side (the side that the wind is blowing into) of mountains are wetter.

Leeward side (the side the wind is blowing over) of mountains are dryer

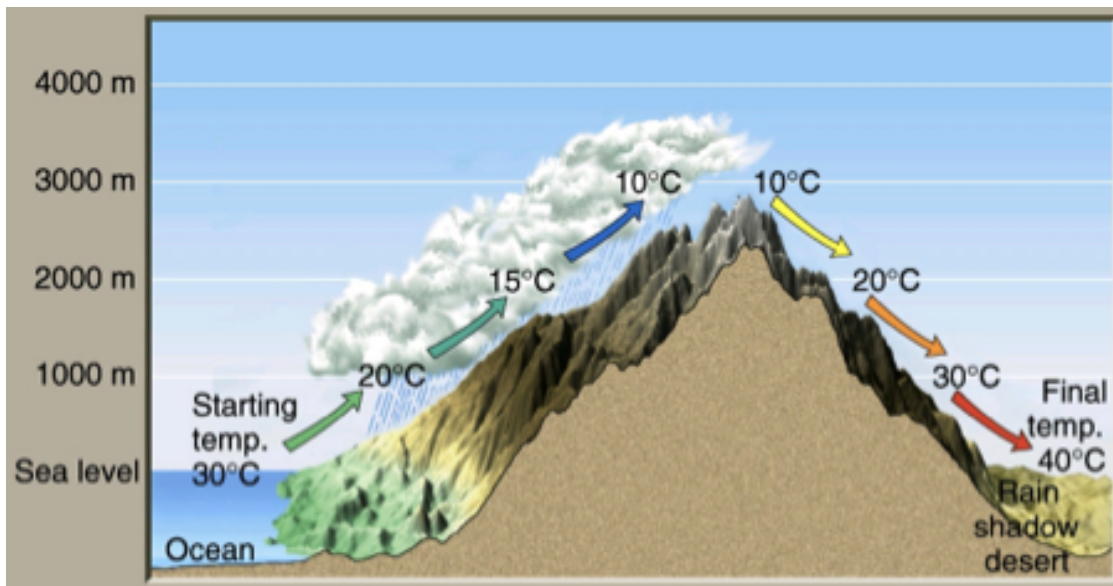


Image 1: Draw a mountain and write in as the elevation increase the temperature decreases and then on the backside of the mountain do the opposite.

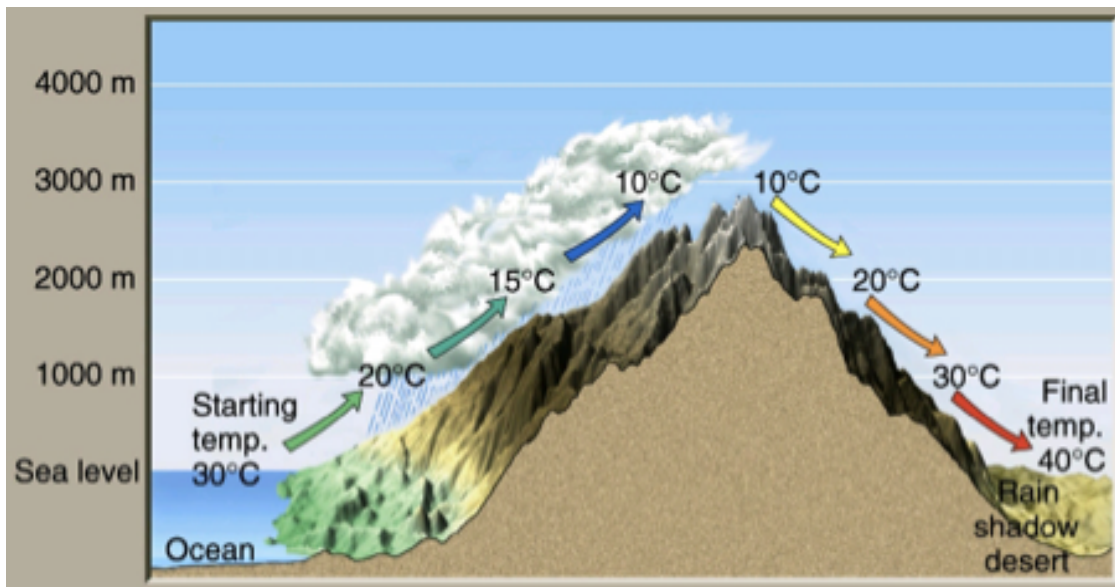
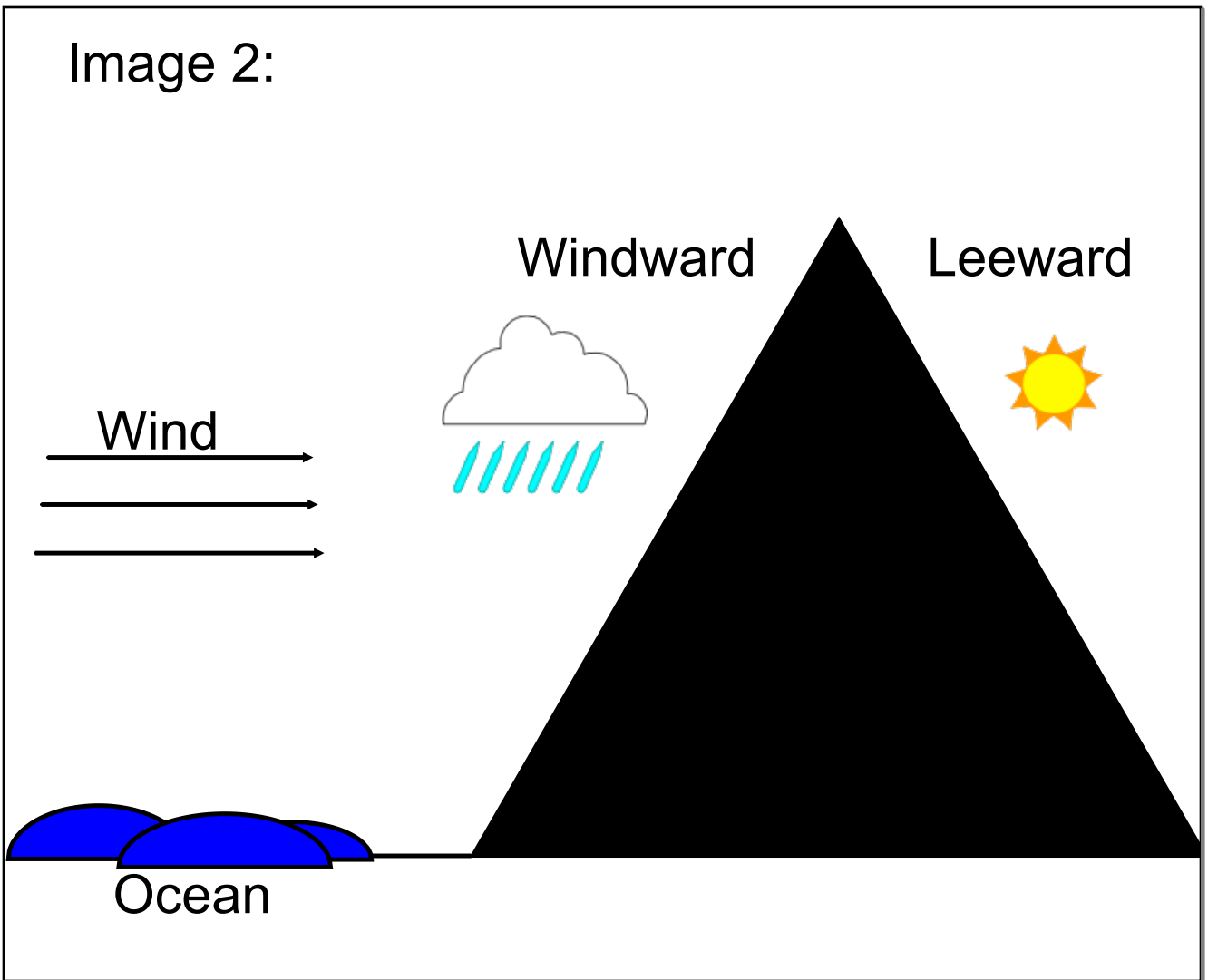


Image 2:



For this assignment you will get to choose what you learn about.

*1. Log onto Mr. Paolano's Website > Unit 2: Concept 1- Map Skills and Climate.*

*2. Go down to choose your own adventure and choose either "dealing with extreme weather" or "life in the Central Andes" and download the file in ibooks.*

*3. Complete the worksheet for your chosen assignment.*

## Guided Practice

Using the Frayer Models we will determine what the climate might be like in the following Latin American locations.

1. Log onto Mr. Paolano's website and click Unit 2:Concept 1- Map Skills and Climate.
2. Using the map under the heading "Climate Determinants" answer the questions on your sheet.





## Extension

Name

Period

Location

Your paragraph describing the climate using at least 2 of the climate determinants.

*The climate of \_\_\_\_\_ is...*