

Clues Across Latin America

Use nearby places and direction words to locate geographic features.

SS6G1 "Locate selected features of Latin America."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline every named place or geographic feature. Circle every direction word or phrase that helps show where a place is located.

Following Location Clues

- ① Latin America stretches from Mexico in North America through Central America, the Caribbean, and much of South America. Mexico lies south of the United States. The Gulf of Mexico borders Mexico's eastern coast, while the Pacific Ocean lies to its west. Cuba is an island nation in the Caribbean Sea, southeast of Florida and east of Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. Panama is a narrow country in Central America. The Panama Canal crosses Panama and links the Caribbean Sea with the Pacific Ocean.
- ② Along the western edge of South America, the Andes Mountains form a long mountain chain near the Pacific Ocean. The range runs through Colombia and continues south through several countries, including Chile. Chile is a long, narrow country west of the Andes. The Atacama Desert lies in northern Chile, between the Pacific coast and the Andes. Farther north, Venezuela sits on South America's northern coast, east of Colombia. Its coast meets the Caribbean Sea to the north. Colombia is northwest of Brazil.
- ③ Brazil occupies much of eastern South America and is the region's largest country by area. The Amazon River flows generally east across northern Brazil and reaches the Atlantic Ocean. Much of the Amazon rainforest surrounds this river basin. South of Brazil, the Pampas are broad grasslands centered in Argentina and extending into Uruguay. These grasslands lie east of the Andes and west of the Atlantic Ocean. When locating a place, use nearby landforms, water bodies, and compass directions to check its position.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which body of water is east of Mexico, and which ocean is west of Mexico?

2 Where is the Atacama Desert located in relation to the Pacific coast and the Andes?

3 Which country is northwest of Brazil?

4 In what direction does the Amazon River flow across Brazil, and which ocean does it reach?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose three different places from the passage, including one country and one physical feature. Write exactly three location clues, one for each place, that compare it with another named place or water body.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline every named place or geographic feature. Circle every direction word or phrase that helps show where a place is located. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which body of water is east of Mexico, and which ocean is west of Mexico?	The Gulf of Mexico is east of Mexico, and the Pacific Ocean is west of Mexico.
2	Where is the Atacama Desert located in relation to the Pacific coast and the Andes?	It is in northern Chile, between the Pacific coast and the Andes.
3	Which country is northwest of Brazil?	Colombia.
4	In what direction does the Amazon River flow across Brazil, and which ocean does it reach?	It flows generally east across northern Brazil and reaches the Atlantic Ocean.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Panama lies between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. The Andes Mountains are near the Pacific Ocean along western South America. The Pampas lie east of the Andes and west of the Atlantic Ocean.

Accept equivalent direction language that matches the passage, such as "to the east" for east. For the open response, accept any three accurate comparisons using three different passage locations, as long as at least one is a country and at least one is a physical feature.