

Lesson 1: Physical Geography of the Region

I. LANDFORMS AND WATERWAYS

The Tropical North includes a variety of landforms and waterways including mountain ranges, volcanoes, rivers, rainforest, waterfalls, and a mysterious archipelago off the coast of Ecuador.

a. Landforms of the Tropical North

- i. **Archipelago:**
- ii. **Andes Mountains:**
- iii. **Elevation:**
- iv. **Cotopaxi:**
- v. **Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta Mountains:**
- vi. **Colombia:**
- vii. **Darién:**
- viii. **Llanos:**
- ix. **Guiana Highlands:**
- x. ***Tupuis:***
- xi. **Rainforest:**

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b. Abundant Waterways

- i. **Nearby bodies of water:**
- ii. **Orinoco River:**
- iii. **Angel Falls:**
- iv. **Magdalena and the Cauca:**
- v. **Guyas River:**
- vi. **Guayaquil:**
- vii. **Rivers** in Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana flow _____ and empty into the _____ Ocean. They are shallow so the coastline is _____.

c. Galápagos Islands

- i. **Owned** by _____, located in the Pacific Ocean about _____ miles _____ of Ecuador. Made up of _____ major islands, six smaller islands, and many tiny islands called _____.
- ii. **Population:**
- iii. **Animal Life:**
- iv. **Symbiosis:**
- v. **Charles Darwin:**
- vi. **Tourism:**

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II. CLIMATES

The Tropical North lies along the Equator and has a variety of climates because of differences in elevation, location, ocean currents, and winds.

a. Tropical Climates

- i. Tropical climate:**
- ii. Tropical monsoon climate:**
- iii. Chocó:**
- iv. Llanos:**
- v. Guiana Highlands:**
- vi. Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana:**
- vii. Trade winds:**
- viii. Semiarid:**

b. Cooler Highlands

- i. Mountain climates depend on elevation.**
 - 1. *tierra templada* (“_____ land”):**
 - 2. *tierra fria* (“_____ land”):**
 - 3. *Páramo*:**

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III. NATURAL RESOURCES

Tropical rain forests cover the North, but the lack of roads and the physical geography have made it difficult to access resources.

a. Fossil Fuels

i. **Venezuela**

1. Oil deposits:

2. Also benefits from _____ and _____ deposits.

ii. **Colombia**

1. Coal:

2. Oil:

iii. **Ecuador:**

iv. **Suriname and Guyana:**

b. Minerals and Gems

i. **Gold:**

ii. **Mining:**

iii. **Diamonds:**

iv. **Emeralds:**

v. **Bauxite:**

vi. **Ecuador:**

vii. **Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, and Suriname:**

viii. **French Guiana:**

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c. Agriculture

- i. **Different** _____ and _____ in Ecuador and Colombia allow farmers to grow a variety of crops. Both countries export _____ and _____.
- ii. **Ecuador:**
- iii. **Cash crops:**
- iv. **Colombia:**
- v. **Venezuela:**
- vi. **Llanos:**
- vii. **Only** ____% of Venezuelans, Colombians, and Ecuadorians are farmers or ranchers.
- viii. **Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana** have little farming because most of the land is covered by _____. Some farming is done along the _____.
- ix. **Fishing:**