

Name _____

PHYSICAL FEATURES

Lake Titicaca

Lake Titicaca is the largest lake in South America. At 12,500 feet (3,810 m) above sea level, it is also one of the highest lakes in the world. The lake is located high in the Andes Mountains and straddles the border between Peru and Bolivia. It is 120 miles (193 km) long and 50 miles (81 km) wide. Lake Titicaca has an average depth of about 600 feet (183 m). Its deepest part is 920 feet (280 m) in the northeast corner.

More than 25 rivers drain into Lake Titicaca. Only one small river, the Desaguadero, drains out of the lake.

Lake Titicaca is split into two bodies of water, one much larger than the other. They are joined by a strait. The lake is dotted with 41 islands, some of them heavily populated. The largest is Titicaca Island (also called Isla del Sol). It is part of the country of Bolivia.

Two native species of fish live in Lake Titicaca. One is the small, black-striped killifish, and the other is a type of catfish. There are also trout that were brought to the lake in the late 1930s for fishing. A large species of frog that can reach up to 20 inches (50 cm) in length also lives in Lake Titicaca.

A. Write the letter of the clue that describes each term. Use the information above and the map on the other page to help you.

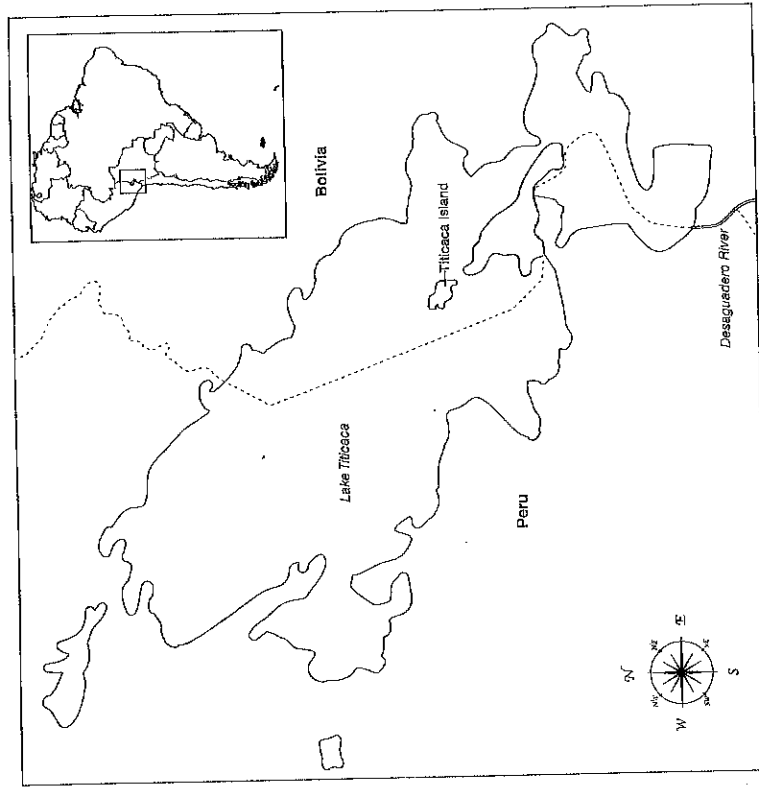
- 1. Bolivia _____
 - 2. Desaguadero _____
 - 3. Isla del Sol _____
 - 4. killifish _____
 - 5. trout _____
 - 6. 120 miles _____
 - 7. 600 feet _____
 - 8. Peru _____
- a. the only river that drains out of Lake Titicaca _____
 - b. a fish native to Lake Titicaca _____
 - c. the country on the western side of Lake Titicaca _____
 - d. the average depth of Lake Titicaca _____
 - e. a fish that was brought to Lake Titicaca in the 1930s _____
 - f. the country on the eastern side of Lake Titicaca _____
 - g. the length of Lake Titicaca _____
 - h. the largest island in Lake Titicaca _____

Name _____

THE 7 CONTINENTS

Lake Titicaca

B. Write a caption for the map. Use the information on the other page to help you.

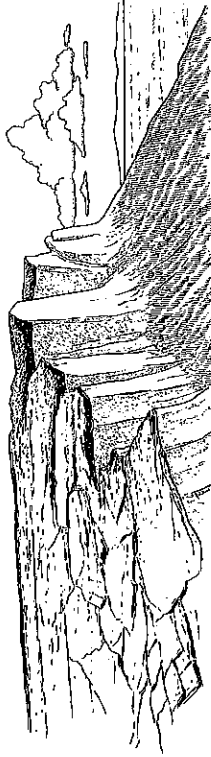


Name _____

Highlands of South America

Guiana Highlands

The Guiana Highlands cover half of Venezuela, stretching from the southern part of the country across the northern edge of South America. The elevation of the Guiana Highlands ranges from less than 1,000 feet (305 m) up to 9,094 feet (2,772 m) at its highest point, Mount Roraima. The most distinctive features of these highlands are sandstone plateaus with drop-offs that form steep cliffs. Because these formations look like tables, the land is often called *tablelands*. They are also called "tepui" by the local people. The word *tepu* means "house of the gods."



tablelands of the Guiana Highlands

Brazilian Highlands

The Brazilian Highlands, also called the Brazilian Plateau, lie southeast of the Guiana Highlands. They are part of the same geological structure as the Guiana Highlands. But the two highlands have been separated from each other over time by erosion by the Amazon River. The average elevation of the Brazilian Highlands is about 3,000 feet (914 m). Rocky peaks occasionally dot the landscape, rising to 9,000 feet (2,743 m) or more. Sugar Loaf peak, which rises steeply above Rio de Janeiro's harbor, is a famous feature of the Brazilian Highlands.

Patagonia

The Patagonian Plateau, often just called Patagonia, is located in Argentina and Chile and stretches south from the Pampas plains for 1,000 miles (1,609 km). Starting near the Atlantic Ocean, the land rises in step-like plateaus until it reaches the Andes Mountains in the west. These vast tablelands are desert or semidesert lands, meaning they receive very little rainfall. The ground in many places is covered with rounded pebbles, crumbling sandstone, or lava.

Name _____

Highlands of South America

A. Circle the correct answer for each question. Use the information on the other page to help you.

- Which highlands are located in the north? Brazilian Guiana
- Which highlands include Sugar Loaf peak? Guiana Brazilian
- Which highlands include desert land? Patagonia Guiana
- In which highlands is Rio de Janeiro located? Brazilian Patagonia
- Which highlands cover half of Venezuela? Guiana Brazilian
- Which highlands have a number of mountains that are over 9,000 feet high? Patagonia Brazilian
- In which highlands is the ground covered with rounded pebbles and lava? Patagonia Guiana

B. Answer the questions. Use the information on the other page to help you.

- What is a tepui? _____
- What does the word *tepu* mean in the local language? _____
- What natural force separated the Guiana and Brazilian highlands? _____
- In which countries is Patagonia located? _____