Chapter 3: Central America and the Caribbean, Answer Key

Chapter Opener
Page 56-57

MAP ZONE
1. El Salvador has no Caribbean coast.
2. Answers to this question will vary. Student answers may reference the idea that the countries are separated by miles and by water, which would make communication and travel difficult.

Section 1
Page 59

MAP ZONE
1. Haiti is located on the island of Hispaniola.
2. Student answers may vary but might reference the idea that while life in Honduras may mostly be in a mountainous region, life in the Bahamas, an island country, is at or below sea level.

Page 60

MAP ZONE
1. Active volcanoes in Central America occur at the boundary of the Cocos Plate and the Caribbean Plate.
2. There are no volcanoes in the middle of the Caribbean Sea because there are no plate boundaries.

Central America and the Caribbean islands share many physical features, including coastal plains, easy access to the seas, islands, mountainous terrain and active volcanoes.

Page 61
The coolest temperatures in Central America and the Caribbean islands are found in some inland mountain areas.

Having few energy resources has limited economic development because the area is reliant on importing energy resources being unable to produce their own.

Page 161, continued
Answers to this question may vary, but students should reference the circular pattern seen in the image that indicates that the storm is spinning or rotating.

Section 2
Page 63
Answers to this question may vary, but student answers may reference the idea that cushions are placed between bananas to preserve them and keep them from being bruised.

Spain has left a long term influence on the region's history. For a long time, despite achieving their independence from Spain, the countries in this region maintained unity. Even after Spanish officials left, a system similar to the Spanish one, in which wealthy landowners controlled both government and the economy, remained intact.

Page 64
Tourists support the local economy by purchasing locally made or grown goods, while Guatemalans may spend a day at the local market, perhaps for a church function, and purchase lunch there.

Page 65
Belize is culturally unique religiously, with its large minority of Protestant Christians.

ECOTOURISM

Page 66
Answers to this question may vary, but students should accurately reference the images seen in the picture on page 66. Answers may include, but are not limited to, coral, fish and other sea creatures.

Page 67
Answers to this question may vary, but should reference the idea that canal fees and local industries provide a huge economic stimulus for the country controlling passage through the canal.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

page 68-69

1. Panama is the narrowest part of Central America, making it a perfect location for a canal.
2. When traveling through the canal, ships pass through different compartments, being raised and lowered like in an elevator, as they pass through.

Section 3
Page 71

EUROPEAN COLONIES IN THE CARIBBEAN, 1763

1. Jamaica was ruled by the British.
2. The Spanish were only interested in establishing colonies on the larger islands, while the Dutch, and other European countries, were interested in establishing sugarcane based, plantation colonies on the smaller islands.

Answers to this question are a matter of opinion. Student answers should be well written and should articulately reference the idea that some Caribbean island peoples might not be interested in gaining independence because these islands have established a system that works - their own elected government and representatives in the French government.

Page 72
There are many African influences seen in Caribbean culture. Language, religion, celebrations of holidays, food and cooking all reflect African influences.

LANGUAGES OF THE CARIBBEAN
In Barbados, people speak English.

Page 73

CONNECTING TO THE ARTS
Metal drums were used to store, transport and trade oil. These steel drums may have been readily available and therefore the oil trade can be linked to music played on steel-drums.

Page 74

Because Cuba is only 92 miles from the coast of the United States, it is likely that the people in the raft are trying to flee Cuba.

Page 75

Puerto Rico is a Commonwealth, which means it is a self-governing territory associated with another country, in this case the democratic United States, while the government of Cuba is communist, controlling the economy as well as banks, cooperatives, plantations, newspapers, television and radio stations.

Page 76

SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS

1. The months of May, June, September and October.
2. January, February, March, April, November and December all have less than 2 inches of precipitation per month.
3. The average temperature in February is 80oF.