

NAME _____

BLOCK _____

pages 180-181

9.1 Notes

Central America and the Caribbean Islands

1. Central America forms a bridge between North America and _____.
2. The Caribbean Islands form an _____, or large groups of islands.
3. The four large islands of the _____ are Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Hispanola.
4. The Bahamas are located _____ of Florida.
5. The tectonic activity in the region of Central America is caused by the colliding of _____.
6. Dense _____ can be found along the Caribbean coast of Central America.
7. A _____ is a high-elevation, very wet tropical forest where low clouds are common.
8. _____ are common storms in the region of the Caribbean.
9. _____ ash enriches soil and makes agriculture possible in the region.
10. Jamaica has large reserves of _____, the most important aluminum ore.



Central America and the Caribbean Islands

SECTION 1

Reading the Section • As you read the section, circle the boldface word or phrase that *best* completes each statement below.

1. Central America and the Caribbean Sea include **60 / 20** countries and a number of island territories.
2. **Mountains / Deserts** separate the Caribbean and Pacific coastal plains.
3. The Caribbean islands form what is known as an archipelago—a large group of **islands / peninsulas**.
4. The four large islands of the **Greater / Lesser** Antilles are Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Hispaniola.
5. The islands in the **Greater / Lesser** Antilles stretch from the Virgin Islands to Trinidad and Tobago.
6. The Bahamas are located **west / east** of Florida.
7. The tectonic activity in the region is caused by **colliding / sliding** tectonic plates.
8. The Pacific coast has a warm and sunny **steppe / tropical savanna** climate.
9. In the islands, **winters / summers** usually are drier than **winters / summers**.
10. **Tornadoes / Hurricanes** are common in the region of Central America and the Caribbean islands.

Identifying Resources • Fill in the blanks with the word or phrase that correctly completes each sentence.

1. Panama has large deposits of the metallic mineral _____.
2. The rain forests of Honduras and Belize are sources of _____.
3. The most important industry in the region is _____.
4. Agriculture is profitable in the region where _____ has made the soil fertile.
5. Jamaica has huge reserves of the mineral _____.
6. Bananas, sugarcane, cotton, and _____ are main agricultural crops in the Caribbean and Central America.

9.2 NOTES

Central America and the Caribbean Islands

1. In the early 1500s, most of Central America came under the control of the country of _____.
2. The largest ethnic group in Central America is _____ people of European and American Indian ancestry.
3. Central American countries have at times been ruled by _____, or people who rule a country with complete authority.
4. _____ is the most populous country in Central America.
5. The country with the smallest population is _____.
6. Only _____ percent of the land in Honduras is suitable for farming.
7. A _____, which occurred in El Salvador, is a conflict between two or more groups within a country.
8. The largest country in Central America is _____, which has coasts on both the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean.
9. Costa Rica is well known for its _____, which is the practice of using an area's natural environment to attract tourists.
10. The _____ Canal links the Pacific Ocean to the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean.

Central America and the Caribbean Islands

Identifying Time Periods • Fill in each blank with the correct time period from the list below.

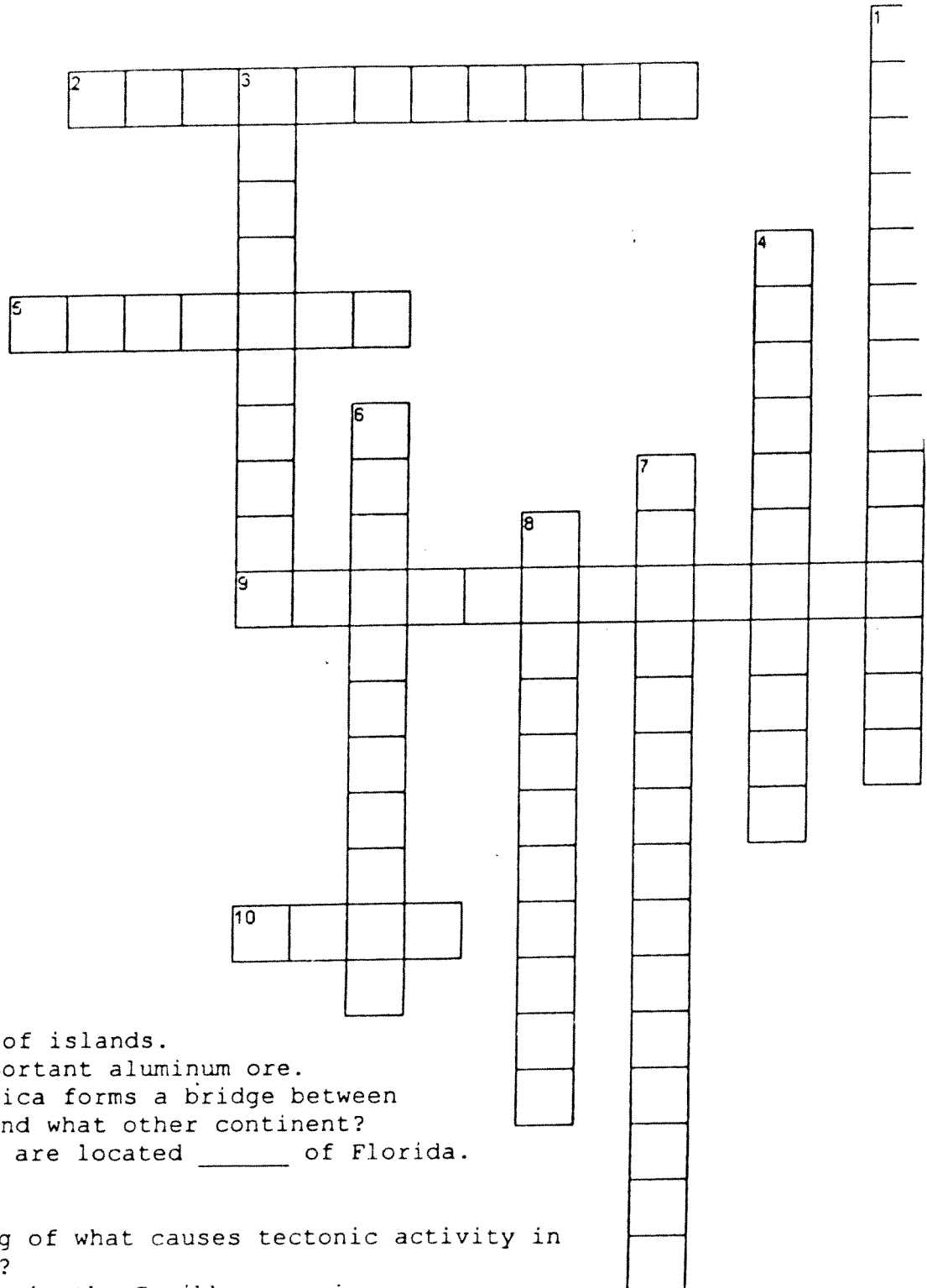
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|------------|-------------|---------|
| 1990 | 1821 | 1903 |
| 1981 | early 1500s | 1838-39 |
| 1914 | 1992 | 1600s |
| late 1800s | 1979 | 1999 |

- _____ 1. Panama became independent from Colombia.
- _____ 2. El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Honduras declared independence from Spain.
- _____ 3. The Sandinistas overthrew a dictator.
- _____ 4. Panama took over its canal.
- _____ 5. British Honduras gained independence and became Belize.
- _____ 6. European countries began establishing colonies in Central America.
- _____ 7. The United Provinces of Central America separated.
- _____ 8. The United States began controlling the Panama Canal.
- _____ 9. Nicaraguan civil war ended.
- _____ 10. The British left Nicaragua.
- _____ 11. The war in El Salvador ended.
- _____ 12. The British founded a colony in British Honduras.

Reviewing Facts • Circle the boldfaced word that *best* completes each statement below.

1. The **choco / cacao** tree produces cocoa beans that are used to make chocolate.
2. Every Central American country has, at one time or another, been ruled by a congress / **dictator**.
3. A **civil war / holy inquisition** is a conflict between two or more groups within a country.
4. The majority of Central America was once ruled by **Spain / Germany**.
5. The **rain forest / canal zone** is the most prosperous region in Panama.
6. **Ecotourism / Shipbuilding** is increasingly important to the economies of Central American countries.
7. **Costa Rica / Belize** has a lengthy history of democratic, stable governments and peace.
8. The most populous country in Central America is **Panama / Guatemala**.

9.1 CROSSWORD



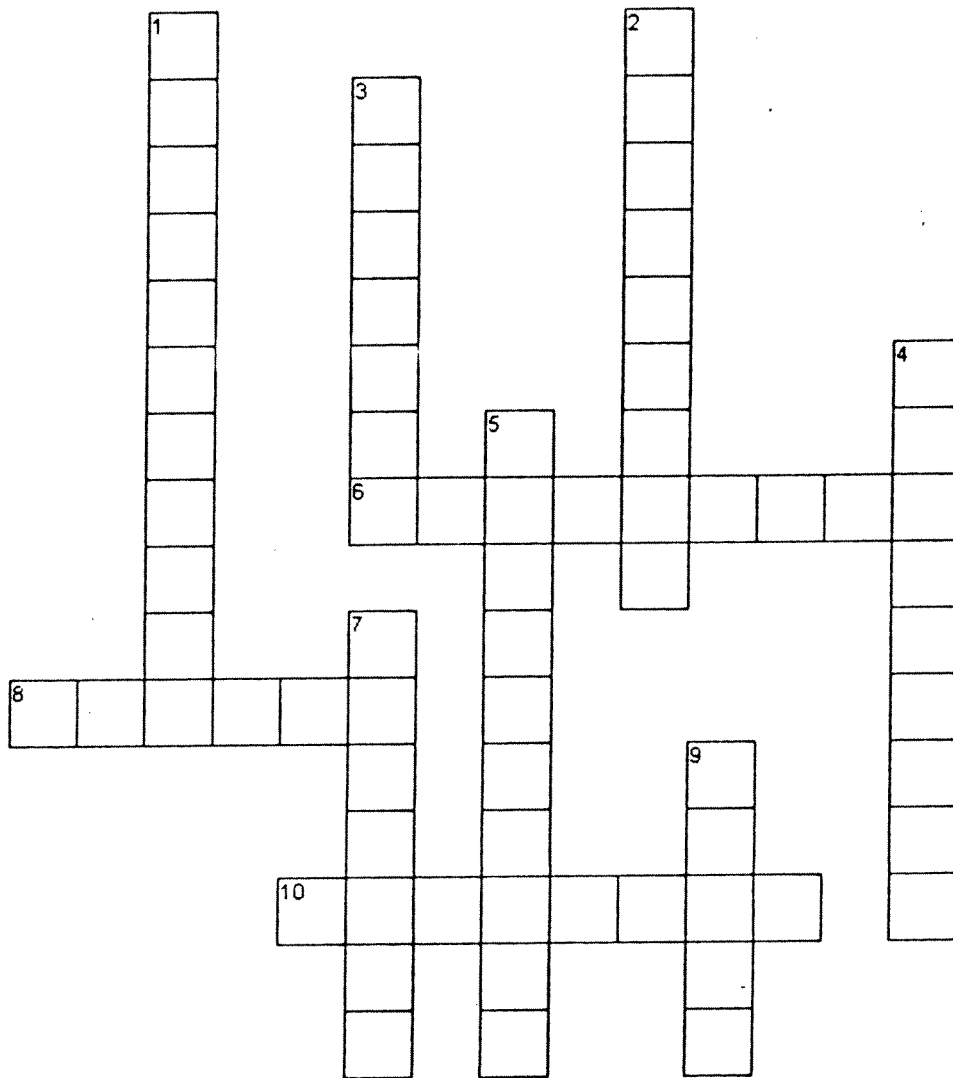
Across

2. Large group of islands.
5. The most important aluminum ore.
9. Central America forms a bridge between North America and what other continent?
10. The Bahamas are located _____ of Florida.

Down

1. The colliding of what causes tectonic activity in Central America?
3. Common storms in the Caribbean region.
4. This enriches soil and makes agriculture possible in Central America.
6. A high elevation, very wet tropical forest where low clouds are common.
7. The four islands of Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Hispanola are known as the _____.
8. What can be found along the Caribbean coast of Central America?

9.2 CROSSWORD



Across

6. The largest country in Central America.
8. Central American country with the smallest population.
10. Conflict between two or more groups within a country.

Down

1. Body of water that links the Ocean to the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean.
2. People who rule a country with complete authority.
3. Percentage of land in Honduras suitable for farming.
4. The most populous country in Central America.
5. The practice of using an area's natural environment to attract tourists.
7. The largest ethnic group in Central America.
9. European country that controlled most of Central America in the early 1500s.

NAME _____ BLOCK _____

MAP

Central America and Caribbean Islands

1. Label, color, then outline the following countries.

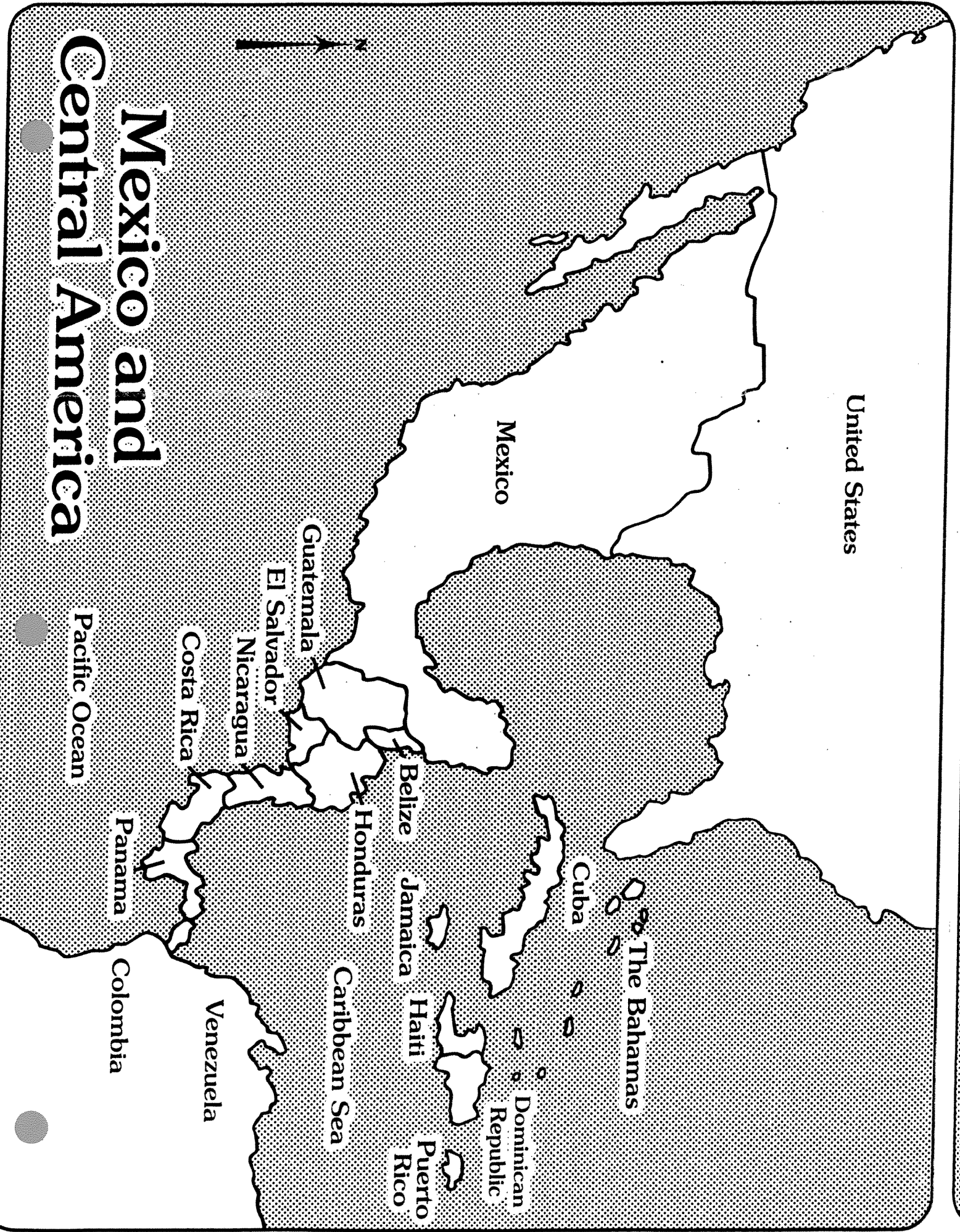
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. Guatemala - green | h. Cuba - red |
| b. Belize - orange | i. Bahamas - purple |
| c. Honduras - red | j. Jamaica - yellow |
| d. El Salvador - purple | k. Haiti - green |
| e. Nicaragua - yellow | l. Puerto Rico - red |
| f. Costa Rica - green | m. Dominican Republic -
orange |
| g. Panama - orange | |

2. Label, color, then outline Mexico, the United States, and South America GRAY.

3. Label, then color the following bodies of water BLUE.

- Gulf of Mexico
- Pacific Ocean
- Atlantic Ocean
- Caribbean Sea

Mexico and Central America



United States

Mexico

Guatemala

El Salvador

Nicaragua

Costa Rica

Pacific Ocean

Panama

Colombia

Venezuela

Honduras

Caribbean Sea

Belize

Jamaica

Haiti

Dominican
Republic

Puerto
Rico

Cuba

The Bahamas