

SECTION
4

Reading for Understanding

▶ Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

The cultures of Venezuela and Colombia have been greatly influenced by their Spanish colonial heritage.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

Indians and *mestizos* make up a large part of the population of Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador.

▶ Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

llama a South American mammal related to the camel

alpaca a South American mammal related to the llama

selva Spanish name for the eastern Peruvian regions that contain rain forests

indigenous native to a region

landlocked surrounded by land with no access to a sea

quinoa a kind of weed from the Andean region that produces a small grain

REVIEW

altiplano the high plateau region of Bolivia

BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

edible fit for eating



Visual Vocabulary landlocked

▶ Reading Strategy

Re-create the chart shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the chart to categorize details about Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador.



Skillbuilder Handbook, page R7

CATEGORIZE

	PERU	BOLIVIA	ECUADOR
Government			
Economy			
People			



GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

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Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador

Connecting to Your World

How would you adapt to living in a mountain region, where it was cold much of the time? For hundreds of years, Indians have lived in the Andes Mountains, where they developed innovative ways to deal with their harsh environment. They raised **llamas** and **alpacas**, small camel-like animals, on the mountainsides. The Inca used the freezing nighttime temperatures and the strong daytime sunlight to preserve and store potatoes and meat by freezing and drying them. Today, people in the Andes Mountains continue to adapt to their environment.



Peru

KEY QUESTION What products are made in Peru's coastal regions?

The Andes Mountains are located in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru. Peru is South America's third largest country. It has three land regions—the coast along the Pacific Ocean, the Andes Mountains, and the **selva**, an area of rain forests in eastern Peru.



Peruvian Girl and Baby Alpaca

Adapting to the Mountains Farmers in Bolivia plant crops on mountain terraces, such as these.

History and Government Between about 1200 and the early 1500s, Peru was home to the Inca civilization. The empire in the Andes Mountains extended from present-day Colombia to Argentina. In 1533, the Spanish conquered the Inca and ruled Peru for 300 years.

Since gaining independence in 1821, Peru has suffered military takeovers, dictatorships, and wars with neighboring countries and revolutionary groups. Today, Peru is a democratic republic. In 2001, Peruvians elected Alejandro Toledo, the first Indian president.

Economy Peru's rugged geography and scarce farmland have made it difficult for the country to create a strong economy. About one-third of the people are farmers. Coffee, potatoes, and grains are grown on highland terraces. Sugar cane, cotton, and asparagus are grown in coastal valleys. Peru is one of the world's leading producers of asparagus.

Peru is a leading producer of copper, lead, silver, and zinc, which are mined in the Peruvian mountains. It also has a profitable fishing industry. Factories that process metals, fish, and sugar cane have been built along Peru's coast. Peru also exports petroleum.

Peruvian Weaver This woman weaves colorful yarns with a hand loom. **What do you think she will do with the products she creates?**



People and Culture *Mestizos* and **indigenous** people, or people native to a region, make up most of Peru's population. About ten percent are of European, African, or Asian ancestry. Spanish and Quechua (KEHCH•wuh) are Peru's official languages. About 75 percent of Peruvians speak Spanish, and about 25 percent speak Quechua or another Indian language.

Most Peruvians live in cities. While the middle and upper classes live in houses and apartment buildings, the poor live in slums or squatter settlements. Peru's government has tried to develop these settlements by providing running water and sewer systems.

Peruvians create beautiful sculpture, pottery, and textiles. Music and dancing are popular throughout Peru. As elsewhere in Latin America, football (soccer) is the most popular sport.

CATEGORIZE Identify the kinds of products that are produced in Peru's coastal regions.



The Lake Dwellers The Uros, descendants of an ancient people, live on floating islands on Lake Titicaca. Titicaca, the world's highest lake, is on the border of Peru and Bolivia. They use a kind of reed, or wetland grass, called *titora* (toh•TOH•rah) to make floating mats. They use the mats to create islands in the lake. The Uros also make reed boats and houses. They even have a floating soccer field!

CRITICAL THINKING

Make Inferences How might the Uros have contributed to making Lake Titicaca a popular tourist spot?



Bolivia and Ecuador

KEY QUESTION How are Bolivia's and Ecuador's geographies, histories, and economies alike?

Bolivia is a **landlocked** country, surrounded entirely by land with no access to a sea. The country has two capital cities—Sucre, which is the official capital, and La Paz, which is the administrative capital. Ecuador is one of South America's smallest countries. Large plains are located in northern and eastern Bolivia and on Ecuador's Pacific coastal plain. The Andes Mountains circle a high plateau in western Bolivia and run through the center of Ecuador.

History and Government Both Bolivia and Ecuador were colonized by the Spanish and achieved independence in the 1800s. Bolivia was named for Simón Bolívar. *Ecuador* is the Spanish word for "equator," which crosses the country.

Both Bolivia and Ecuador struggled to develop democracies. Each country has had several constitutions that provided for free elections. But dictators and military leaders often took control.

Today, both Bolivia and Ecuador are democratic republics. Both governments include a national legislature, a supreme court, and an elected president. In 2005, Bolivians elected Evo Morales as president, the first indigenous person to be elected to that office in Bolivia.

Evo Morales An Aymara, Morales was elected president of Bolivia by a large margin in December 2005. He took office in January 2006.

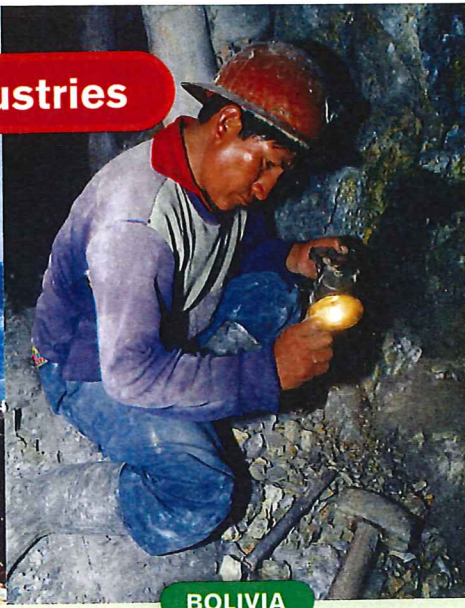


← COMPARING → Industries



PERU

- **Major industries:** mineral production, steel, petroleum refining, fishing (Above: fishing crew harvesting shellfish off the coast of Peru)
- **Major agricultural products:** coffee, cotton, sugar cane, asparagus
- **Major trading partner:** United States



BOLIVIA

- **Major industries:** mining, petroleum, food and beverages (Above: miner underground in Bolivian silver mine)
- **Major agricultural products:** soybeans, coffee, cotton, corn, potatoes
- **Major trading partner:** Brazil



ECUADOR

- **Major industries:** petroleum, food processing, textiles, wood products
- **Major agricultural products:** bananas, coffee, cacao, balsa wood, shrimp (Above: Ecuadorian workers in a banana-processing plant)
- **Major trading partner:** United States

CRITICAL THINKING

Compare and Contrast What agricultural products do Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador have in common?

Economy Bolivia and Ecuador both have natural resources that have not been fully developed. Bolivia has many minerals and fertile soil. Ecuador's farm and timberland on the coast and in the eastern lowlands still need development. Both nations are working to develop their resources and help improve their economies.

One of Bolivia's leading exports is natural gas. Bolivia is also a leading producer of tin, but only a small percentage of the nation's workers are employed in this industry. About half of Bolivia's workers are farmers. Potatoes, wheat, and **quinoa**, a kind of weed that produces a small **edible** grain, are grown on the **altiplano**, the high plateau region of Bolivia, just east of the Andes Mountains. Bananas, beans, cacao, coffee, soybeans, and corn are also important agricultural products.

Ecuador's major export is petroleum. Gold is also an important mineral product. Most manufacturing in Ecuador takes place in Guayaquil (gwy•uh•KEEL), the nation's largest city, and in Quito, the capital. Ecuador's major manufacturing products include cement, processed foods, and textiles. Ecuador is the world's major supplier of balsa wood, used to make model airplanes. Like Bolivians, most Ecuadorians are farmers. They grow bananas, cacao, coffee, and sugar cane on the country's coastal plain.

People and Culture Spanish and the Indian languages Quechua and Aymara are Bolivia's three official languages. Most Bolivians practice subsistence farming. They have traditionally raised llamas to transport goods and alpacas to provide food, clothing, and fertilizer. In fact, Bolivia has more llamas than any other place in the world!

Most Ecuadorians are Indians or *mestizos*. Many Indians live in the Andes, speak Indian languages, and wear traditional clothes.

As they have for thousands of years, indigenous people in Bolivia today create jewelry, rugs, and shawls. Ecuadorian artists carve objects using the tagua plant. The tagua nut resembles ivory, which is a material that comes from elephant tusks. The tagua nut is used to make buttons and works of art. No animals are harmed to create tagua art.

Countries in the Andes Mountains are famous for panpipe music. Aymara and Quechua peoples play these flute-type instruments combined with drums and guitar-like instruments to create unique regional music.

COMPARE AND CONTRAST Compare the geographies, histories, and economies of Bolivia and Ecuador.



Playing a Panpipe Peruvian musicians play panpipes, like the one this girl is playing.

Section 4 Assessment



ONLINE QUIZ

For test practice, go to [Interactive Review @ClassZone.com](http://InteractiveReview@ClassZone.com)

TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of

- llama
- selva
- landlocked
- quinoa

USE YOUR READING NOTES

2. Categorize Use your chart to answer the following question:

How are Bolivia and Ecuador working to improve their economies?

	PERU	BOLIVIA	ECUADOR
Government			
Economy			
People			

KEY IDEAS

3. What kind of government do Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia have?
4. How are most people in Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia employed?
5. What groups of people make up a large percentage of the population of all three countries?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Analyze Causes and Effects** How do you think being a landlocked nation affects Bolivia's economy?
7. **Make Inferences** Why do you think that so many Indian communities have been able to keep their traditional customs and ways of life?
8. **CONNECT to Today** Why is it important for Bolivia and Ecuador to fully develop their natural resources?
9. **WRITING Create a Picture Essay** Choose an indigenous group in Peru, Bolivia, or Ecuador. Research their customs and ways of life. Create a captioned picture essay to present the information.

← COMPARING → Climate Regions

Tropical and mountain climates are both found in Middle America and Spanish-speaking South America. Each climate supports its own unique vegetation and animal life.

Tropical

The climate in tropical regions is hot year-round, with abundant rainfall. This climate produces the thick, green rain forests and the many exotic plants and animals that live in them. Farmers plant crops, such as sugar cane and bananas, that thrive in the tropical conditions.



Agriculture

A farmer harvests sugar cane on the island nation of Barbados.



Outdoor Activities

Scuba divers explore the coral reefs off the coast of Bonaire, one of the Caribbean islands.

Nevis Peak and Botanical Gardens on the Caribbean island of Nevis ▼

Wildlife

Sloths, such as this one hanging upside down from a branch, live in the tropical forests of Central America and South America and spend most of their lives in trees.





Outdoor Activities

Ice climbers make their way up Huayna Potosi, a mountain in Bolivia popular among mountain climbers.

Mountain

Unlike the fairly constant climate of the tropical areas, the highland climate of the Andes Mountains varies with changes in elevation. Temperatures range from warm in the lower elevations to freezing in the highest elevations. Farming is difficult in this climate, but several crops, such as potatoes, barley, and wheat, grow well there. Various species of plants and animals have adapted to the mountain conditions.

Sacsayhuamán, an ancient Inca fortress, overlooks the city of Cuzco, Peru. ▼



Agriculture

These Ecuadorian farmers are harvesting barley.

Wildlife

The spectacled bear makes its home in the Andes Mountains. It gets its name from the markings around its eyes.



CRITICAL THINKING

- 1. Compare and Contrast**
What differences can be seen between tropical and mountain climate regions?
- 2. Form an Opinion** Which climate region is more appealing to you? Why?