

# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

► **4th Grade** | Unit 8

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# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 408

## ISLAND COUNTRIES

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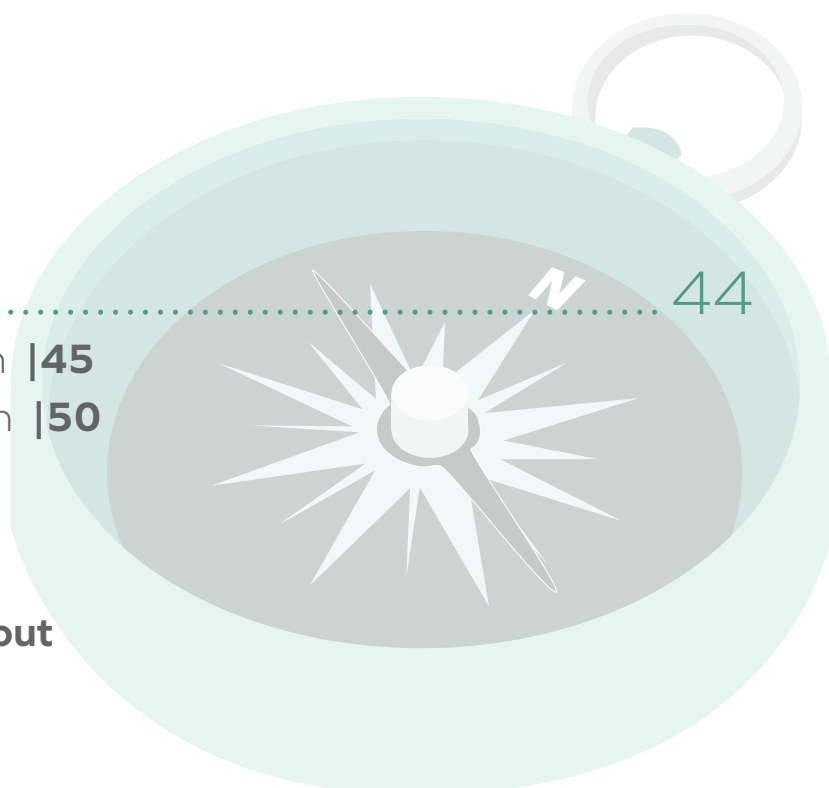
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# ISLAND COUNTRIES

In this LIFEPAK® you will learn about the major archipelagos and seas of the world. You will learn how people live in these island regions of the world. You will see how the ocean waters help them earn their living and how the ocean shaped their history.

## Objectives

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK. Each section will list according to the numbers below what objectives will be met in that section. When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. Name and describe the different kinds of islands.
2. Locate some of the major islands of the world on a map.
3. Locate Cuba on a map and name the waters around it.
4. Describe the geography, history, industries, people, and government of Cuba.
5. Tell a little about communism and how it affects Cuba.
6. Locate Iceland on a map and name the waters around it.
7. Describe the geography, history, industries, people, language, and literature of Iceland.
8. Locate Japan on the map and name the waters around it.
9. Describe the geography, history, industries, people, art, and customs of Japan.

# 1. CUBA

Islands are created in many different ways. In this section of the LIFEPAC you will learn about the different kinds of islands. You will also learn about islands all over the world. You will use some of the vocabulary you learned about oceans, seas, and islands.

South and east of North America is the island of Cuba in the West Indies. These islands are part of North America because they are so close to that continent. You will learn about the island of Cuba in this section. You will learn about its geography, history, and people.

## Objectives

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Name and describe the different kinds of islands.
2. Locate some of the major islands of the world on a map.
3. Locate Cuba on a map and name the waters around it.
4. Describe the geography, history, industries, people, and government of Cuba.

## Vocabulary

**Study these new words.** Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAC.

**blockade** (blo' kād). The blocking of a place by an army or navy to control who or what goes into or out of it.

**coral reef** (kô'r əl rēf). A narrow ridge at or near the surface of the water made up of the skeletons of tiny sea animals.

**lava** (lä' və). The hot, melted rock flowing from a volcano.

**moderate** (mod' ə rāt). To make or become less extreme or violent

**persecute** (pè:r sə kyüt). To treat badly, especially because of one's beliefs.



**ration** (rash' ən). To allow only a certain amount; to limit.

**rhythm** (riTH' əm). Any movement with a regular repetition of a beat, accent, rise and fall, or the like.

**slogan** (slō' gun). A word or phrase used by a group to advertise its purpose.

**volcano** (vol kā' nō). A crack in the earth where lava comes out.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## Islands of the Earth

All land on earth is surrounded by water. The seven largest pieces of land we call *continents*. The thousands of smaller bits of land are called *islands*. A clustered group or string of these islands is called an *archipelago*. A very small island is called an *islet* (i' lit).

There are two main types of islands: those that are part of a continent and those that are out in the oceans, far away from any land. Islands of the continents often used to be part of the land. Something happened to separate the island from the continent. The British Isles in Europe are a good example. Long ago, the islands were a peninsula attached to Europe. Over time the land sank and the ocean opened a strait, the English Channel, between the island of Great Britain and Europe.

Islands which form in the oceans are often made by **volcanoes**. Volcanoes are mountains made when the super-hot, melted rock from the center of the earth escapes to the surface through a crack. The liquid rock squirts out, cools, becomes hard, piles up, and forms a mountain. Many of these mountains are made on the bottom of the ocean. If they get tall enough to stick out of the water, they become islands. The islands of Japan and Hawaii were made this way.

People have actually been able to watch an island being born from a volcano. In 1963 scientists noticed steam and **lava** coming out of the ocean near Iceland in Europe. By 1967 the volcano had built an island that was over a square mile in size. It was named Surtsey.

There are a few other ways that islands can be created. One is by the build-up of a

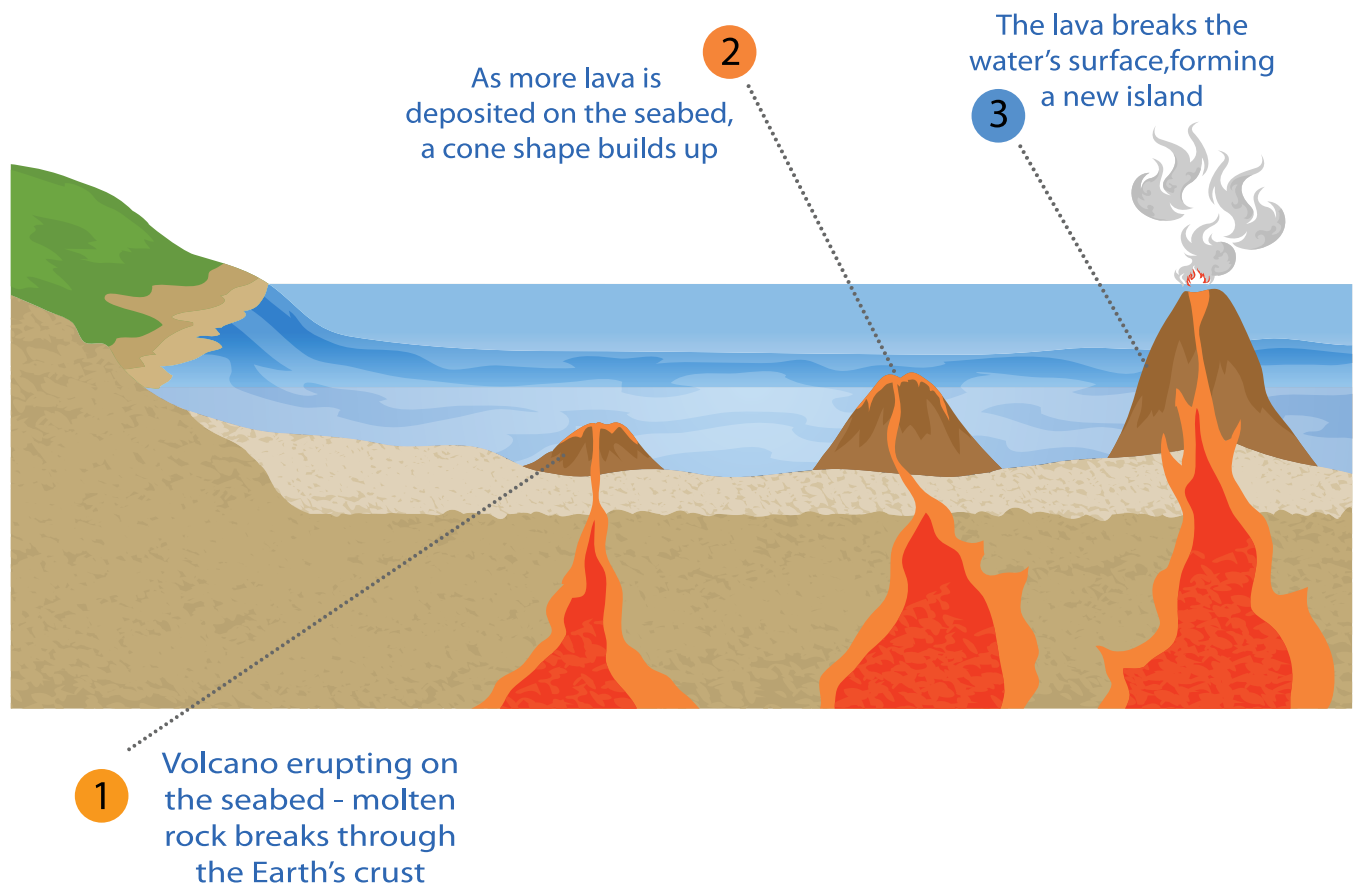
**coral reef.** Corals are small sea animals that live inside hard shell-like skeletons. Corals live in groups, and when they die their hard skeletons pile up, forming a reef. Sometimes the coral gets tall enough to come out of the water and make an island.



| An atoll.

One very unusual and pretty type of coral island is called an *atoll* (a' tôle). An atoll is created when a coral reef forms around an island that sinks over many years. After the land is gone, the reef continues to grow until it becomes an atoll, an island shaped like a doughnut. The ocean in the middle of the circle of land is called a *lagoon*.

Another type of island is formed when the ocean or a river piles up dirt in one spot. *Barrier islands* are made by waves and currents piling up dirt in the ocean beside



| Volcanic island

the coast. Assateague Island National Seashore is a barrier island off the coast of Maryland. It has beautiful beaches and is home to herds of wild ponies.

Islands are also sometimes created in river deltas. As the river goes into the ocean, it leaves dirt that piles up and makes islands that the river goes around on both sides.

There are many islands like this in southern Louisiana. They are at the mouth of the Mississippi River where it flows into the Gulf of Mexico.



| A river delta lagoon



### Match each word with the correct description.

- |     |                   |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| 1.1 | _____ volcano     | a. water in the center of an atoll                  |
| 1.2 | _____ islet       | b. a group of islands                               |
| 1.3 | _____ lagoon      | c. one of the seven largest pieces of land on earth |
| 1.4 | _____ archipelago | d. a very small island                              |
| 1.5 | _____ continent   | e. where lava comes out of the earth                |



### Match these items.

- |      |  |                                 |
|------|--|---------------------------------|
| 1.6  | _____ Hawaii                             | a. barrier island               |
| 1.7  | _____ Great Britain                      | b. separated from the continent |
| 1.8  | _____ atoll                              | c. created in a river delta     |
| 1.9  | _____ Assateague                         | d. built by coral reef          |
| 1.10 | _____ Gulf islands of southern Louisiana | e. created by a volcano         |





| Islands and archipelagoes of the world



**Map Work.** (Remember, on most maps north is up, south is down, east is right, and west is left.)

**1.11** Put north, south, east, or west in each blank.

- The Hawaiian Islands are \_\_\_\_\_ of the Marshalls. (Consider the shortest distance.)
- Japan is \_\_\_\_\_ of the Philippines.
- The Canary Islands are \_\_\_\_\_ of Africa.
- St. Helena is \_\_\_\_\_ of Iceland.

**1.12** Which continent is closest to these islands?

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| a. The Bahamas _____ | b. New Zealand _____ |
| c. Madagascar _____  | d. Philippines _____ |
| e. Galapagos _____   | f. Ireland _____     |
| g. Falkland _____    | h. St. Helena _____  |
| i. Seychelles _____  |                      |

Islands come in all sizes. The largest island is Greenland. It covers 840,000 square miles (2,175,600 square kilometers) in the North Atlantic. That is larger than Alaska and California put together! The smallest islets are often just rocks poking up above the waves.

There are many countries in the world that are on islands. We will be studying the island countries of Cuba, Iceland, and Japan in this LIFE PAC. The Philippines, Indonesia, Great Britain, and New Zealand are all nations made up only of islands. Some of these countries have hundreds or even thousands of islands. Indonesia has more than 13,600 islands!

Islands are located all over the world in every climate. The Galapagos Islands and Madagascar are warm, tropical islands near the equator. Greenland, in spite of its name, is a cold island, covered almost completely with thick ice. Some of the islands around Antarctica are buried so deep under ice that the land is never seen.



| The Galapagos Islands

It is the Europeans who mapped the earth and its many islands in the 1600-1800s. Many of the islands, however, even the ones way out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, had people living on them long before the European explorers arrived. These people had come from the continents in canoes or boats hundreds of years before the Europeans. Sometimes by exploring and sometimes by getting lost in storms, people found the islands and made their homes there, far from the continents.

Island people must be good friends with the ocean. They must cross it to reach their neighbors. They often get most of their meat from it. They also must survive its violent storms. So the story of the island nations must include the water around them, for the ocean is part of their home and a part of their lives.



**Choose the best match for each one.**

- |             |                  |  |
|-------------|------------------|--|
| <b>1.13</b> | _____ Iceland    | a. more than 13,600 islands              |
| <b>1.14</b> | _____ Greenland  | b. tropical island near Africa           |
| <b>1.15</b> | _____ Indonesia  | c. island nation studied in this LIFEPAK |
| <b>1.16</b> | _____ Madagascar | d. largest island on earth               |



**Write *true* or *false* on the line.**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>1.17</b> | _____ Islands are only found near the equator.                              |
| <b>1.18</b> | _____ Island people usually stay away from the ocean.                       |
| <b>1.19</b> | _____ Many people lived on islands before the Europeans explored the earth. |

## Pearl of the Antilles

**Cuba.** Columbus discovered the island of Cuba on the first of his four voyages to America. Because he thought he was near India, all the islands of the area are called the West Indies. Within the West Indies are several archipelagoes. Cuba is part of the Antilles Islands in North America. It is sometimes called the “Pearl of the Antilles” because of its beauty.

The country of Cuba includes the island of Cuba and many nearby smaller islands. The only other island large enough to be worth mentioning is the Isle of Youth, south of Cuba’s western end. Altogether, the land in Cuba is about the same size as the state of Ohio.

Cuba is located about 90 miles (140 km) south of Florida. North of Cuba, between Cuba and Florida, are the Straits of Florida. West of Cuba, between Cuba and Mexico, is the Yucatan Channel, another strait. Yet another strait, the Windward Passage, is east of Cuba, between it and the island of Hispaniola. South of Cuba is the Caribbean Sea.

Remember that a sea is part of an ocean that is partly surrounded by land. The Caribbean Sea is a good example. Central America is the land on its west side. South America is the land on the south side. The Antilles Islands curve around to form the east and north sides. It is still part of the Atlantic Ocean, but the land around it lets geographers call it a sea as well.



| Cuba, "Pearl of the Antilles"



**Map Work.** (Remember, on most maps north is up, south is down, east is right, and west is left.)

**1.20** Notice that the Antilles Islands north of the Caribbean are called the Greater Antilles, while the islands east of the Caribbean are called the Lesser Antilles. Why do you think they were named that way? \_\_\_\_\_

**1.21** Using a map or a globe, circle the Gulf of Mexico on the map on this page.

**1.22** Find and circle the island of Puerto Rico.

**1.23** Find and circle the island of Jamaica.



**Teacher check:**

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Complete these sentences.**

- 1.24** All of the islands southeast of North America are called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.25** The \_\_\_\_\_ is the area of water north of Cuba, between Cuba and Florida.
- 1.26** The \_\_\_\_\_ is the strait west of Cuba.
- 1.27** The \_\_\_\_\_ is the strait east of Cuba.
- 1.28** The \_\_\_\_\_ is the waters south of Cuba.
- 1.29** Cuba is called the Pearl of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.30** The \_\_\_\_\_ is the large island south of Cuba's western side that is part of the country of Cuba.

**Geography.** Cuba is the largest island in the West Indies. It is a lovely island with many resources. Only about one-fourth of the land is mountains or hills. Much of the land is gentle hills or plains which are good for farming or raising cattle. Cuba has fertile soil and a warm climate that makes it great for growing crops.



| Havana

Sugar is the most important crop of Cuba. Sugar cane is the largest cash crop grown in Cuba and brings in the most money. Tobacco is second. Much of the tobacco crop is made into cigars by hand. A hand-made Cuban cigar is considered by many people to be the finest in the world. Other important crops include rice, coffee, and fruit.



| Sugarcane plantation

Cuba also has many minerals. Cobalt, nickel, iron, copper, and manganese are all found on the island. Salt, petroleum, and natural gas are also found there.

The coast of Cuba has many bays and several fine harbors. Havana, the capital, is also the nation's largest port. Other harbors also have port cities. Nuevitas is another port city on the north coast. Cienfuegos, Guantánamo, and Santiago de Cuba are port cities on the south coast.

Cuba has a *semi-tropical* climate. That means that the cool ocean winds keep it from being too hot even though it is in the tropical zone. (The tropical zone is the hottest part of the earth, around the equator between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.) The temperatures usually are around 70° F (21° C) in the winter and 80° F (27° C) in the summer. Of course, it gets cooler in the mountains because the altitude is higher.

The temperatures on any island are always affected by the ocean. Oceans tend to warm up and cool down more slowly than the land; so oceans, and the land near them, tend to stay warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. Thus, the ocean tends to **moderate** island climates.

Cuba has a wet season and a dry season. The dry season lasts from November to April, while the wet season runs from May to October. August to October is the **hurricane** season in the Atlantic Ocean. The strong winds of a hurricane can destroy buildings and crops. The rain and waves can flood the coast and port cities.





**Complete these sentences.**

- 1.31** \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important crop in Cuba.
- 1.32** Cuba's second most important crop, \_\_\_\_\_, is made into \_\_\_\_\_ by hand.
- 1.33** Cobalt, nickel, and iron are \_\_\_\_\_ found in Cuba.
- 1.34** \_\_\_\_\_ is the capital of Cuba.
- 1.35** The coast of Cuba has many bays and several good \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.36** Cuba has a \_\_\_\_\_ climate.
- 1.37** The ocean tends to \_\_\_\_\_ island climates.
- 1.38** December is during the \_\_\_\_\_ season in Cuba.
- 1.39** August to October is the \_\_\_\_\_ season.

## Cuban History

Peaceful Indians were living on Cuba when Columbus discovered it in 1492. The Spanish began to send their own people to live on the island in 1511. Spain wanted to use the island as a supply base for ships going to and from the Americas.

The Spanish colonists set up large plantations to grow sugar and tobacco. They forced the Indians to work on their farms. Many of the Indians died from diseases and cruel treatment. So many Indians died that the colonists began to bring in slaves from Africa to do the work.

Slowly Cuba's population grew, and it began to trade with the nations around it. But Spain kept very strict control of the colony, which the colonists did not like.

Cuba was a Spanish colony until 1898. Many times during the 1800s some of the Cuban people rebelled against Spanish rule, but each time, the Spanish government would use its soldiers to kill the leaders and stop the revolt. Finally, after a large rebellion called the Ten Years War which began in 1868, the Spanish government agreed to give



| Flag of Cuba

the Cubans more freedom. It still would not give them independence, though.

Another revolt began in 1895. By this time the United States had many businesses in Cuba. America had even tried to buy the island from Spain, but had always been refused. The American president, William McKinley, sent the battleship *Maine* to Havana to protect the Americans and their property there. In February of 1898, the *Maine* mysteriously blew up in Havana harbor. America blamed Spain and declared war.

The United States easily defeated Spain in the short Spanish-American War. As part of the treaty, Spain gave up all claim to Cuba. The Cuban people set up their own government by 1902, and the American army left.

The United States, however, was not willing to let the Cubans be completely independent. Part of the Cuban constitution, called the Platt Amendment, said that the United States could send its army back if it wanted to do so. The Americans used the Platt Amendment many times to send in an army to stop revolts against the new government.

After the Spanish-American War, the United States controlled Cuba. Much of the land and industry were owned by Americans. The Cuban people did not like this and often spoke out, and fought against the Americans. Eventually, in the 1930s, a **dictator** named Fulgenico Batista took control of the government. Dictators often take control when people are unhappy and revolts are common.

Batista ruled Cuba until 1959, when he was forced to leave Cuba by yet another successful revolt. The man who led that revolt became Cuba's new dictator. His name was Fidel Castro.



| Theodore Roosevelt, our 26th president, was part of the Rough Riders, a fighting unit in the Spanish-American war.



**Write *true* or *false* on the blank.**

- 1.40** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuba was discovered by Columbus.
- 1.41** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuba became a British colony.
- 1.42** \_\_\_\_\_ The Cuban people were happy with the Spanish government.
- 1.43** \_\_\_\_\_ Spain ruled Cuba until 1956.
- 1.44** \_\_\_\_\_ Spain lost Cuba in the Spanish-American War.
- 1.45** \_\_\_\_\_ The U.S. gave Cubans complete control of their own country after the Spanish-American War.
- 1.46** \_\_\_\_\_ Batista and Fidel Castro were both Cuban dictators.

Fidel Castro set up a communist government in Cuba. A communist government takes all the businesses and land away from the people. The government owns everything, and the people work only for the government. Communists also teach that there is no God. They often put people in prison for believing in God. Communist governments do not allow the people the freedom to choose their officials, speak freely, run their own businesses, or worship God. This is the government that Cuba has had since 1959.

After World War II (1939-1945), the United States led the free countries of the world in trying to stop communism. The many communist countries wanted to take over all the nations of the world. The United States used its power and strength to make sure that did not happen. But America has never been able to get rid of the communists in Cuba that stole all the American businesses and land there. Cuba and the United States have never trusted each other since Fidel Castro became dictator.

In 1962 the Soviet Union, the most powerful communist country, tried to put missiles in Cuba to threaten the United States. The American president



| Soviet missile on Cuban launcher

ordered the navy to **blockade** Cuba to stop the missiles from being delivered. Many people thought the Soviets and the Americans would go to war over the missiles. Instead, the two sides made an agreement. The Soviets promised not to put the missiles in Cuba, and America promised not to attack Cuba.



| Poor neighborhood in Cuba

By 1990 communism was almost completely gone in most countries. Most people realized what a poor kind of government it was and revolted against it. Only a few countries today are still communist. Cuba is one of them.

Communist countries are usually very poor, because governments do not run farms and businesses as well as individuals can. The Soviet Union used to give Cuba a great deal of money before 1990 to help keep the communist government strong. After 1991 Russia (the biggest part of the Soviet Union) stopped giving Cuba money, and Cubans soon began having serious problems. They did not have enough food, clothing, or even school supplies.

Things were so bad by 1994 that many people built boats and tried to escape from Cuba. Many came to the United States, which had always welcomed people fleeing from Fidel Castro's Cuba. But so many people were coming that President Bill Clinton refused to take them, and instead sent them back to Cuba.

Cuba is trying to give the people some land and businesses of their own to help the country survive better, but change is coming very slowly. There is still no toleration of people who speak out in opposition to official policy.



### Check the statements that are true of a communist government.

- 1.47 \_\_\_\_\_ They are usually rich.
- 1.48 \_\_\_\_\_ People are not allowed to own businesses and land.
- 1.49 \_\_\_\_\_ The government owns everything.
- 1.50 \_\_\_\_\_ The government teaches people to believe in God.

**1.51** \_\_\_\_\_ People choose the government officials.

**1.52** \_\_\_\_\_ People are allowed to speak freely if they do not like the government.



**Answer these questions.**

**1.53** What country led in trying to stop communism after World War II?

\_\_\_\_\_

**1.54** What did the Soviet Union do in 1962 that made the U.S. blockade Cuba?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1.55** What happened to communism around 1990?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1.56** What help did the Soviet Union give Cuba before 1991?

\_\_\_\_\_

**1.57** What did many of the people of Cuba do beginning in 1994 when things became so bad there?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Life in Cuba

The people of Cuba come from three different groups. The largest group is the descendants of the Spanish settlers who came to Cuba. The smallest group is the descendants of the black African slaves who were brought in to do the work. The middle-sized group is a mix of Spanish and African. The communist government has succeeded in seeing that the three different groups have the same opportunities and are treated alike.

Before “the Revolution” which brought Fidel Castro to power, most of the people of

Cuba were Roman Catholic. Roman Catholicism is the religion of Spain and became the religion of all of her colonies. After the Revolution, the government began to **persecute** those who believed in religion. People who are Christians often are not allowed to have jobs. Believing in Jesus is a very difficult decision in Cuba, because it makes the believer's life very hard. Today only about one in three Cuban people are Roman Catholic, and only one in a hundred are Protestant.

The communist government has done a good job of giving the people a basic education. All children are required to attend school from age six to age twelve. The schooling is free. Nearly everyone can read and write.

Reading is very popular in Cuba. The people especially like to read anything that comes from outside of Cuba. The government does not like Cubans to read about life in other countries, since the government tells the people many lies about how wonderful life in Cuba is. The government does not want the people to read the truth in books and magazines from outside the country. This kind of control over what people are allowed to read is called *censorship*. It is always done in communist countries.



| Reading is popular in Cuba.

The people in Cuba know their government is lying, but to say so or try to change things gets people into trouble. They might even be jailed for being *counter-revolutionaries*, persons who oppose the Revolution that made Fidel Castro dictator. So most of the people say nothing and pretend to agree with the government. Every year, a few who are brave enough to ask for changes are killed or put in jail.

Communism claims to make everyone equal. In fact, the people who are important in the government get special treatment. They get better houses and food. They can shop at special stores that import well-made goods from other countries. Ordinary Cuban people get into trouble if they even try to shop at the special stores.

Most Cuban people must stand in long lines to buy everything. They wait in line at the bread store, at the milk store, and at the meat store. Many foods and goods, such as clothes or shoes, are **rationed**. For example, a person might be allowed to buy only one



pair of shoes a year. This allows even the poorest people to get a share of the food and goods. However, stores will often run out of food or shoes before all the people have bought what they are allowed to buy. Communism never has enough for everyone.

Things that are made in a communist country are usually not very well-made. Shoes, for example, fall apart quickly. In the United States, if a shoe factory made poor quality shoes, no one would buy them, and the shoe factory would then go out of business. So, to stay in business, American factories work to make good shoes, fire workers that do poor work, and pay more money to their better workers.

In Cuba though, all the shoes are made in government shoe factories. No one can be fired; and since people who work better are not paid more, everyone does only the work they must do, and no one cares about doing good-quality work. So, the shoes, clothes, and other goods made in Cuba are of poor quality. They cannot be sold in other countries, because no one would buy them. This helps keep Cuba's economy poor.

Most of the farms in Cuba are owned by the government. The people who raise the crops are paid a salary. They make the same amount of money no matter how well they work or how much money is made selling the crops. A few farms in Cuba are still owned by individual people. However, these farmers are required to sell their crops to the government at whatever price the government decides to pay, so even the farmers who own their land really work for the government.

Houses and apartments are also built by the government. There are not enough of those for everyone, either. Many families must share houses or apartments. In the countryside, the people often live in houses with thatch roofs, because better housing is not available.

In spite of all this, Cuban people love their country. It is their home. They also love music and sports. Cuban music is very lively. Much of it comes from African and Spanish **rhythms**. Baseball, basketball, and track and field events are very popular. Even in a communist dictatorship, people still find ways to enjoy life.



| Tobacco farmer.

**Match these items.**

- |             |                             |   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>1.58</b> | _____ censorship            | a. largest group of people                    |
| <b>1.59</b> | _____ counter-revolutionary | b. religion of all Spanish colonies           |
| <b>1.60</b> | _____ Roman Catholic        | c. tries to change things in Cuba             |
| <b>1.61</b> | _____ Spanish               | d. smallest group of people                   |
| <b>1.62</b> | _____ African               | e. not allowing people to read what they want |
| <b>1.63</b> | _____ mixed Spanish/African | f. middle-sized group of people               |

**Answer these questions.**

- 1.64** Why aren't shoes well-made in Cuba? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.65** Are all people equal in Cuba? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.66** Is it easy to be a Christian in Cuba? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.67** Name three of the things Cuban people enjoy. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Fidel Castro is still the most important man in Cuba. Like many dictators, he created a *personality cult* about himself. This means that he expected the Cuban people to worship him almost as if he were a god. The newspapers had pictures of all his visits around the country. His speeches were always printed in the newspapers and broadcast on television or radio.

People came and cheered when he spoke. Everyone was to act as if they thought he was great and wonderful. Anyone who did not like Fidel Castro, and said so, might have ended up in jail!

Fidel Castro believed that free governments should be attacked by revolutionary armies and destroyed. He thinks that all governments should be communist like his. Many, many times Cuban soldiers have been sent to other countries to help fight with communist rebels. Cuban soldiers have fought against non-communist groups in Angola, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua. Since the fall of communism in Europe however, Russia has stopped paying for these soldiers, and most have come home.

Fidel Castro expected his people to love the Revolution and to support communism no matter what. When Cuba lost the extra money from Russia, food, gasoline, and clothes became more difficult to get. Instead of trying new ways to get more, Fidel Castro told the people to do the best they could with less and be proud of their government, which would never stop being communist. **Slogans** telling people to support the Revolution are everywhere in Cuba.

Raúl Castro, Fidel's brother, assumed the office of President in a temporary transfer of power due to Fidel Castro's illness on July 31, 2006. The First Vice President assumes presidential duties upon the illness or death of the president according to the Cuban Constitution. Then on February 24, 2008 Raúl Castro was elected President at the National Assembly. This took place because Fidel Castro announced his intention not to stand for President again earlier that month. Only communists can run in the elections and Fidel was the only one who could run for president until he stepped aside for his brother. Raúl was also elected First Secretary of the Communist Party at its Sixth Congress on April 19, 2011, after having served as Second Secretary behind his brother for 46 years. Although Raúl is officially in power it is not known how this will change life for the people of Cuba.



| Fidel Castro with rebel soldiers 1959.

**Do this activity.**

- 1.68** Using an atlas, globe, encyclopedia, or online resources name the continent on which each of these countries is located.
- a. Angola \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Ethiopia \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Nicaragua \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete these sentences.**

- 1.69** \_\_\_\_\_ is still the most important man in Cuba.
- 1.70** Fidel Castro believes that all governments should be \_\_\_\_\_ like his.
- 1.71** Many times Fidel Castro sent \_\_\_\_\_ to fight for communist groups in other parts of the world.
- 1.72** Fidel Castro expected the Cuban people to \_\_\_\_\_ communism.
- 1.73** Only \_\_\_\_\_ can run for elections in Cuba.



**Review the material in this section to prepare for the Self Test.** The Self Test will check your understanding of this section. Any items you miss on this test will show you what areas you will need to restudy in order to prepare for the unit test.

## SELF TEST 1

Choose the correct word from the list to complete each sentence (2 points each answer).

islet	volcano	lagoon	coral reef
communist	archipelago	tropical	censorship
barrier	sea		

- 1.01** Cuba has a \_\_\_\_\_ government.
- 1.02** A \_\_\_\_\_ climate is found near the equator.
- 1.03** A \_\_\_\_\_ is built up by the skeletons of small sea animals.
- 1.04** \_\_\_\_\_ prevents people from reading things the government does not want them to read.
- 1.05** A \_\_\_\_\_ is a mountain made when melted rock comes up from the center of the earth.
- 1.06** An \_\_\_\_\_ is a group of islands.
- 1.07** An \_\_\_\_\_ is a very small island.
- 1.08** A \_\_\_\_\_ is a piece of the ocean that is partly surrounded by land.
- 1.09** A \_\_\_\_\_ island is made when waves and currents pile up dirt beside the coast.
- 1.010** A \_\_\_\_\_ is the water in the center of an atoll.

Write *true* or *false* on the line (1 point each answer).

- 1.011** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuba has many minerals.
- 1.012** \_\_\_\_\_ Most of the land in Cuba is mountains.
- 1.013** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuba has fertile soil for crops.
- 1.014** \_\_\_\_\_ Batista was a Cuban priest who helped the Indians.
- 1.015** \_\_\_\_\_ Communism encourages people to believe in God.
- 1.016** \_\_\_\_\_ Communist countries are usually poor.

- 1.017** \_\_\_\_\_ The largest group of Cuban people are of African blood.
- 1.018** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuba does not have enough homes for everyone.
- 1.019** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuban soldiers have often fought in other countries.
- 1.020** \_\_\_\_\_ Very few Cubans can read and write.

**Match these items with the best description** (2 points each answer).

- |              |                                    |  |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>1.021</b> | _____ Hawaii                       | a. sea south of Cuba                       |
| <b>1.022</b> | _____ Great Britain                | b. Maryland barrier island                 |
| <b>1.023</b> | _____ Greenland                    | c. volcanic islands                        |
| <b>1.024</b> | _____ Indonesia                    | d. island, east coast of Africa            |
| <b>1.025</b> | _____ Cuba                         | e. island, once part of European continent |
| <b>1.026</b> | _____ Assateague National Seashore | f. capital of Cuba                         |
| <b>1.027</b> | _____ Madagascar                   | g. island, just south of Cuba              |
| <b>1.028</b> | _____ Caribbean                    | h. Pearl of the Antilles                   |
| <b>1.029</b> | _____ Havana                       | i. nation with over 13,600 islands         |
| <b>1.030</b> | _____ Isle of Youth                | j. largest island in the world             |

**Put the correct answer in the blank** (3 points each answer).

- 1.031** \_\_\_\_\_ was the dictator of Cuba for many years.
- 1.032** The continent closest to Cuba is \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.033** August to October is dangerous because it is the \_\_\_\_\_ season in the Atlantic Ocean.
- 1.034** \_\_\_\_\_ was the European man who discovered Cuba.
- 1.035** Cuba was a colony of the country of \_\_\_\_\_ for many years.
- 1.036** Right before the Revolution, most of the land and businesses in Cuba were owned by people from the country of \_\_\_\_\_ .



- 1.037** People from the continent of \_\_\_\_\_ were the first to explore and map the earth.
- 1.038** \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest island in the West Indies.
- 1.039** \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important crop in Cuba.
- 1.040** \_\_\_\_\_, used to make cigars, is the second most important crop in Cuba.

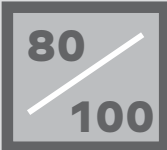


**Teacher check:**

Score \_\_\_\_\_

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





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