

Name: _____ Date: _____

Chapter 15: Federative Republic of Brazil

Quick Notes



Section 1: Geography of Brazil

➤ Essential Question:

- How does the location and climate of Brazil determine where people live?

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Section 1: Geography of Brazil

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- Tropic of Capricorn
- tributaries
- contiguous
- brazilwood
- deforestation

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Location and Size of Brazil

- Brazil is located on the eastern side of South America along the coast of the Atlantic and is crossed by the Equator.
- It is also crossed by the **Tropic of Capricorn**, which is the latitude 23.5° south of the Equator and is the southernmost latitude reached by the sun.
- Brazil shares a border with nearly every country in South America and is home to much of the Amazon River and its **tributaries** (streams that flow into larger streams or rivers).
- Brazil is the largest country in Latin America in both land area and population, with its land area slightly larger than that of the **contiguous** United States.
 - However, the population of Brazil is about one-third less than that of the United States.
- Proximity to the Atlantic Ocean and Panama Canal give Brazil access to major shipping lanes, which help it trade its exports.
- Tourists are attracted to Brazil because of its rare flora and fauna as well as the amazing landscape.

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Physical Geography of Brazil

- The northern part of Brazil's geography is dominated by the Amazon Basin, which gets over 100 inches of rain a year, has dense rainforests, and houses the Amazon River and its tributaries.
- The Amazon River is the second-longest river in the world at roughly 4,000 miles long.
 - About 20% of the world's fresh water flows to the Amazon and empties into the Atlantic Ocean.
- The Brazilian highlands make up most of the southern part of the continent, with an elevation at roughly 3,300 feet on average.
 - This region is rich in mineral deposits and is famous for its coffee.
- The coastal lowlands along are a thin strip along the Atlantic, with many harbors and large cities in this region.

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Climate of Brazil

- Its location crossing the Equator and Tropic of Capricorn means that most of Brazil has a humid tropical and subtropical climate.
 - There is little change in temperature year-round in the rainforest region.
- Temperatures range from 100° F in the summers to roughly 70° F in the winter.
- Brazilians typically get 55 inches of rain a year, with drier zones in the north getting maybe 15 inches and some areas in the Amazon getting over 180 inches.
 - The rain and temperatures make for a humid climate in most of the country, though snow is occasionally seen at high elevations during the winter in the south.

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Natural Resources of Brazil

- Only 7% of Brazil's land is arable, but Brazil makes the most of this resource.
 - Twenty percent of Brazil's workers are farmers, and the tropical climate allows for a longer growing season.
 - They produce one-third of the world's coffee and lead the world in producing oranges, papayas, and sugarcane.
 - Soybeans and their products are also important for trade.
- Iron ore, as well as other minerals such as bauxite, gold, nickel, and platinum, are found and exported from Brazil.
- Brazilians use their many rivers to create a hydroelectric energy source.
- Timber has always been an important resource since Europeans came to the Americas.
 - Brazilwood, during colonial times, was harvested and used to make crimson and purple dyes.
 - Now, pine and eucalyptus are the two main trees used in the industry.

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Environmental Issues of Brazil

- The Amazon Rain Forest is home to more than 40,000 different kinds of plants and thousands of types of animals, with new species discovered each year.
- The rain forests also produce nuts, cocoa, and rubber, certain plants have been found that can produce drugs for treating diseases, and timber can be exported.
- The rain forest also produces valuable oxygen, and it is estimated that 20% of the world's oxygen is produced here.
- The Amazon Rain Forest is also home to many indigenous populations that depend on the forest, and they maintain their traditional ways of life in seclusion.
- Many who live in poverty clear the forest and sell the timber to make money to support their family.
 - This deforestation of the forest, while clearing land can then be used to start ranches and farms, can also put the flora, fauna, indigenous people, and oxygen production at risk, as well as causing erosion.
 - The government has made laws to stop this, but people still do it anyway.

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People in Brazil

- Most Brazilians live along the eastern coastal areas of the country, with the southeastern coast more heavily populated than the northeastern coast.
 - 80% of the people live within 200 miles of the ocean.
- City life can be crowded, with the area of Rio de Janeiro between the Atlantic shore and the nearby mountains containing more than 12 million people.
- About 30% of Brazil's people work in health care, education, or government jobs, with another 30% in businesses like transportation, communications, and trade.
- Brazilians mostly have European, African, Asian, or indigenous ancestry, most speak Brazilian Portuguese, and most practice Roman Catholic Christianity.
- The level of poverty in the country has decreased in the country, the divide between urban and rural areas is growing, with rural areas struggling for education and health care while urban areas become more wealthy.

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The Amazing Importance of Amazonia

- The Amazon River basin and surrounding rain forest form one of the unique ecosystems of the world, with millions of different species.
- The rain forest cleans the air, filtering out CO2 from industry as well as animals, but when trees are cut, it puts a strain on this process.
- Water released by the forest into the atmosphere and rivers affects ocean currents and precipitation levels.
 - Some areas of the forest that have been cleared of trees have become desert-like because of the sun drying out the soil.
- Treatments for many medical problems can be found in the rain forest.
 - Their sources are toxic when raw, but they become usable through refinement.

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Section 2: A Brief History of Brazil

- Essential Question:
 - What was Portugal's colonization of Brazil like?

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Section 2: A Brief History of Brazil

- What terms do I need to know?
 - Treaty of Tordesillas
 - coup

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Exploration and Colonization

- In 1500, Pedro Álvares Cabral arrived in present-day Brazil.
- Portugal's early goal for the colony was to harvest brazilwood, or paubrasilia, which is both the source of red dye and the colony's name.
- Plantations were made, tobacco and sugar cane were grown, and the Portuguese began enslaving Africans.
- Most Europeans settled along the coast, with only a few braving the forest.
- The Portuguese defended Brazil's natural resources from foreign powers for hundreds of years.
 - A 1493 papal bull, or official decree of the pope, as well as the 1494 **Treaty of Tordesillas** settled land disputes.
- By the end of the 17th century, emeralds, diamonds, and gold were found in Brazil, with 30,000 pounds of gold exported to Portugal each year.
- By the 18th century, Brazil had fought off invasions and established its current borders, but its policies were more focused on exports than on governing.

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Independence, Empire, and Dictators

- The Portuguese royal family fled to Brazil when Napoleon was conquering much of Europe.
- They began building universities, a bank, and a mint, ports were opened to trade with mainly England, and morale improved in Brazil.
 - After Napoleon's fall, the king returned to Portugal, leaving his son in Brazil to govern.
- However, his son, Pedro I, proclaimed Brazil's independence on September 7, 1822, and, after nine years of unrest and wars, the emperor stepped down, leaving his son, Pedro II, on the throne.
- After the monarchy abolished slavery in 1888, angry landowners and the military abolished the monarchy, forcing them back to Portugal.

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Independence, Empire, and Dictators (cont.)

- Brazil's first republican government was established on November 15, 1889, with a series of weak presidents serving during a period called the Old Republic.
 - Real power and decisions came from coffee and rubber makers.
- Between the 1930s and the 1950s, Brazil experienced a period of political instability, including a military **coup** (sudden overthrow of a government by the country's military leaders or another small, powerful group) and a dictatorship.
- After President Juscelino Kubitschek de Oliveira, considered the father of modern Brazil, another period of coups, dictatorships, and military rule occurred.
- After many setbacks in implementing a lasting civilian-controlled government, the government has finally established stability within the last 10 years.

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The 2016 Summer Olympics

- In August of 2016, Brazil hosted the Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.
 - This was the first time a South American country hosted the Olympics.
- With only 7 years of preparation, Brazil built new stadiums, dormitories, and other facilities to host athletes, news media, and spectators.
 - They also built 16 new event sights and updated 8 others.
- Brazilians had some setbacks and concerns, including construction delays and accidents, the Zika virus and trying to reduce the populations of mosquitos that spread it, and increased security to keep an eye on crime and protect the guests to the country.
- The games were a huge success, drawing thousands to attend the games and millions watching live on television or the Internet.
 - Brazil received international praise for their efforts.

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Section 3: Government of Brazil

- Essential Question:
 - What role do citizens have in choosing their leaders?

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Section 3: Government of Brazil

- What terms do I need to know?
 - federal government
 - presidential democracy
 - National Congress

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Structure of Government

- Brazil has a **federal government**, like the United States, which means power is divided between the central government and the state and local governments.
- The country is also a **presidential democracy**, which means the citizens directly elect the president.
- The president is the leader of the executive branch of government, is both chief of state and head of government, and is responsible for decision-making and day-to-day running of government business.
- Ministers, appointed by the president, are responsible for certain areas of the government.
- The legislative branch of government is run by the National Congress, in which citizens directly elect members of the legislature that are divided into two houses.

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Citizen Participation

- Citizens of Brazil have many freedoms, and they have the right to vote.
- Men and women 16 or 17 may choose to vote, but citizens 18 to 70 are required by law to vote.
 - Those over 70 may choose to vote.
- There are many political parties, with some trying to attract followers based on how they plan to make Brazil better and others by organizing themselves around popular people.

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Section 4: Economy of Brazil

- Essential Question:
 - How do Brazilians trade to meet their needs and wants?

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Section 4: Economy of Brazil

- What terms do I need to know?
 - self-sufficient
 - voluntary trade
 - national debt
 - austerity
 - Bolsa Família
 - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)
 - Brazilian real

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Economic System Today

- In Brazil, a market system is in place for most businesses and farms.
 - The government does own some large industries such as steel production.
- Private companies are in charge of setting their own prices.
- Being an entrepreneur is also an option for citizens in Brazil.
 - These citizens can make their own decisions for what to produce, how to produce it, and what their market is.
- Brazil has many economic freedoms, making it one of the strongest economically in Latin America.

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Trade

- Most countries do not have the resources they need to be **self-sufficient**, or the ability to exist without outside help.
 - To remedy this, countries import and export natural resources with other countries.
- Brazil's industries include textiles, shoes, steel, motor vehicle parts, and other machinery and equipment.
 - To produce many of these, Brazil must import many smaller products like small automotive parts, oil, and electrical parts.
- Since each country is getting what it needs, it is called **voluntary trade**.
- Brazil trades all over the world, and its main exports are iron ore, soybeans, crude petroleum, sugar, and coffee.
 - Its major imports are petroleum products, automobiles, automobile parts, electrical equipment, chemical products, and electronics.

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Standard of Living

- Brazil has well-developed agricultural, mining, manufacturing, and service sectors, and a rapidly expanding middle class.
- Since 2003, Brazil has been improving its economic stability and reducing its **national debt** (total outstanding borrowings of the country's government).
- Brazil was one of the first markets to recover after the global financial crisis of 2008.
- The government has tried to increase economic growth through tax cuts for industry and incentives to increase household consumption.
- In 2014, the president introduced an **austerity**, or extreme economy, package to help reduce the amount of money the country needed to operate.

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Investment in Human Capital

- Brazil is aiming to strengthen its workforce and economy by investing in education through social programs and by investing in research in space, nanotechnology, health care, and energy.
- **Bolsa Familia**, a social program, reaches 11 million low-income families.
 - Poor families with children receive money from the government, and, in return, they agree to keep their children in school and have them get regular health checks.
 - This has reduced poverty and encouraged families to invest in their children's futures.
- The Brazil Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP) provides scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students from Brazil attending colleges or universities in the United States.
 - Scholarships are awarded to students in the **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)** fields.

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Currency

- The **Brazilian real** was introduced in 1994 to help the declining value of the Brazilian currency.
- The Central Bank of Brazil was in charge of monitoring the rates with international exchange rates, especially the US dollar.
- After several international influences, including the breakup of the Soviet Union, the new currency suffered, but the real has since settled out and exchanges at a similar rate to the US dollar.

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Section 5: U.S.-Brazil Relations

- Essential question:
 - What are some ways in which Brazil and the United States work together?

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Section 5: U.S.-Brazil Relations

- What terms do I need to know?
 - bilateral

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Bilateral Political and Economic Relations

- The United States and Brazil have enjoyed a long history of positive political and economic relations.
- As the two largest democracies and economies in the western hemisphere, the two have a commitment to expand economic growth, promote peace and security, show respect for human rights, and strengthen defense and security.
 - Since 2011, the two countries have signed more than 25 **bilateral** (involving two sides) agreements.
- Both countries have created many ways to expand prosperity in both countries, including the promotion of common positions on global issues, exploration of cooperation of economic and trade issues, and development of ways to eliminate barriers to trade and investment.
 - They also work together to strengthen energy security, create new jobs and industries, and reduce carbon emissions.

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Trade and Tourism

- Brazil is the world's 7th largest economy and one of the United States' largest trading partners, and the United States is Brazil's second-largest export market.
- Brazilian tourism is at an all-time high, making up the fifth-largest group of foreign visitors to the United States.
 - The United States welcomed 2.3 million visitors from Brazil in 2014.
- Georgia and Brazil have important trade relationships.
 - In 2014, Atlanta's Mayor Kasim Reed led a trade mission to Brazil, and in 2015, Governor Nathan Deal led a group to promote investment, trade, tourism opportunities.
- Exports totaling close to \$1.4 billion from Georgia were sent to Brazil in 2014, including insecticides, aircraft parts, wood pulp, and medical instruments.

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