



South America Explored

Write an informational essay about a South American country.
Use the 5 Themes of Geography to guide your research.

Use the checklist below to help you during the writing process.

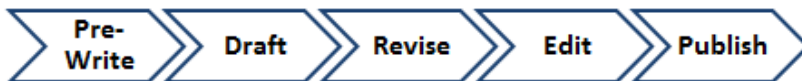
CHECKLIST:

- _____ Did I clearly introduce the topic within the first paragraph? Do I have a clear thesis?
- _____ Do I have a clear organizational structure?
- _____ Did I include relevant facts, concrete examples, quotations, and/or other interesting information and examples to fully describe this country (5 Themes)?
- _____ Did I use precise language and specific vocabulary to explain this topic?
- _____ Did I include a logical conclusion?
- _____ Did I expand, combine, and/or reduce sentences for meaning, interest, and style?
- _____ Did I include a bibliography citing sources used?
- _____ Did I publish my writing using technology?
- _____ Did I use the rubric to score my own paper?

Informational Writing

Points Possible	Requirement	Points Earned
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>IDEAS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I communicated the information, ideas, and concepts thoroughly and completely. <input type="checkbox"/> I included facts, definitions, specific details, quotations, or examples to better explain my topic. <input type="checkbox"/> I included only relevant information and have not included unnecessary details. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Organization</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There is a clear introduction, body, & conclusion. <input type="checkbox"/> I organized ideas, concepts and information in a logical manner (Examples: compare/contrast, sequence, classification, cause/effect). <input type="checkbox"/> I have formatted my writing using headings and subheadings. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Voice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I wrote in a formal style. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Word Choice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I used appropriate transitions to clarify the relationship among ideas. <input type="checkbox"/> I used essential/varied vocabulary to inform & make my writing interesting. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sentence Fluency</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> My writing sounds perfect when I read aloud. <input type="checkbox"/> I used different types of sentences throughout my writing. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Conventions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I used correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Presentation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The presentation of the text enhances the message. 	

Writing Process



Teacher Comments

Editing	✓	Date	Teacher / Student Conference	
Self-Edit: I have used the checklist/rubric to edit my work.			Yes	No
Peer-Edit: _____ used the checklist/rubric to edit my writing.			Teacher Initials	Date
			Revision Decision	