

Country Profile Assignment and Presentation Student Name: _____

Each student will be assigned a particular Latin American Country to research and profile for the class. Each student will write a 2-3 page report on the assigned country and will make a 10-15 minute presentation of this report to the class. The country profile must be based on reliable online sources or texts from the library. If you need help finding resources, please ask Mr. Vitale for help.

You may chose from among the following nations/territories for this project:

Mexico Guatemala El Salvador Nicaragua Costa Rica
Honduras Panama Cuba Dominican Republic Puerto Rico USA

Your report and subsequent presentation should include a brief discussion of the country's:

- 1) geography
- 2) demographics (population characteristics)
- 3) society (include religion)
- 4) economy (include major industry/products)
- 5) politics. (Political parties, government structure)
- 6) Explore a contemporary issue/problem for that nation/territory.

The written report is due on the Friday 9/20. Your in-class presentation will be scheduled over the 1st Quarter. This assignment is worth 25% of your Quarterly grade. Your grade is evenly divided between the written report and the oral presentation. The written report will be graded on the basis of balanced treatment of each of the sections listed above (geography, demography, society, economy, politics, and a contemporary issue), coherent organization, and proper grammatical expression and organizational structure. The oral presentation will be graded on the basis of confidence of presentation, clarity of expression, and informed response to follow-up questions. A grading rubric is attached below.

Category	Scoring Criteria	Total Points	Score
Organization (15 points)	The type of presentation is appropriate for the topic and audience.	5	
	Information is presented in a logical sequence.	5	
	Presentation appropriately cites requisite number of references.	5	
Content (45 points)	Introduction is attention-getting, lays out the problem well, and establishes a framework for the rest of the presentation.	5	
	Technical terms are well-defined in language appropriate for the target audience.	5	
	Presentation contains accurate information.	10	
	Material included is relevant to the overall message/purpose.	10	
	Appropriate amount of material is prepared, and points made reflect well their relative importance.	10	
	There is an obvious conclusion.	5	
Presentation (40 points)	Speaker maintains good eye contact with the audience and is appropriately animated (e.g., gestures, moving around, etc.).	5	
	Speaker uses a clear, audible voice.	5	
	Delivery is poised, controlled, and smooth.	5	
	Good language skills and pronunciation are used.	5	
	Visual aids are well prepared, informative, effective, and not distracting.	5	
	Length of presentation is within the assigned time limits.	5	
	Information was well communicated.	10	
Score	Total Points	100	