

Exploring South America: A Geographical Journey

Learning objective: To describe and explain the diverse physical and human geographical features of the South American continent.

Use this scaffold to construct a report about South America. Remember to use formal geographical vocabulary, include specific examples of biomes or landmarks, and ensure your paragraphs flow logically using the connectives provided.

South America is a continent of immense geographical variety, stretching from the frozen landscapes of the south to the lush, equatorial rainforests of the north.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in contrast · biodiversity · equatorial · tributary · urbanisation · predominantly · significant · on the other hand

1. Introduction: Define the location of South America and identify its surrounding oceans. Sentence starter: Situated between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, South America... (2 marks)

2. Physical Geography: Describe the climate and key physical features such as the Amazon Rainforest or the Andes Mountains. Sentence starter: The continent is home to remarkable physical features, most notably... (3 marks)

3. Human Geography: Explain how people live in South America, mentioning cities or traditional farming methods. Sentence starter: In terms of human geography, the population is distributed... (3 marks)

4. Compare and Contrast: Compare the environment of the Amazon basin with the dry Atacama Desert. Sentence starter: When comparing these two distinct regions, it is evident that... (4 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Why is the conservation of the rainforest important for the global climate? Sentence starter: Protecting the Amazon is vital because... (4 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise what makes South America a unique continent. Sentence starter: In conclusion, South America remains a continent of... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a researcher accompanying Finn the dolphin on an expedition along the Amazon River. Write a diary entry describing one geographical discovery you made, explaining why it is significant to the local ecosystem. What might happen to the wildlife if the river levels were to significantly change?