

NICARAGUA

Directions

Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

Contest 1: Land and Climate

1. Nicaragua ranks (<u>first</u> ; <u>fourth</u>) in land area in Central America. 10 _____	2. Nicaragua extends from the Pacific Ocean in the west to the (<u>Gulf of Mexico</u> ; <u>Caribbean Sea</u>) in the east. 10 _____	3. About 60 percent of the people live in the Pacific Region, a fertile (<u>lowland</u> ; <u>highland</u>) area. 10 _____
4. Nicaragua has several volcanoes, (<u>some</u> ; <u>none</u>) of which are active. 20 _____	5. Managua and Nicaragua are the names of two of the country's (<u>largest lakes</u> ; <u>longest rivers</u>). 20 _____	6. The largest cities and many large farms are in the (<u>Pacific Region</u> ; <u>Central Highlands</u>). 20 _____
7. Most of the rivers have their source in the (<u>Caribbean Region</u> ; <u>Central Highlands</u>). 30 _____	8. Nicaragua has a (<u>temperate</u> ; <u>tropical</u>) climate, meaning it is warm with plentiful rainfall throughout the year. 30 _____	9. Year-round temperatures average about 80 degrees, except in the highlands where it is (<u>cooler</u> ; <u>hotter</u>). 30 _____

Total Points Scored

Directions

Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

Contest 2: The People		
1. The majority of Nicaraguans are (<u>creoles</u> ; <u>mestizos</u>), people with white and Indian ancestors. 10 _____	2. Most people in Nicaragua belong to the (<u>Protestant</u> ; <u>Roman Catholic</u>) Church. 10 _____	3. Some Indians still speak their own traditional languages, but most Nicaraguans speak (<u>Portuguese</u> ; <u>Spanish</u>). 10 _____
4. Several black and mixed Indian-black communities largely follow (<u>black</u> ; <u>Indian</u>) customs and traditions. 20 _____	5. One out of every three people in the country are (<u>factory workers</u> ; <u>poor farmers</u>). 20 _____	6. Before 1980, only about (<u>half</u> ; <u>three-fourths</u>) of the children went to school because many rural areas had no schools. 20 _____
7. In recent years, hundreds of schools have been built in (<u>rural</u> ; <u>urban</u>) areas, and the literacy rate has risen. 30 _____	8. Like other Latin American nations, Nicaragua's population has been (<u>declining</u> ; <u>increasing rapidly</u>). 30 _____	9. Eight cities have more than 20,000 people. (<u>Managua</u> ; <u>Granada</u>) is the capital and largest city. 30 _____
Total Points Scored <input type="text"/>		

Directions

Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

Contest 3: The Economy		
1. Nicaragua's chief natural resource is its rich soil, which comes from <u>(chemical fertilizers; ash from volcanoes)</u> . 10 _____	2. <u>(Farming; Manufacturing)</u> is the leading economic activity. 10 _____	3. Nicaragua has some deposits of copper, gold, and silver. Mining provides a <u>(small; large)</u> part of the nation's income. 10 _____
4. In the 1980s, the government took control of the nation's mines and forests. Before then, they were mostly owned by <u>(the Church; foreign companies)</u> . 20 _____	5. <u>(Many; Few)</u> streams in the Central Highlands are being used to produce cheap hydroelectric power. 20 _____	6. Exported farm products provide most of Nicaragua's income. The leading exports are <u>(bananas and rice; cotton and coffee)</u> . 20 _____
7. As in most Central American countries, the chief manufactured goods are <u>(food, clothing, and textiles; automobiles and appliances)</u> . 30 _____	8. Because many populated areas cannot be reached by automobile due to a lack of roads, people often use <u>(rail transportation; mules or oxcarts)</u> . 30 _____	9. Nicaragua has radio and television stations and a few newspapers. Government-operated postal, telegraph, and telephone systems serve <u>(urban and rural areas; mostly cities and towns)</u> . 30 _____
Total Points Scored <input type="text"/>		

Directions

Decide which one of the underlined choices in boxes 1-9 below best completes each sentence. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Correct answers are worth either 10, 20, or 30 points.

Contest 4: History and Government		
1. In 1502, (<u>Hernando Cortes</u> ; <u>Christopher Columbus</u>) claimed the land that is now Nicaragua for Spain. 10 _____	2. The Spaniards named Nicaragua for an Indian chief and his (<u>wife</u> ; <u>tribe</u>) – both called Nicarao. 10 _____	3. The way of life of the Indians of Nicaragua (<u>eventually blended</u> ; <u>never mixed</u>) with Spanish customs and traditions. 10 _____
4. Many of the Nicarao Indians (<u>resisted joining</u> ; <u>were baptized into</u>) the Roman Catholic Church. 20 _____	5. The Indians worked on the Spaniards' farms and in their (<u>factories</u> ; <u>mines</u>). 20 _____	6. In (<u>1576</u> ; <u>1821</u>), Nicaragua and other Central American states declared their independence from Spain. 20 _____
7. In 1911, U.S. banks began lending money to Nicaragua. U.S. (<u>marines</u> ; <u>bankers</u>) spent the next 21 years there to protect United States interests and supervise elections. 30 _____	8. A civil war between the Sandinistas and U.S.-backed contras ended with a cease-fire and free elections. The U.S. had accused the Sandinistas of setting up (<u>a Communist dictatorship</u> ; <u>a republic</u>). 30 _____	9. An elected president heads the government of Nicaragua. Laws are made by the (<u>National Assembly</u> ; <u>Parliament</u>). 30 _____
Total Points Scored <input type="text"/>		

Nicaragua

Multiple-Choice

- (1) ____ More than half of the people in Nicaragua live in the country's Pacific Region because it:
(a) is cooler there (b) has many roads and railroads (c) is a fertile lowland
- (2) ____ The climate of Nicaragua is characterized by: (a) cool temperatures and plentiful rainfall
(b) warm temperatures and little rain (c) warm temperatures and plentiful rainfall
- (3) ____ The vast majority of Nicaraguans speak: (a) traditional tribal languages (b) Spanish
(c) French or Portuguese
- (4) ____ Before 1980, few children attended school in: (a) cities (b) towns (c) rural areas
- (5) ____ Like other Latin American countries, Nicaragua's: (a) trade with the U.S. has decreased
(b) economy is based on manufacturing (c) population is rising rapidly

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (6) ____ Pacific Region | (a) large lakes in Nicaragua |
| (7) ____ Nicarao | (b) civil war in Nicaragua |
| (8) ____ Central Highlands | (c) where many rivers begin |
| (9) ____ Sandinistas and contras | (d) gave the nation its name |
| (10) ____ Managua and Nicaragua | (e) where the largest cities are located |

Completion

- (11) The majority of Nicaraguans are _____, people of mixed white and Indian ancestry.
- (12) Most people belong to the _____ Church.
- (13) _____ is the capital and largest city.
- (14) Nicaragua's rich soil has gotten its fertility from the ash of _____.
- (15) In the early 1900s, marines from the _____ were stationed in Nicaragua in order to protect its financial interests and supervise elections.

True-False

- (16) _____ Nicaragua is the largest country in land area in Central America.
- (17) _____ At one time, Nicaragua's mines and forests were controlled by foreign-owned companies.
- (18) _____ The leading manufactured goods are automobiles and appliances.
- (19) _____ The government is headed by an absolute monarch.
- (20) _____ The literacy rate has risen in recent years with the construction of hundreds of new schools.