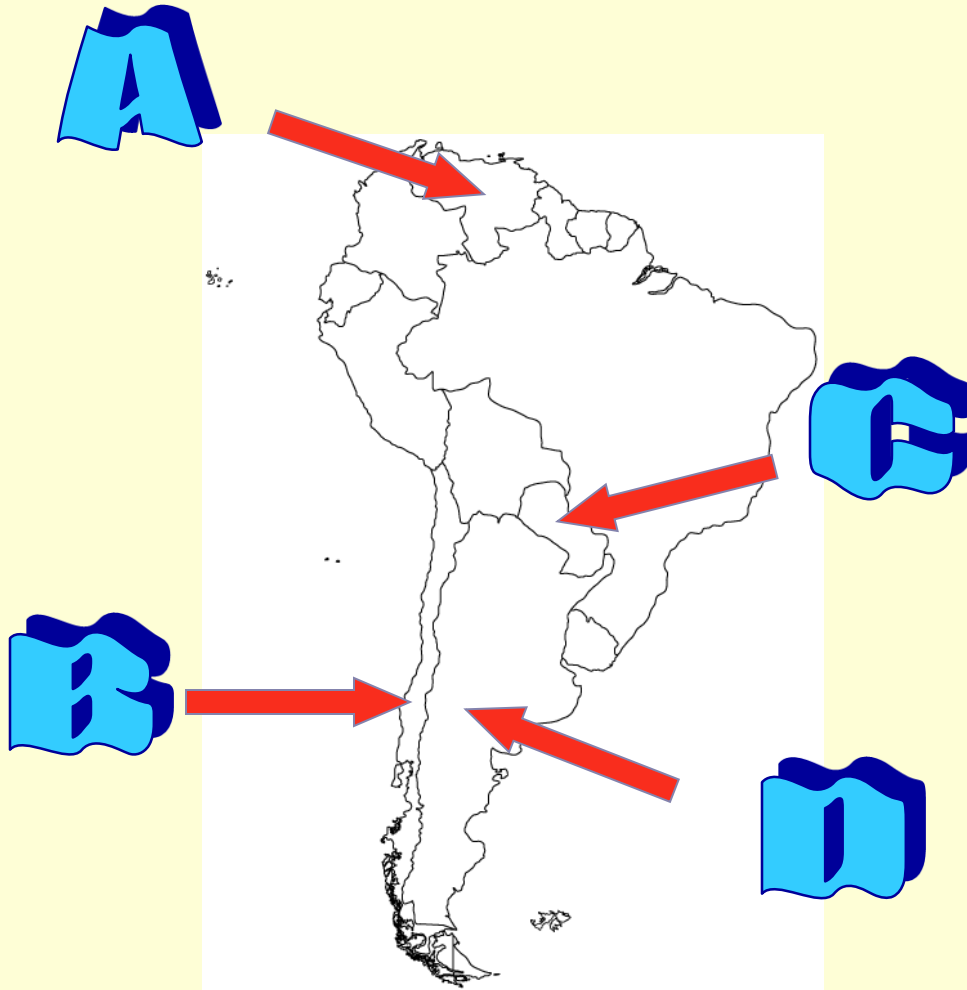


¿Cuánto sabes de...?

VENEZUELA



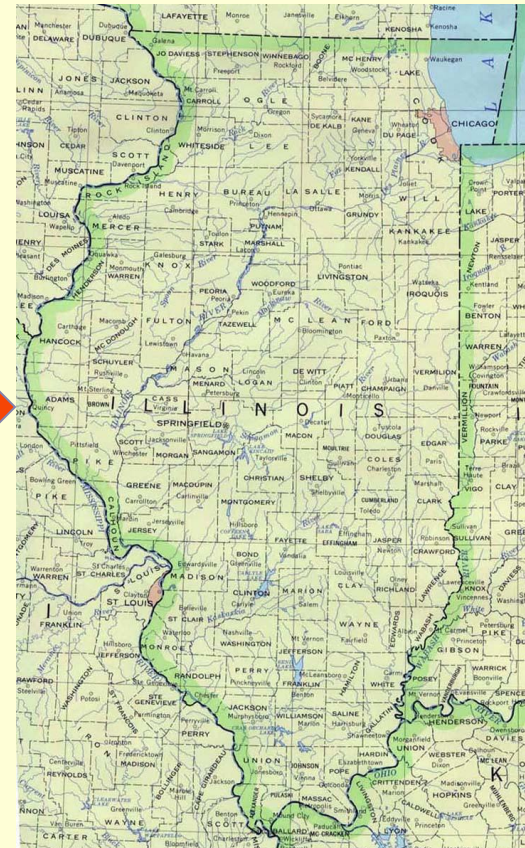
¿Dónde está Venezuela?



¿Dónde está Venezuela?



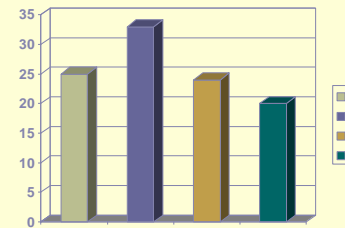
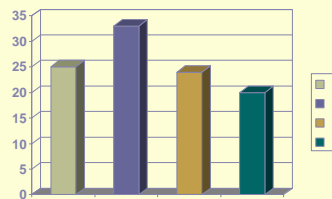
How large is Venezuela compared to Illinois?



Venezuela is more than 6 times larger than Illinois.



How large is Venezuela's population compared to that of Illinois?



*Venezuela's population is more than
two times larger.*

24.000.000

12.482.000

(2001 estimate)



What languages are spoken in Venezuela?

● Spanish – ~95%



(I knew that!!)

● Other languages – 5%

- *37 Indigenous languages*
Piarao, Warao, Wayuu
etc.
- *Portuguese*
- *Italian*
- *German*
- *English*

What is the capital city?

Caracas *(population 5 million)*





home to about 20% of all Venezuelanos!!





Reading tasks

- Now scan the cultural reading on pp. 416-417 for the answers to the following questions:
 - What is the unit of currency?
 - Who was Simón Bolívar?
 - How did Caracas become a cosmopolitan city?
 - Who was Teresa Carreño?
 - Why is **el Salto Angel** so famous?
- 



What is the unit of
currency?




El Bolívar




- During the economic boom of the 50's and 60's the bolivar was valued at 4.30 per US dollar.
- Because of a rising foreign debt in the 1980's, the Venezuelan government started to devalue the bolivar against the dollar. The most recent devaluation took place in March of 2004, bringing the bolivar to a record high of 1915 against the dollar.
- On the black market the exchange rate can be up to Bs. 3500 per dollar.





**Who was
Simón Bolívar?**



Simón Bolívar

<<el libertador>>

- Bolívar, Simón (1783-1830), South American revolutionary, military leader, and politician known as the Liberator for his leading role in the wars of Spanish American Independence. More than anyone else, Bolívar was responsible for the independence of five countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia.
- Despite his success in leading these nations to independence, Bolívar never achieved his goal of creating a federation of Spanish American nations, and he died an unpopular figure because of his attempts to establish strong central governments in the nations he led to independence. Today most Spanish Americans hold Bolívar in high regard for his role as a leader of independence.





How did Caracas become
a cosmopolitan city?



El Petrolio

- **Venezuela is important to world energy markets because it holds proven oil reserves of 77.8 billion barrels, including billions of barrels of extra-heavy oil and bitumen. Venezuela consistently ranks as one the top suppliers of U.S. oil imports and is among the top ten crude oil producers in the world.**
- **The petroleum industry is the mainstay for Venezuela's economy, accounting for more than three-quarters of total Venezuelan export revenues, about half of total government revenues, and about one-third of GDP.**





Who was Teresa
Carreño?



Teresa Carreño

Born in Venezuela, Teresa Carreño (1853-1917), pianist, composer, singer and teacher, spent most of her life in Europe and the United States. Musically there was little she could not do: her virtuosic piano technique and strength earned her the title The Walküre of the Piano; her operatic performances won critical acclaim; she was the cherished mentor of several outstanding talents; and she dared to compose in an era that was outwardly intolerant of women composers. She wrote mostly short pieces for the piano, most of which were written before her first marriage when she was only twenty. For further information, see "Women Composers: Music Through the Ages," volume VI and HPC #09603, #02042.





Why is el Salto Angel so famous?



El Salto Angel

In the western part of Canaima National Park, is the Auyantepuy, one of the largest and better known "tepuy" (A flat top mountain ending with vertical walls). From this tepuy is where the Angel falls are formed. The fall is 979 meters high (around 3000 ft.), and is the highest waterfall in the world.



El Salto Angel



VENEZUELA

un país para querer

