**The Caribbean Islands**

* Physical Characteristics
	+ Made up of three island groups
		- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* All of the islands are located in the tropics
* Greater Antilles are made up of Cuba, Jamaica, and Hispaniola
* Lesser Antilles are the other smaller islands
* Island formations
	+ The Greater Antilles are the tops of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that pushed up from the ocean
	+ These islands are rockier
	+ The flatter islands were made from dead animal remains called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ The soil in these islands cannot support agriculture
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Climate
	+ Because of the ocean winds, the islands stay cooler than other places in the tropics
	+ Rainfall can also be affected by the wind
	+ Sides of islands facing the wind receive abundant rainfall
	+ Sides of islands facing away from the wind receive little rainfall
* Ethnic Roots
	+ African Descent
	+ Millions of Africans were brought to islands as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Culture has been affected by this group
* Asian Immigrants
	+ Many immigrants came from Asia when slavery was abolished to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Caribbean Nations Today
	+ 90% of the population live in independent countries
	+ Other islands are politically controlled by other nations
* Jamaica and the Bahamas belong to the British Commonwealth
* Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands are controlled by the United States
* Economic Activities
	+ Many of the islands depend on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- The Volcanic islands contain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- Many others work as laborers on plantations
	+ Tourism is also very important because of the beauty of the region
		- The native people receive little benefit from tourism because most of the hotels belong to foreign corporations
		- Layoffs are common in the off-season
* Migration
	+ Most people in the Caribbean move to find \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Plantation workers must move during the off-season – they move to Central America or other islands for work
* A large percentage of Puerto Ricans moved to the United States
* Political Unrest
	+ Fidel Castro’s regime in Cuba was oppressive and led many to leave for the US
		- Cuba lost its financial support after the fall of the Soviet Union causing more poverty
	+ Haiti was ruled by harsh dictators causing many to leave
		- A US backed leader was put into place in 1994, but his reelection was disputed, and unrest in the area continues
* Economic Benefits
	+ Many emigrants send money back to the islands
	+ This extra income has helped modernize the Caribbean