Locating Belize

-What is a map? A map is a picture or drawing of a location.

-Whenever you are looking for a place on a map you use the lines of Latitude and longitude.
  -Latitude lines horizontally from north to south of the Equator
  -Longitude lines vertically from east west of the Greenwich meridian

-Important features on a map to note whenever using a map:
  A. Title of map: gives information on the data provided on the Map
  B. Compass: the cardinal points North, South, East and West. The compass states where north: guides the map
  C. Scale: tells the ratio of distance between two points
  D. Key/Legend: Provides information of the representations by images/ graphic material based on the map

-Belize is located in Central America, bordering the Caribbean Sea, between Guatemala and Mexico. It is located at 17°15’ north of the equator and 88°45’ west of the Prime Meridian.

-Belize’s neighbors are: North-Mexico, West-Guatemala, South-Guatemala, East-Caribbean Sea

Borders of Belize

-What is a border? a border is an international limit of a country in which a country has legal jurisdiction-includes: Land, water and air

-There are two types of borders: Natural borders which are geographical features that present natural obstacles to communication and transport and GEOMETRIC borders are formed by arcs or lines regardless of physical and cultural features of earth (using the lines of latitude and longitude).

-Borders are important because it marks legal jurisdiction for countries/political entities and also limits the movement of people, animals, products and plants.

Land markers of Belize

- Maritime limits of Belize--Territorial Seas/waters: the law of the sea in which the coastal waters are defined as 12 nautical miles from the baseline of the coastal state.

- An exclusive Economic Zone is an area beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea given for economic movement and transaction. A country claims exclusive rights for fishing, drilling, and other economic activities.
National symbols of Belize

Changes made to our national coat of arms:

- Our national anthem was taken from the poem “Land of the gods” rewritten “Land of the free” it was written by Samuel Haynes (black activist).

The government of Belize

1950’s nationalist movement

-SJC graduates joined the General Workers Union to fight against colonial administration they had a first step in 1954 when their fight gave us: Universal Adult Suffrage which meant that “everybody gained the right to vote men and women”

-In the 1960’s the British wanted to leave the settlement and in 1964 Belize gained self-government which meant that we could run internal affair but the British would provide protection and represent us internationally.

-As a result we inherited the governmental structure which is Parliamentary democracy based on the British Westminster system: first-past-the-post-system, the governor was left as the head of state and the party with the most seats won would win an election

-Features of the Firs-past-the-post: Each voter has one choice, the choice that receives the most vote’s wins, in our case the political party that wins the most constituencies wins the election.
Government is based on a constitution

-A Constitution is the set of laws that are created by government and are referred to as the constitution. It is used to determine what can be done and what is deemed illegal in our system. Our constitution was created on the 20th of September 1981, and is the supreme law of Belize.

Economic systems in Belize

-What is an economy? System that allocates resources for exchange, production, distribution and consumption. The resources of an economy are land, labor (people) and capital (investment).

-How to understand our economy? There is the Gross domestic product which is the value of all the goods and services within the borders of the country. The products that are bought from other countries are imports and the products we sell to other countries are exports.

| Grade weighting |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Frequency       | QUIZZES   | HOMEWORK | PROJECT | OTHER | TESTS | EXAM |
| 1               | 15        | 5        | 7       | 10    | 30    | 33   |
| 2               | 7.5       | 2.5      | 3.5     | 5     | 15    |      |
| 3               | 5         | 1.6      | 2.3     | 3.3   | 10    |      |
| 4               | 3.75      | 1.25     | 1.75    | 2.5   | 7.5   |      |
| 5               | 3         | 1        | 2       | 6     |       |      |
| 6               | 2.5       | 0.8      | 1.6     | 5     |       |      |
| 7               | 2.1       | 0.7      | 1.4     | 4.2   |       |      |
| 8               | 1.8       | 0.6      | 1.2     | 3.75  |       |      |