

## Living in the Past

Change is a natural part of life. Over the years, many aspects of life have changed; buildings, styles of clothing, types of music, modes of transportation, forms of communication, etc. These changes have been recorded in many different places such as:

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| - School records | - Museums    |
| - Journals       | - Newspapers |
| - Log books      | - Magazines  |
| - History books  | - Libraries  |

Some of the leisure activities played long ago were; pitching marbles, moral, rounders, hopscotch, etc. Some of the leisure activities played today are; \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

The table below shows some of the differences between the past and the present:

	<u>PAST</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>
Buildings	Wooden houses, thatched roofs, galvanized roofs, log houses, hand-baked clay blocks, small houses	Clay bricks, clay roof tiles, large houses, tiled floors, decorative stones
Transportation	Trains, tram cars, horse & buggy	Cars, planes, buses, ships, maxi taxi's, etc
Lighting	Kerosene lamps, oil lamps, candles	Light bulbs, electrical lights, fluorescent lights
<b>In the house</b>		
Kitchen	Coal pots, clay goblets, dirt fire sides, dirt ovens, mortars and pestles, barrels for water	Gas and electric stoves, electrical appliances; microwaves, coffee makers, tanks and pipes with running water
Bedroom/ sleeping conditions	Hammocks, straw mats, wooden beds, cots, fibre mattresses	Various types of beds/mattresses; foam, spring, sponge, double deckers, waterbeds, etc.
Bathrooms/ washrooms	Outhouses, scrubbing brushes, wooden tubs, tubs with steel drums, corn cob scrubbing brushes	Toilets, showers, bath tubs, water jets, tanks and pipes with running water
Living room	Lanterns, gas lamps, wooden stools, gramophones	Electrical lamps, air condition, stereo systems, computers

Some important events in world history have been:

- Invention of the electric light bulb in 1879
- Invention of the first modern automobile by Benz in 1885
- Invention of the first modern computer 1936

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_

A timeline is a way to understand the relationship between events and the dates they took place.

## UNIT 4: Our Country

### Physical Features

On a map of the world, Trinidad and Tobago is located between **10° and 11° North Latitude and 61° and 62° West Longitude**. Tobago is located at 11° North Latitude and 60° West Longitude.

There are many different physical features on the earth. Some of these are mountains, plains, rivers, swamps, lagoons, forests, deserts and many more.

A **relief** map shows the physical features of a country.

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#### MOUNTAIN:

A mountain is a high hill that rises hundreds of meters above **sea level**.

#### MOUNTAIN RANGE:

A mountain range is a cluster or group of mountains in the same area. There are **three (3)** mountain ranges in Trinidad and **one (1)** in Tobago.

- Trinidad:

Northern Range: This runs east-west in the north of Trinidad. The highest peak is **Mt. El Cerro del Aripo** which is **940m** high. Mt. El Tucuche, which is 930m, is also in the Northern Range.

Central Range: This is in the centre of the island. The mountain peaks in this range are not as high as the Northern Range and the highest peak is **Mt. Tamana**, which is **300m** high. Mt. Harris and the Monsterrat Hills are also in the Central Range.

Southern Range: This is in the most southern part of the country. The highest mountain in this range is the **Trinity Hills** or the Three Sisters which is **304m** high.

- Tobago:

Main Ridge: This is the main mountain range in Tobago which runs from the northeast to the south east. The highest hill is **Pigeon Hill**.

## PLAINS AND RIVERS:

Plain: this is an expanse of flat land. There are no tall trees around and this makes it easier to develop the land by putting in roads and other buildings.

Over the years, land use has changed from agricultural to industrial, business or residential. The soil is very fertile (healthy) and can also be used for other crops. However, these flat areas are prone to flooding during heavy rains.

- Trinidad

In Trinidad, there are *three (3) main plains* that lie between mountain ranges.

**The Caroni Plain:** this stretches from the foot of the Northern Range to the Central Range. It is very fertile and the most suitable for agriculture. The Caroni River runs through this plain and drains to the west into the Gulf of Paria.

**The Naparima Plain:** This plain runs from the Central Range to the Southern Range. The land here is also used to cultivate crops. It is drained by the Oropouche River which also flows into the Gulf of Paria.

**The Nariva Plain:** This is located on the south – east side of the Central Range. It is drained by the Ortoire River, which is the longest river in Trinidad and flows into the Atlantic Ocean.

- Tobago

There are hardly any flat lands in Tobago. The one piece of land that exists is located on the south – west part of the island and is used to form beach facilities such as Pigeon Point, Store Bay, Arnos Vale and Charlotteville Beach, which all make Tobago so popular. The main river in Tobago is the Courland River.

## **SWAMPLANDS**

A swamp is a low area where the sea water enters. It is waterlogged and covered with very thick mangrove.

There are three (3) main swamps in Trinidad:

1. **The Caroni Swamp:** This is located on the Northwest part of the island. It is a popular attraction to locals and tourists. The "Bird Sanctuary" is located here. It is home to the national bird, the Scarlet Ibis.
2. **The Nariva Swamp:** This is located on the east side of the island. The Navet River and the Ortoire River drain this swamp into the Atlantic Ocean.
3. **The Oropouche Lagoon:** This is on the Southwest corner of Trinidad. The Oropouche River drains this swamp and flows into the Gulf of Paria.

These wetlands are good sources of seafood and are also used to cultivate rice.

## **TOBAGO**

There are two (2) main swamplands in Tobago. These are:

1. The Kilgwyn Swamp
2. The Bon Accord Lagoon

## **RAINFALL IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

There are two (2) main seasons in Trinidad and Tobago. These are the **wet season** and the **dry season**. The dry season is usually from January to May and the wet season is from June to December. March is usually the driest month of the year, and July is the wettest.

Rain and strong winds come onto the island from a **northwest** direction due to the **North East Trade Winds**. On a rainfall map of Trinidad and Tobago, we can see that the most amount of rain falls in the **Northern Range** and along the **Main Ridge**. The level of rain fall on the Eastern side of Trinidad is much higher than then Western side. In Tobago, the lowest recording of rainfall is found along the southwest tip of the island.

## CLIMATE

Trinidad and Tobago is located in the Northern Hemisphere, between the Equator (0°) and the Tropic of Cancer (23 ½° N). We lie in the **Tropical Zone** and experience a **Tropical Marine Climate**.

