

# BRAZIL

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FINLEY BANASIAK

# GEOGRAPHY OF BRAZIL

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- Brazil has 5 different geographic zones- Guiana highlands, Amazon lowlands, The Pantanal, Brazilian highlands, Coastal lowlands.
- The Brazilian highlands cover over half of Brazil's landmass at 4.5 million square kilometers.
- The Pantanal covers about 210,000 square kilometers and is 80% submerged during the rainy seasons.
- The Amazon rainforest is the worlds largest intact forest. More than 24 million people in Brazil live there.
- The 2 main physical features of Brazil are plains and plateaus.

# BRAZIL'S HISTORY

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- The history of Brazil begins with indigenous people that lived in Br
- The Europeans arrived in Brazil at the opening of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.
- The Portuguese were the first European settlers to arrive in the area, they were led by Pedro Cabral.
- In April 1500 Brazil was claimed for Portugal on the arrival of Portuguese fleet commanded by Pedro Cabral.
- Brazil is the only country in South America where Portuguese is the official language.

# BRAZIL'S CULTURE

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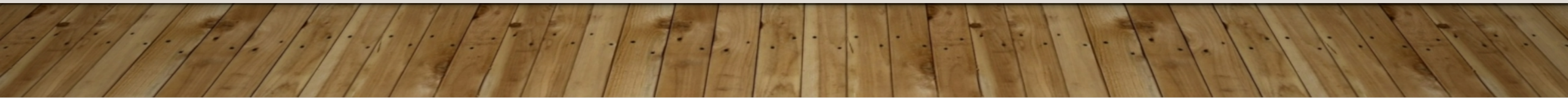
- The cultures of indigenous Indians, Africans, and Portuguese have together formed the modern Brazilian way of life.
- The Portuguese culture is by far the dominant culture. From it Brazilians acquired their main religion, language, and most of their customs.
- African influences on the Brazilian way of life are strongest along the coast between the northeast and Rio de Janeiro.
- Some African influences include traditional foods, religions, and popular music and dance, especially the samba.
- Commercial and cultural imports from Europe and North America have often competed with Brazilian cultural output, despite numerous social and economic challenges, Brazilians continue to be creative in their celebrations and art forms.

# WHAT I LIKE ABOUT BRAZIL

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- I like that the Amazon rainforest is the largest in the world, and how stunning it is.
- I also like how Brazil is the largest country in South America, we can learn a lot about it.
- I think it is fascinating that Brazil is the only country in South America that speaks Portuguese as their official language.
- The population of Brazil is 200 million, and it is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest country in the world.
- Brazil demonstrates a diverse mix of race, religion, country of origin, and cultural heritage.



# ESSENTIAL QUESTION

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- Fishers Junior High benefits from having families from Brazil as a part of our school and community, by having knowledge about Brazil and being able to learn from someone who actually knows a lot about it. We can also better understand the country and the religion, facts, culture etc. that come from Brazil. We can only learn so much from the internet and textbooks, we are grateful to have them in the community with us. And they can teach us stuff many of us never knew. The bottom line is we are thrilled, grateful, and appreciative to have these families in our community. Not just to teach us about Brazil and other countries, but to welcome them and be friends with one another.

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