

54 Chapter 3 Central America

equals about 68 miles (109 km). How much farther east is Caracas than San José?

a. Caracas

b. 1,156 miles (1,875 km)

4. *Costa Rica is south of Nicaragua. But the capital of Costa Rica has a cooler climate than the capital of Nicaragua. Why is this so? (Study the map on page 10.)*

The capital of Costa Rica is at a much higher altitude than the capital of Nicaragua.

Using What You Know

1. *Most railroads and highways of Central America are found in the rugged highlands. Why are they not on the coastal lowlands, where road building would have been easier?*

Most of the people live in the highlands.

2. *Since the earthquake of 1976, many people in Guatemala build with wood or concrete rather than adobe. Why do they do this?*

Wood or concrete can withstand earthquakes better than adobe can.

3. *What is the difference between an active, a dormant, and an extinct volcano? (See Figure 3:9.)*

An active volcano erupts constantly or occasionally. A dormant volcano has been inactive for a long time, but it may erupt again. An extinct volcano has no recorded history of erupting and will probably not erupt.