

Hundreds of Islands

The Bahamas is an archipelago – a group of over 700 islands and cay lying close to one another. The islands stretch in a north-westerly to south- easterly direction. If the land area of all the islands is added together, they cover a total area of almost 14,000 square kilometers. If we include the sea between the islands, The Bahamas is a country of about 260,000 square kilometers.

In addition to the many islands, cays, and islets, and rocks, there are many other geographical features that are common to the islands. These are **bluffs, sounds, salinas, creeks, and flats.**

Since the Bahama Islands cover such large area, there may be different kinds of **weather** occurring in different parts of the country at the same time. When we listen to the weather forecast, it is different for each part of The Bahamas. Weather forecasters divide the country into **three groups** of islands.

These are **north-western, central, and southeastern.**

Northwestern Bahamas	Central Bahamas	Southeastern Bahamas
Grand Bahama	Cat Island	Crooked Island
Abaco	Long Island	Acklins
Bimini	Rum Cay	Mayaguana
Andros	San Salvador	Inagua
New Providence	Exuma	Ragged Island
Berry Island		
Eleuthera		

The major islands in The Bahamas are those islands with most of the country's population. These islands also produce most of our products.

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Name THREE geographical features of the Bahamas other than rock, islands and Cays.

_____, _____, _____

2. Name THREE groups the Bahama islands are divided into.

_____, _____, _____

3. Name TWO islands in the Southern Eastern Bahamas.

_____ and _____

4. What is an archipelago?

- a. An island with cays
- b. A group of over 700 islands and cays
- c. A group of islands with blue holes.

5. Name ONE island in the Northwestern Bahamas.
