

I. Fill in the blanks with “a”, “an”, “the”, or “x” (“x” represents the absence of the article) to complete the following statements adapted from “*Control The Choke Point: How The US Stole The Panama Canal*”.

1. There is one lake in \_\_\_\_ Central America in which you can see \_\_\_\_ tops of \_\_\_\_ trees in \_\_\_\_ lake.
2. These are not \_\_\_\_ islands. They are \_\_\_\_ hilltops.
3. It used to be \_\_\_\_ dense jungle, not \_\_\_\_ lake.
4. They build \_\_\_\_ dams and all sorts of \_\_\_\_ infrastructure.
5. In \_\_\_\_ name of solving \_\_\_\_ puzzle.
6. It looked easy to cut \_\_\_\_ waterway into that thin stretch of land to increase \_\_\_\_ international trade.
7. Whoever controls \_\_\_\_ water has \_\_\_\_ power.
8. \_\_\_\_ Spanish attempted to create \_\_\_\_ canal in \_\_\_\_ 14<sup>th</sup> century, and \_\_\_\_ Scottish tried it in \_\_\_\_ 15<sup>th</sup> century, but it was \_\_\_\_ French engineer, Ferdinand the Lesseps, who made \_\_\_\_ most serious attempt in \_\_\_\_ 1880.
9. We did it in \_\_\_\_ Egypt with \_\_\_\_ Suez Canal, but \_\_\_\_ Egypt is \_\_\_\_ flat desert, and \_\_\_\_ Panama is not.
10. \_\_\_\_ canal is going to be at \_\_\_\_ sea level.
11. \_\_\_\_ US was really starting to get \_\_\_\_ handle on \_\_\_\_ whole imperialism thing.
12. Philippe went to \_\_\_\_ US Congress and told them that there were \_\_\_\_ volcanoes in \_\_\_\_ Nicaragua. They even had \_\_\_\_ postage stamp featuring \_\_\_\_ volcano erupting.
13. What if \_\_\_\_ French engineer could guarantee your independence from \_\_\_\_ Colombia?