



**Panama**, country of Central America located on the Isthmus of **Panama**, the narrow bridge of land that connects North and South America. Embracing the isthmus and more than 1,600 islands off its Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the tropical nation is renowned as the site of the **Panama** Canal, which cuts through its midsection. Its border are: to the North, the Caribbean Sea; to the East, the Republic of Colombia; to the South with the Pacific Ocean and to the West with the Republic of Costa Rica.

Panama is the link between Central America and South America, constituting an isthmus of 80 km. wide in its narrower section.

Government: constitutional democracy, centralized Republic.

Legal System: based on the civilian legal system, judicial revision of legislative acts in the Supreme Court. Accepting international tribunal jurisdiction, except in some instances.

Language: the official language is Spanish. However, many Panamanians speak English.

Literacy Rate: 90%

Weather: Panamanian weather is tropical, and uniform throughout the year.

The average temperature is 27 degrees C.

Religion: there is an absolute freedom of Religion in Panama. Most Panamanians are Roman Catholic. However, due to the diversity in the country, you can find all kinds of temples of worship throughout the country.

Time Zone: the time in Panama all year long is the same as the EST (GMT -5). We do not observe Daylight Savings Time.

Currency: The U. S. dollar. and The Panamanian currencies are equivalent in size and value to those of the U. S. A.



A. Select True or False according to the reading and what you listen in the audio.

1. Panama is in Central America, located on the Isthmus of Yucatan.

**TRUE**      **FALSE**

2. It's the narrow bridge of land that connects North and South America.

**TRUE**      **FALSE**

3. Its border are to the North, the Caribbean Sea; to the East, the Republic of Costa Rica; to the South with the Pacific Ocean and to the West with the Republic of Colombia.

**TRUE**      **FALSE**

4. The official language is Spanish. However, many Panamanians speak English.

**TRUE**      **FALSE**

5. The U. S. dollar. and The Panamanian currencies are equivalent in size and value to those of the U. S. A.

**TRUE**      **FALSE**