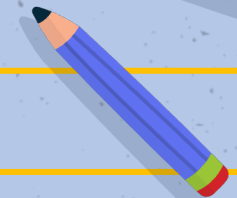
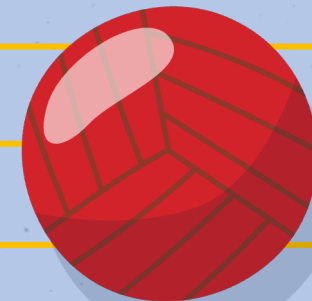
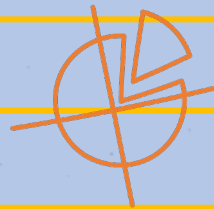
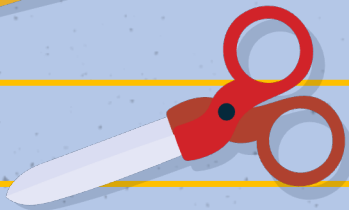
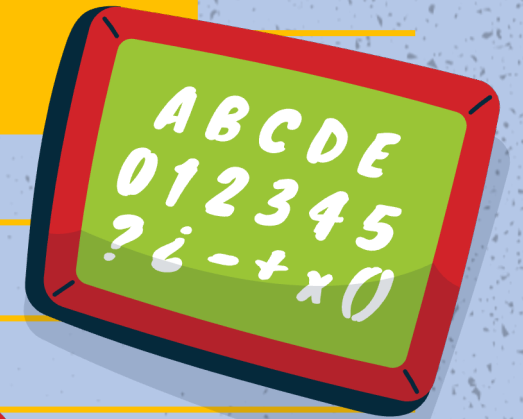
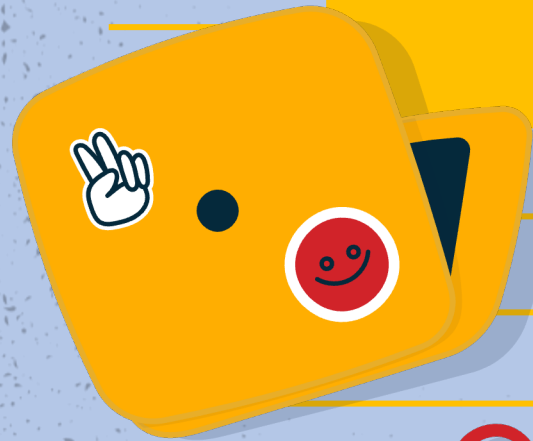


# What Goods & Services Come From Mexico?

INVESTIGATE



**3.2**

# **Human Geography of Mexico**



**As a Young Geographer, I will be able to...**

# Culture

**Cultures-** Customary beliefs, social forms, & material traits of a racial, religious, or social group

**Variations of the physical landscape allowed for diverse cultures & languages to develop in Mexico**

**The Northern half of Mexico began with nomadic people that relied on agriculture & hunting**

**The Tarahumara people are one example of an indigenous group of people still living in this region**

# Southern Diversity

**Diverse-** Differing from one another

**The Southern portion of Mexico supported large-scale agriculture to produce a wide variety of foods**

**Centered in the Yucatan Peninsula were the  
**Mayans**, who built huge stone cities.**

**The Mayans were engaged in long-distance trades  
& many of their descendants still live in the  
region today**



# Aztecs & Conquest

The Aztec Empire centered around the capital of Tenochtitlan, which is now the site of Mexico City.

Around 1519, **conquistadors**, Spanish soldiers involved in the conquest of Indigenous peoples of Latin America, arrived to claim the region

Led by Hernan Cortes, Spain took the region. While **mestizos**, people of mixed Spanish & Indigenous descent, populate the region, some Aztecs do remain

Spanish settlers began building large plantations to grow **cash crops**, farm products grown to be sold or traded rather than used by the farm family

# European Rule

Spain began to rule the region by placing **viceroys**, political officials appointed by Spain's king

**1821- Mexico gains independence from Spain, making it the first Spanish speaking country to do so**

However, country was ruled by wealthy landowners, the army, & the church

For many years, dictators known as **Caudillos** ruled politics in Mexico



# New Politics

**1910-1920- The Mexican Revolution overthrew the caudillos & formed a federal republic**

**1929- The *Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI)* takes control of the government creating a corrupt monopoly**

**The Partido Accion Nacional (PAN) party took over in 2000, only for the PRI to take control again in 2012**

**Drug Cartels have brought violence to the region & some control certain areas of Mexico**



# Population Patterns

**The Indigenous groups of Mexico had a large mixture of empires, languages & cultures**

**The Spanish Empire brought in war, disease, & the Catholic Church**

**Syncretism-** A Bleeding of beliefs & practices from different religions into one faith

**Catholic missionaries spread Christian ideas & centralized power around communities**



# Wealth & Land Policy

Estate farming & ranching became very profitable so soon Spanish settlements grew into large cities

**Haciendas**- Large plantations where cash crops were grown by impoverished communities for little to no payment

Today, more than 79% of citizens live in urban areas. Mexico City is a **megacity**, a great city that is made up of several large & smaller ones

Mexico City is also a **primate city**- A city that dominates a country's economy, culture, & government. Population is typically concentrated here

# Society & Culture Today

**Majority of Mexicans identify as Catholics, but rituals are a blend between cultures**

**The culture highly values family & most households live with **extended families**, households made up of several generations of family members**

**Spanish culture established the idea of **machismo** or male dominance. Women traditionally limited opportunities in society**

**However, women have been making huge strides in society & have been entering the workforce or politics**



# The Arts

**Spanish culture & Indigenous cultures have mixed to create art forms that are distinctly Mexican**

**Murals have been important in the culture, along with mosaics**

**Diego Rivera-** Mexican muralist known for his politically themed wall paintings



# The Economy

**In the 1500s, Mexico was the center of the Spanish Empire in the Americas due to a wealth of natural resources**

**While it still struggles with colonialism, Mexico is still seeking complete freedom & be a equal republic**

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP)- The value of goods & services produced within a country in a year**

*–Mexico the 12<sup>th</sup> highest in the world*

**The wealthy upper class controls most of the land that provides access to resources**



# More Economics

**Due to Mexico's diverse landscape, transportation has been difficult**

**All roads head to Mexico City, but there are domestic & international airports around the country**

**More than 1 million people cross the border, both directions, every day for jobs & trade!**

**While the internet is expanding, about 45% of the nation still has no internet access**

# NAFTA

**North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)-**  
**Agreement between Mexico, Canada, & U.S. for**  
**free trade between borders**

**Mexico is dependent on Northern allies for goods &**  
**services**

**Maquiladora-** Manufacturing plants in Mexico  
owned by foreign companies

**Free Trade Zone-** Area of a country in which trade  
restrictions do not apply, Maquiladoras are  
in these



# Find Me Five!

**What are 5 Things you  
learned about today?**

Could be from a picture, information, or just  
a fun fact!

**RADICAL!**

