

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Central America Unit: Mexico Geography Notes

### 1. Origins of Modern Day Mexico

1. Before 1521- \_\_\_\_\_ controlled \_\_\_\_\_ region
2. 1519 - \_\_\_\_\_ arrive in Mexico
3. 1521 - Aztec Capital falls to \_\_\_\_\_
4. 1521-1810 - Mexico becomes the largest \_\_\_\_\_ in the World
5. 1810 - \_\_\_\_\_ Declares Mexican Independence
6. 1821 - Mexico is officially recognized as an \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Boundaries of Mexico

1. Mexico is bound to the north by the \_\_\_\_\_
2. Bound to south and west by the \_\_\_\_\_
3. Bound to the east by the \_\_\_\_\_
4. Bound by the southeast by Belize, Guatemala and the Caribbean Sea

### 3. Physical Geography

1. Geography Regions:

### 4. Physical Features

1. Terrain- rugged mountains; low coastal plains; high plateaus; desert
2. The Grande de Santiago and the Lerma rivers together form the largest and most important \_\_\_\_\_
3. The Rio Bravo (known as the \_\_\_\_\_ in the US) is the border between the US and Mexico and provide water for \_\_\_\_\_ for both countries
4. Lowest point is Laguna Salada at \_\_\_\_\_
5. Highest point is Pico de Orizaba at \_\_\_\_\_ (3rd highest peak in North America)
6. Almost \_\_\_\_\_ miles of coastline

### 5. Natural Hazards

1. Mexico is located on top of \_\_\_\_\_ causing it to experience a high degree of seismic activity
2. Tsunamis- located along the \_\_\_\_\_ coast
3. Volcanoes & Earthquakes- located in the center and south
4. Hurricanes- located in the \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. 2017 Mexico City Earthquake: *Write 3 Facts from the Video*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### 7. Language

1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ had the most control over Mexico, Spanish became the dominant language of the country
2. \_\_\_\_\_ speak both Spanish and another indigenous language

### 8. Government

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was elected President in 2012
2. Member of the Institutional Revolutionary Party

**9. Mexico Government and the US Government; Both nations:**

1. Are \_\_\_\_\_ republics (national AND local governments)
2. Have universal suffrage \_\_\_\_\_ (Voting rights)
3. Have \_\_\_\_\_ branches of government
4. Have a 2-house legislature
5. Have a \_\_\_\_\_ Court

**10. Population and Urbanization**

1. Mexicans are moving to cities for \_\_\_\_\_
2. Jobs pay more than in \_\_\_\_\_ areas
3. \_\_\_\_\_ people live in and around Mexico City

**11. Economy**

1. 2 main challenges facing Mexico:
  - i. \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Large industry based on its \_\_\_\_\_ reserves – Gulf of Mexico
3. \_\_\_\_\_ along the border with the U.S.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - a factory in Mexico run by a foreign company and exporting its products to the country of that company.
5. Products made here include electronic equipment, clothing, & furniture

**12. NAFTA**

1. Member of the \_\_\_\_\_ with the U.S. and Canada
2. Created a zone of cooperation on \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ issues
3. Being replace/updated in \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Tourism**

1. In 2016 Mexico reached a record revenue of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars due to international tourism
2. - \_\_\_\_\_ million international tourists visited Mexico in 2016

**14. Agriculture and Resources**

1. Birthplace of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Also grow: Avocados, Lime/Lemons, Papaya, chilis/peppers
3. Mexico is ranked 5th globally in \_\_\_\_\_
4. Mexico also produces \_\_\_\_\_.

**15. Life today in Mexico**

1. Emigration
  - i. Shares 2,000-mile border with U.S.
  - ii. Many workers leave Mexico in search of work
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a transfer of money by a foreign worker to an individual in their home country.
3. Remittances contribute \_\_\_\_\_

**16. Religion**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ religion dominates Mexico
2. Mexico is currently
  - i. \_\_\_\_\_ Roman Catholic
  - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ Protestant
  - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ Other