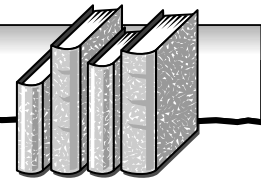


CHAPTER 6 Guided Reading Activity



6-1 The Land

DIRECTIONS: Filling in the Blanks Reading the section and completing the summary paragraphs below will help you learn more about Mexico’s land. Refer to your textbook to fill in the blanks.

Mexico forms part of a land bridge between

(1) _____ and South America. Mexico’s widest part borders the

(2) _____ in the north. At the narrowest part, the

(3) _____ of Tehuantepec, only 140 miles (225 km) of land separates the Gulf of Mexico on the east from the

(4) _____ on the west. Mexico’s two large peninsulas include the **(5)** _____

Peninsula on the west coast and the

(6) _____ Peninsula on the east coast.

Mexico is located where plates of the earth’s crust collide to form mountains and volcanoes, and cause **(7)** _____. The Aztec called the country “the land of the

(8) _____.”

A mountain range called the Sierra Madre Occidental runs north and south near the

(9) _____ Ocean. The Sierra Madre Oriental is on the east coast, along the Gulf of Mexico. In southwestern Mexico are mountains called the **(10)** _____

_____. The central flat plateau, called the **(11)** _____

_____, makes up about 40 percent of the country. The plateau has deserts and grassy

(12) _____ in the north and

(13) _____, or broad, flat valleys, in the south. Lowlands stretch along Mexico’s coasts. A long river, the

(14) _____, borders the United States.

Latitude and **(15)** _____ affect Mexico’s climate. The Tropic of Cancer crosses central Mexico, so temperatures are generally

(16) _____. Three climate zones occur from the coastal plain into the mountains. At the coast is a hot and humid zone called the

tierra **(17)** _____. Vegetation includes

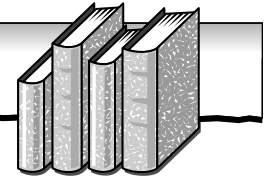
(18) _____ or tall grasses. A little higher in the mountains,

temperatures become **(19)** _____. High in the mountains is the zone known as

tierra **(20)** _____, with stunted trees and rocky soil.

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CHAPTER 6 Guided Reading Activity



6-2 The Economy

DIRECTIONS: Outlining Reading and completing the outline below will help you learn more about Mexico's economy. Refer to your textbook to fill in the blanks.

I. Mexico's Economy

- A. _____ for export and use in homes, industries
- B. Manufacturing and _____, especially of silver
- C. _____ industries, such as banking and tourism
- D. Limited farming on about _____ percent of the land

II. Central Mexico

- A. More than _____ of the population
- B. Good growing conditions for _____
- C. Large _____ cities, such as Mexico City and Guadalajara

III. The North

- A. Including _____ and northern part of the Plateau
- B. _____ with irrigation; ranching; mining

- C. Producing _____ in Monterrey
- D. Assembling products in factories called _____

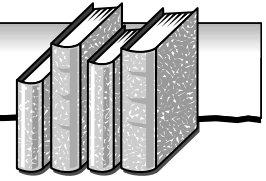
IV. The South

- A. Area from _____ to the Yucatan Peninsula
- B. _____ farming in mountain villages
- C. Plantations where wealthy farmers grow _____ and coffee
- D. Beaches and historic monuments that attract _____

V. Economic Challenges

- A. Pollution, such as _____ created by factories and cars
- B. Homes and _____ needed for growing population
- C. Business and _____ promoted to improve economy

CHAPTER 6 Guided Reading Activity



6-3 The People

DIRECTIONS: Reading for Accuracy Reading the section and completing the activity below will help you learn more about Mexico's people. Use your textbook to decide if a statement is true or false. Write **T** or **F** and if a statement is false, write it correctly.

1. The first people to live in Mexico came from Africa.

2. The Maya flourished in Mexico after the Spanish conquest.

3. In 1521 Hernan Cortes conquered the Maya in Mexico.

4. Mexico was a Spanish colony for about 300 years.

5. Mexicans began a civil war in 1910 against Spanish rulers.

6. Today Mexico is part of the United States.

7. Modern cities are a blend of old and new architecture.

8. Mexican villages today are very wealthy areas with large marketplaces.

9. Culture in Mexico is limited to mural painting.

10. Soccer is a favorite sport, second only to bullfighting.

