

Name _____

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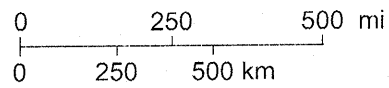
Period _____

Chapter 3

Map Activity

4

Mexico



Mexico

Directions: Fill in the outline below. Filling in the blanks will help you as you read and study Chapter 3.

I. Section 1: Mexico (pp. 80–82)

A. Location

1. Lies north of _____ and _____
2. The _____ Ocean borders on the west; the _____ is to the east

B. Regions

1. The _____ is the largest region; southern half is rainy and much _____ is grown there
2. _____ occur in the Central Plateau because of plate tectonics
3. The _____ form a rim around the country
4. The desert region in the northwest includes the large _____ Desert and the peninsula called _____
5. The Yucatán Peninsula has huge underground _____

II. Section 2: Physical Features and Climate (pp. 83–85)

A. Physical Features

1. Main physical feature is _____
2. Most rivers are _____ and drop quickly to the ocean

B. Climate

1. Mostly has a dry _____ climate, which gets both hot and cold
2. Some coastal areas have a hot, rainy _____ climate
3. Areas at a higher _____, or height above sea level, are colder

III. Section 3: The People (pp. 86–89)

A. Cultures

1. Descendants of _____ people make up about 10 percent of the population
2. _____ conquered native empires about 500 years ago
3. _____ have a mixed ancestry—European and native

Mexico, continued

4. _____ is the official language
5. The main religion is _____; some of the poor native people have become _____

B. Population Trends

1. Population is about _____ million people; _____ of people live in urban areas
2. Big population growth causes problems with _____, education, and _____ care
3. _____, or poor farmers, move to cities hoping for a better life
4. More than one out of five Mexicans live in _____

IV. Section 4: Economy and Environment (pp. 90–93)**A. Natural Resources**

1. Most important natural resource is _____
2. World's leading producer of _____

B. Agriculture and Industry

1. Revolution of 1910 led to _____
2. Extra farmers are encouraged to work in _____
3. _____ are foreign-owned assembly plants
4. Biggest service industries are _____, banking, and insurance
5. NAFTA lifted trade _____ between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada

C. Challenges

1. _____ percent of people live in poverty; the _____ are the poorest
2. Some of the poor turn to crime, selling _____ drugs
3. The _____ is huge because of borrowing money to pay for industrial development

D. Environmental Problems

1. _____ and _____ pollution and _____ collection are serious problems
2. _____ and soil _____ are also problems

Chart for Physical Regions of Mexico

Directions: Match each phrase in the box with the region of Mexico that it describes. Write the letter of the phrase on the appropriate line.

- a. limestone caves
- b. largest region with most farming
- c. location of Mexico City
- d. area of level highland
- e. dry southeastern area
- f. dry northwestern area
- g. Sonoran and Baja California
- h. Valley of Mexico
- i. form a rim around central region
- j. lies south of the eastern coastal plain

Central Plateau: _____

coastal plains: _____

desert: _____

Yucatán Peninsula: _____

Name _____

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Mexico Puzzle

Part A Directions: Write the correct term from the Word Bank to complete each sentence.

- 1) The hotter, low-altitude zone is called _____.
- 2) Mexico's mountain ranges are called the _____.
- 3) Trees that lose their leaves are known as _____.
- 4) _____ is a beach resort area in the Yucatán.
- 5) The highest altitudinal zone is called the _____.
- 6) _____ is a city on the Pacific coast with a beautiful beach.
- 7) The tallest mountain in Mexico is _____.
- 8) One of Mexico's largest lakes is _____ in the state of Jalisco.
- 9) Southern coastal areas have a hot, rainy _____ climate.
- 10) Most of Mexico has a dry _____ climate, usually found near deserts.

Word Bank

- Sierra Madre
- deciduous
- tierra caliente
- Pico de Orizaba
- Cancun
- Acapulco
- Lake Chapala
- steppe
- tropical savanna
- tierra fría

Part B Directions: Use the words from the sentences to fill in the words in this puzzle. The letters in the box reading down name what covers the Southern Sierras.

1)	-----	_____	-----
2)	-----	_____	-----
3)	-----	_____	-----
4)	-----	_____	-----
5)	-----	_____	-----
6)	-----	_____	-----
7)	-----	_____	-----
8)	-----	_____	-----
9)	-----	_____	-----
10)	-----	_____	-----

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Chapter 3,
Section 3

Activity

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Mexicans Yesterday and Today

Directions: Write each phrase in the box under the heading where it fits.

population mostly native live mostly in rural areas natives live in isolated villages live mostly in cities 15 percent of population is immigrants population mostly mestizos native empires rule large areas population growth explosion Tenochtitlán is capital city Mexico City is capital city

Mexicans of the Past

_____ _____ _____ _____

Mexicans of Today

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____

Name _____

Date _____

Period _____

Chapter 3,
Section 4

Activity

12

Mexico's Economy

Directions: Write a word to complete each sentence.

- 1) Foreign-owned assembly plants in Mexico are called _____.
- 2) After the revolution in 1910, the government took land from the wealthy and gave it to the poor. This was called _____.
- 3) NAFTA stands for North American _____ Agreement.
- 4) Mexico's most important natural resource is _____.
- 5) Human _____ dumped in rivers is one cause of water pollution in Mexico.
- 6) NAFTA got rid of trade _____ between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.
- 7) Native peasants of Chiapas who rebelled against the government in 1994 called themselves _____.
- 8) Mexico's service industries are _____, banking, and insurance.
- 9) Mexico's largest industry is _____ products.
- 10) Mexico produces more _____ than any other country.
- 11) The illegal _____ trade has become big business in Mexico.
- 12) Most new oil and gas fields in Mexico are located _____.
- 13) Mexico has a huge foreign debt because it borrowed money from other countries to pay for _____.
- 14) Mexico City produces so much _____ that it is difficult to collect all of it.
- 15) Mexico's _____, small farmers and farmworkers, remain poor.

Exploring Mexico

Directions: Complete the paragraphs below. Write the correct word from the Word Bank to complete each sentence.

Word Bank		
United States	Central Plateau	irrigation
isthmus	coastal plains	jungle
desert	Yucatán	Sonoran
Mexico City	plate tectonics	corn
triangular	Valley of Mexico	peninsula

Mexico is bordered on the north by the **1)** _____ and on the south by Central American countries. It is **2)** _____ in shape. The narrowest part is an **3)** _____, a narrow strip of land that is only 134 miles wide.

The largest physical region is the **4)** _____, an area of level highland. In the north it is dry and crops are watered by **5)** _____; in the south it is rainy and farmers grow **6)** _____. In the heart of this rich southern region lies the **7)** _____, lowlands between mountains. The capital of Mexico, **8)** _____, is located here. **9)** _____, or movement of Earth's giant plates, cause earthquakes in this region and form mountains.

The **10)** _____ form a rim around Mexico's Central Plateau and mountains. These strips of land are dry in the north and covered with **11)** _____ in the south.

Two other physical regions of Mexico are the northwestern **12)** _____ region and the **13)** _____ Peninsula. Two deserts are **14)** _____ and Baja California. A **15)** _____ is a strip of land surrounded by water on three sides.

Mexico's Mountains and Climate

Directions: Read each sentence. Write *T* if the statement is *true* or *F* if it is *false*.

- _____ 1) The main physical feature of Mexico is its mountains.
- _____ 2) The Sierra Madre is a series of mountain ranges in Mexico.
- _____ 3) Only deciduous trees grow on Mexico's mountains.
- _____ 4) The tallest mountain in Mexico is Popocatépetl.
- _____ 5) Pico de Orizaba is the volcano that erupted most recently in Mexico.
- _____ 6) Mexico's coastline is famous for its beautiful beaches.
- _____ 7) The Río Bravo is a large lake in Mexico.
- _____ 8) Because Mexico is so flat, it does not have many river systems.
- _____ 9) A steppe climate is very dry and always hot.
- _____ 10) Most of Mexico has a tropical savanna climate.
- _____ 11) Altitude is the height a place is above sea level.
- _____ 12) High altitudes cause some parts of Mexico to be cool and rainy.
- _____ 13) The French gave special names to Mexico's three altitudinal zones.
- _____ 14) Tierra caliente describes higher altitudes that are moderate.
- _____ 15) Tierra fría refers to the highest altitudes with the coldest temperatures.

The People of Mexico

Directions: Choose the answer that best completes each statement.
Write the letter of the answer on the line.

- 1) Before Europeans came, the _____ built a great empire in Yucatán and Guatemala.
 - a. mestizos
 - b. Mayas
 - c. Aztecs
 - d. Toltecs
- 2) The culture of the _____ blends ways of native and European people.
 - a. tamales
 - b. Nahuatls
 - c. mestizos
 - d. Aztecs
- 3) _____ of the population is descended from native people.
 - a. 10 percent
 - b. 15 percent
 - c. 30 percent
 - d. 75 percent
- 4) The language spoken in the government, businesses, and schools is _____.
 - a. Spanish
 - b. native
 - c. Nahuatl
 - d. English
- 5) More than 90 percent of the Mexican people belong to the _____ Church.
 - a. Roman Catholic
 - b. Protestant
 - c. Toltec
 - d. Hindu
- 6) From 1900 to 2000, the Mexican population grew from _____.
 - a. 5 million to 20 million people
 - b. 13 million to 100 million people
 - c. 50 million to 200 million people
 - d. 50 million to 500 million people
- 7) Poor farmers who moved to urban areas seeking a better life are called _____.
 - a. mestizos
 - b. immigrants
 - c. descendants
 - d. campesinos
- 8) Mexico City's slums are _____.
 - a. fine places to shop
 - b. noisy city markets
 - c. poor, overcrowded areas
 - d. wealthy trading centers
- 9) Three Mexican cities, in order from largest to smallest, are _____.
 - a. Vera Cruz, Guadalajara, Tampico
 - b. Mexico City, Guadalajara, Monterrey
 - c. Monterrey, Vera Cruz, Guadalajara
 - d. Mexico City, Monterrey, Acapulco
- 10) The trend in Mexico, and in much of the world, is for people to _____.
 - a. move out of the cities
 - b. move from rural areas to cities
 - c. try to avoid working for a living
 - d. work in factories

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Chapter 3,
Section 4

Workbook

13

Economy and Environment in Mexico

Directions: Write the answers to these questions using complete sentences.

1) Why is oil so important to Mexico's economy?

2) Why does the government want Mexican farmers to work in manufacturing?

3) In a maquiladora, who does the work and who owns the products that are made?

4) Why is tourism a big industry in Mexico?

5) What happened as a result of the signing of NAFTA?

6) How much of the Mexican population is poor?

7) Which part of the population tends to be poorest?

8) What type of cutbacks has the government been forced to make because of the foreign debt?

9) What are three sources of water pollution in Mexico's rivers?

10) Why is garbage a problem in Mexico City?
