

SECTION 3

Reading for Understanding

▶ Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

The Mexican government has become more democratic with the elimination of the one-party system.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

Mexico faces new challenges as the country takes steps to modernize its economy.

▶ Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

maquiladora factory in which materials are imported and assembled into products for export

global economy economy in which buying and selling occurs across national borders

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) agreement that reduced trade barriers among Mexico, Canada, and the United States

REVIEW

immigration process of coming to another country to live



Visual Vocabulary X-ray table built in a *maquiladora*

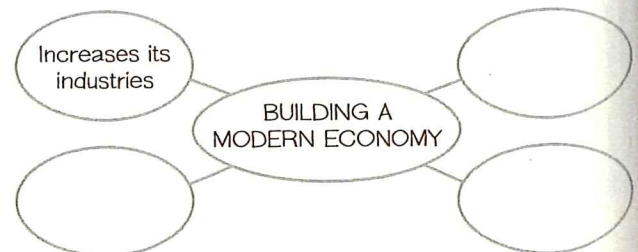
▶ Reading Strategy

Re-create the web diagram shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, find supporting details for each main idea in Section 3.



See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R4

FIND MAIN IDEAS



GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Go to Interactive Review @ ClassZone.com

Creating a New Economy

Connecting to Your World

Do you add tomatoes to a salad or to your favorite kind of sandwich? Chances are that the tomatoes you eat were grown in Mexico. Tomatoes make up the largest percentage of vegetables that Mexico exports to the United States. Agriculture is an important part of Mexico's economy. In this section, you will learn how Mexico has expanded its economy.

Building a Modern Economy

KEY QUESTION How has Mexico created a strong modern economy?

Vicente Fox's election as president in 2000 changed Mexico from a one-party system to a multiparty democracy. With a stable government, Mexico is working to improve the quality of life for its people. It has been modernizing its industry and economy by cooperating with other North American countries.

Animated GEOGRAPHY

Mexican Industry

Workers perform their jobs on a floating oil-rig platform off the Mexican coast in the Gulf of Mexico.

 [Click here](#) for an interactive map of Mexican industry @ [ClassZone.com](#)

ANALYZING Primary Sources

Vicente Fox promised as president to improve education, jobs, and opportunities in Mexico. For his official portrait, Fox posed with Mexican people from all walks of life to show, as the caption indicates, that “We are all Mexico.” Read what Fox had to say in his inaugural speech.

It is time we recognized that everything cannot be solved by the State [government]. . . . Quality education, employment and regional development are the levers to remove, once and for all, the signs of poverty.

Source: Vicente Fox’s inaugural speech



DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

What does Fox think is the best way to reduce poverty?



ONLINE PRIMARY SOURCE To read more works of Vicente Fox, go to the Research & Writing Center @ClassZone.com

Industrialization Traditionally, Mexico’s economy depended upon agriculture and mining. But since the 1940s, Mexico has become more industrialized. Mexico continues to be one of the world’s major producers of silver. Its most profitable industry is oil production. Today, Mexico is tied with China as the world’s fifth largest producer of crude petroleum.

Other industries have also become important to Mexico’s economy. In recent years, many factories have been located along Mexico’s border with the United States. These factories are called *maquiladoras*. A **maquiladora** is a factory that assembles imported materials into finished goods that are exported. Jeans, appliances, car engines, and computers are some of the products manufactured in this way.

Global Economy In 1992, Mexico took a stronger role in the **global economy**, in which nations cooperate to trade goods and services. It signed the **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)** with the United States and Canada. NAFTA created rules about trade in North America. The agreement made it easier for the three countries to transport goods and services across their borders.

DRAW CONCLUSIONS Discuss the steps Mexico has taken to build its economy.

Facing New Challenges

KEY QUESTION What are some problems Mexico must solve in order to continue to develop a stronger economy?

Mexico faces two major challenges in continuing to develop a strong economy. It has to reduce pollution, and it has to create more jobs in order to improve conditions for its people and to slow migration to other countries.

Pollution Like other large international cities, Mexico City has had to deal with increased air pollution, brought on in large part by industrialization. Mexico City sits in a valley, almost completely surrounded by mountains. The mountains help produce a layer of warm air above the city. This layer keeps gases from car exhaust and thousands of industries from blowing away. These gases react with sunlight to form smog, a thick brown haze, over the city. The smog causes health problems for many people.

Recently, the Mexican government has taken steps to deal with the pollution problem. It has urged automobile manufacturers to produce cars that use cleaner fuels and helped companies develop smog controls. It has also encouraged public transportation.

CONNECT to Science

Like many modern cities, Mexico City became industrialized in the last 50 years. While developing a modern economy helps a country, the increase in industries often causes pollution problems. Many other cities have experienced situations similar to Mexico City's.



Activity

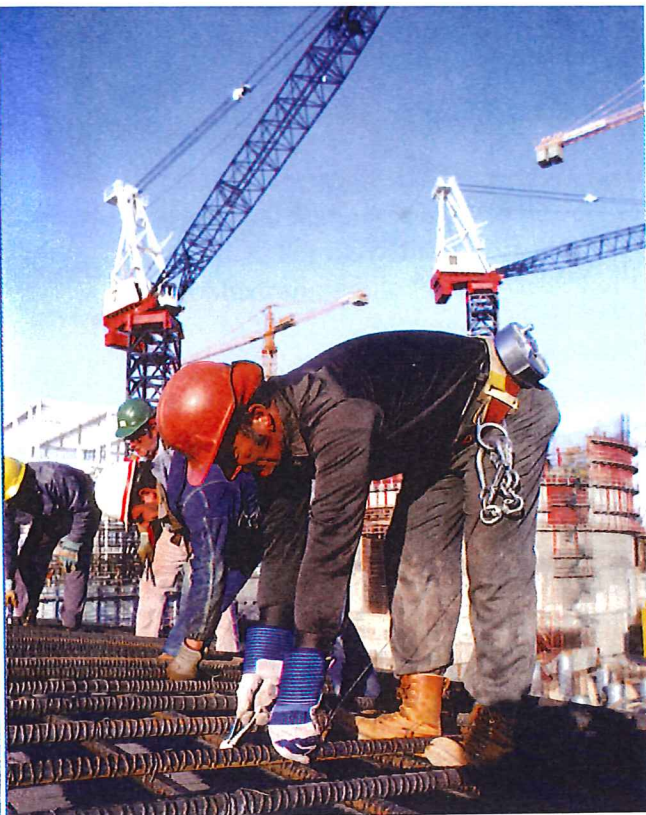
Create a Pollution Hot Spot Map

Materials

- newspapers and magazines
- large blank world map
- markers

1. Find information about pollution problems in other parts of the world.
2. Locate and label the places on the world map. Include Mexico City on the map.
3. Choose one of the locations and find out what is being done to reduce pollution there.
4. Present your map and findings to the class.





Providing Jobs These men are working on a large-scale construction project. How might such projects help develop Mexico's economy?

Creation of Jobs The movement of people from rural to urban areas and across international borders presents a second challenge to Mexico's economy. Many Mexicans from rural areas move to cities for jobs. There, they often live in poor conditions, with no jobs or low-wage jobs.

Many Mexicans move to the United States for economic opportunities. Some risk the dangerous border crossing to the United States and enter the country illegally. Many earn money to help their families back home. Once in the United States, immigrants often work long hours at low-paying jobs, sometimes at more than one job.

As the Mexican economy creates more and better-paying jobs, the problem of illegal **immigration** may improve. In the meantime, Mexico and the United States continue to cooperate to strengthen security on their border and to find ways to resolve the immigration problems.

IDENTIFY PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Identify the challenges Mexico faces in developing its economy.



ONLINE QUIZ

For test practice, go to **Interactive Review @ClassZone.com**

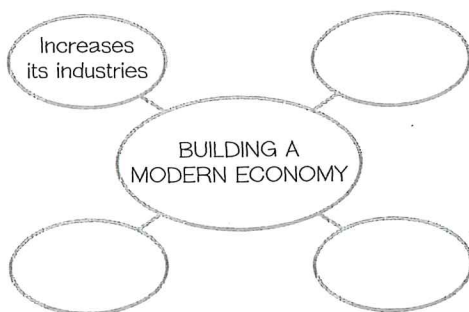
Section 3 Assessment

TERMS & NAMES

- 1. Explain the importance of**
- *maquiladora*
 - NAFTA
 - global economy
 - immigration

USE YOUR READING NOTES

- 2. Find Main Ideas** Use your completed chart to answer the following question:
What steps has Mexico taken to build a modern economy?



KEY IDEAS

3. What was Mexico's traditional economy based on until the 1940s?
4. What are Mexico's most important industries?
5. What are two challenges Mexico faces today?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Evaluate** What are the advantages and disadvantages of Mexico's membership in NAFTA?
7. **Analyze Causes and Effects** How did the growth of urban areas and industrialization contribute to Mexico's pollution problems?
8. **CONNECT to Today** Why is creating jobs important for Mexico today?
9. **WRITING Prepare a Report** Choose one of Mexico's major industries. Find out how many people are employed in the industry, its major locations, and how much money the industry brings to Mexico's economy. Prepare an illustrated report of your findings.

CHAPTER SUMMARY



Key Idea 1

Mexico overcame many obstacles as the country moved toward establishing a democracy.



Key Idea 2

Three cultures blended to create the heritage and daily life of the Mexican people.



Key Idea 3

Mexico continues to face challenges as it tries to modernize its economy.

 For Review and Study Notes, go to [Interactive Review @ClassZone.com](http://InteractiveReview@ClassZone.com)



NAME GAME

Use the Terms & Names list to complete each sentence on paper or online.

- I am the place that became independent from Mexico in 1837. Republic of Texas
- I am the place where the cultural sources of modern Mexico can be seen. _____
- I am a document that brought reforms to Mexico and is still in effect in Mexico today. _____
- I am the president who broke Mexican one-party rule. _____
- I am a neighborhood or suburb of a Mexican city. _____
- I am an agreement made between North American countries. _____
- I am a person who lives on land that is not my own. _____
- I am a tax on imported goods. _____
- I am a Mexican writer who won the Nobel Prize for Literature. _____
- I am a famous Mexican mural painter. _____

colonia
Constitution of 1917
Vicente Fox
Benito Juárez
maquiladora
NAFTA
Octavio Paz
Plaza of the Three Cultures
Republic of Texas
Diego Rivera
squatter
tariff

Activities

Flip Cards

Use the online flip cards to quiz yourself on the terms and names introduced in this chapter.



Benito Juárez



Mexican president and reformer who helped write the Constitution of 1857

Crossword Puzzle

Complete an online crossword puzzle to test your knowledge of the history and culture of Mexico.

ACROSS

- a holiday celebrated with parades, games, and food



VOCABULARY

Explain the significance of each of the following.

1. Republic of Texas
2. annex
3. Plaza of the Three Cultures
4. *colonia*
5. squatter
6. mural
7. Diego Rivera
8. fiesta
9. Day of the Dead
10. immigration



Explain how the terms and names in each group are related.

11. Mexican Revolution and Constitution of 1917
12. Antonio López de Santa Anna, Benito Juárez, and Vicente Fox
13. *maquiladoras*, global economy, and NAFTA

KEY IDEAS

1 A Struggle Toward Democracy

14. Why was it difficult for Mexicans to rule themselves after independence?
15. What contributions did Benito Juárez make to Mexico?
16. How and why did the Mexican Revolution happen?
17. Why was the 2000 presidential election in Mexico significant?

2 A Blend of Traditions

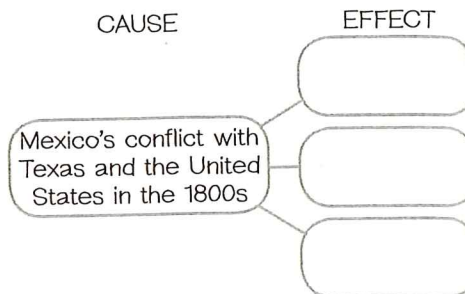
18. What are three influences on Mexican culture today?
19. What conditions led Mexican people to move from rural to urban areas?
20. Why is Mexican mural painting a continuation of ancient Mexican tradition?
21. What do Mexicans celebrate on *Cinco de Mayo*?

3 Creating a New Economy

22. Why is oil important to Mexico's economy?
23. What steps did Mexico take to modernize its economy?
24. What factors contribute to air pollution in Mexico City?
25. Why do many Mexicans migrate to the United States?

CRITICAL THINKING

26. **Analyze Causes and Effects** Complete a cause and effect diagram to explain the effects of Mexico's conflicts with Texas and the United States in the 1800s.



27. **Make Inferences** How do Mexico's holidays and arts show the influence of Mexico's history?
28. **Draw Conclusions** How did Mexico's frequent changes in leaders before the Mexican Revolution affect the country?
29. **Connect History & Art** Why did so many Mexican artists and writers paint and write about Mexico's past?
30. **Five Themes: Location** How does Mexico City's location contribute to the problem of smog in the city?

Answer the ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How does Mexico reflect both ancient traditions and the demands of the modern world?

Written Response Write a two- or three-paragraph response to the Essential Question. Be sure to include a discussion of Mexican life, government, and economy. Use the rubric below to guide your thinking.

Response Rubric

A strong response will:

- describe how Mexican life reflects both ancient and modern traditions
- discuss the challenges Mexico faced in creating a democratic government and a modern economy

- Online Test Practice @ ClassZone.com
- Test-Taking Strategies and Practice at the front of this book

THEMATIC MAP

Use the map and your knowledge of Mexico to answer questions 1 and 2.

Selected Products of Mexico



1. In what region of Mexico is petroleum produced?

- along the Pacific coast
- along the U.S. border
- along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico
- along the interior of the country

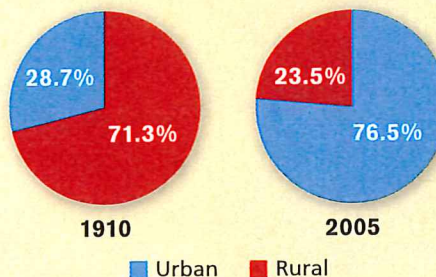
2. In what part of Mexico is cotton grown?

- in the southern part
- in the northern part
- only on the western coast
- only on the eastern coast

CIRCLE GRAPH

Examine the graph below. Use the information in the graph to answer questions 3 and 4.

Mexico's Population Distribution



Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography, and Informatics (Mexico)

3. What percentage of Mexico's population was urban in 1910? in 2005?

4. What does this tell you about changes that have taken place in Mexican society?

GeoActivity

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY-SCIENCE

Find out about the habitat of the monarch butterfly in Mexico. Research the butterfly's migration pattern and life cycle. Find out what the Mexican government has done to protect these butterflies. Present your findings in an illustrated and captioned poster.

2. WRITING FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

Create a guide for visitors to Mexico City. Use the Internet to learn about places to visit, such as museums, and cultural institutions, such as the ballet. Write a description of each of these places, and include illustrations.

3. MENTAL MAPPING

Create an outline map of Mexico and label the following:

- Mexico City
- Rio Grande
- Sierra Madre Occidental
- Sierra Madre Oriental
- Gulf of Mexico
- Pacific Ocean