

México: El día de independencia

Unit 1: Spanish A

Anticipation Guide

- Read the directions carefully. Put a “Y” in the “I think” column if you think the sentence is TRUE, and put an “N” if you think it is FALSE.
- When you are done, put your pen/pencil down.

Article

- Let's read the article together.
- After, check your guesses to see if the statements are actually True or False. Place a "Y" if the statement is True in "The Text Says" column or "N" if the statement is False.
- After, correct the false statements on the back of your handout.

Mexicos' Independence Day

- Mexico celebrates Independence Day on September 16 (el 16 de septiembre). It is considered a day to celebrate their independence from Spanish rule. This is **not** the same as Cinco de Mayo.

Mexico's Independence Day

- **Background:** The people of Mexico wanted to have independence from Spain since the beginning of the 19th century. The people of Mexico wanted independence because they did not like the way the Indians were being treated and they wanted to fight for their freedom.

Mexico's Independence Day

- The people of Mexico decided to form a group to fight for independence. This group was lead by a very strong man named Father Miguel Hidalgo y Castilla.
- Father Hidalgo and his supporters developed a plan to revolt against the government on October 1, 1810. The details of this plan were found out on September 15, 1810 before it could be carried out.

Mexico's Independence Day

- The Plan: Father Hidalgo and his supporters decided to develop a plan to revolt against the government on October 1, 1810. Unfortunately, the details of this plan were found out on September 15, 1810 before it could be carried out by Father Hidalgo and his supporters. Since the plan was discovered early, they made the decision to push the plan date forward and start the revolution the next.

Mexico's Independence Day

- On the morning of September 16, 1810, Father Hidalgo rang the church bells and challenged his supporters to regain their rights that were taken away by the Spanish 300 years earlier. He encouraged the people to fight for freedom and equality.

Mexico's Independence Day

- Celebrations: This day is celebrated in every city/plaza in Mexico.
- There are parades, flags are flown, and the people of Mexico dress up in traditional clothing and the colors of the flag (red, white, and green).
- Each year at 11:00 p.m., a government official arrives at the celebration and gives the cry for independence in remembrance of what Father Hidalgo did.
- The bell that is rung is atop the National palace where the president's offices are located.

Flag (*La bandera*)

- Turn to the backside of the last page of your article.
- **For boletos:**
- What colors are the Mexican flag?
- What other national flag has similar colors?
- What is the symbol in the middle of the flag called?

Coat of Arms



Coat of Arms

- The coat of arms can be found in the middle section on the flag of Mexico.
- The coat of arms is based upon a legend. This legend states the people are to seek a place where an eagle lands on a prickly pear cactus eating a snake.

Coat of Arms

- After wandering for hundreds of years, the people found this legendary sign on a swampy island inside the lake of Texcoco, which is present day Mexico.
- The city was named Tenochtitlan, which means *In the Moon's navel- Place of the Prickly Pear Cactus*.
- The city was built upon the lake and it is now present day Mexico City.

Colors

- **Green:** represents hope for a better nation, and peace.
- **White:** represents the purity of Catholic faith.
- **Red:** the color of blood. Mexican people pay a tribute to those who died during the terrible war for independence.



Flag (*La bandera*)



- Take a few minutes and color in the flag that you have in front of you. When you are finished, put the packet in your binder. And turn in your Anticipation Guide for a grade. Make sure your name is on it!