



Topic: Mexico

Year: 4

Term: Spring

Key Facts

Quick Facts	
Flag	
Language(s)	Spanish
Capital City	Mexico City
Currency	Pesos
Religion(s)	Christian: Catholic (83%); Protestant (7%); Other (10%)
Climate	Mostly tropical: wet season and warm, dry season



History

The Ancient Mayans lived in parts of Mexico and North America from around 2,600 BC. Some of their buildings such as pyramids and homes can still be seen today.

Mexico was part of the Spanish empire for three centuries. This is why Spanish is the main language of Mexico.

Locational Knowledge

Mexico is located in the continent of North America and shares borders with the United States and



States of America, Guatemala and Belize.

To the east, is the Gulf of Mexico, and to the west, the Pacific Ocean.



Key Facts

Physical Geography

Mexico is a land of extremes, with high **mountains** and deep **canyons** in the centre of the country, sweeping **deserts** in the north, and dense **rainforests** in the south and east.

A **river** called the 'Rio Grande' runs through parts of Mexico.

To the east is the Yucatan peninsula, which was once home to the Ancient Mayan civilisation.

Human Geography

Many Mexicans live in **towns** and **cities** in the central part of Mexico. Some Mexicans still choose to live in more **rural** areas on farms, as their ancestors did.

Arts and Culture

Music is popular in Mexico. Mariachi are Mexican musicians who play classical, folk music, usually with guitars, violins and trumpets.

The Day of the Dead (el Día de los Muertos) is a Mexican holiday where families remember their ancestors.

El Cinco de Mayo is another popular holiday that celebrates a special event in Mexican history.



Vocabulary

Word	Explanation
ancestor	Members of a person's family who came before them and have since died
border	The line where one country ends and another one starts
cenotes	An underground river or lake
century	100 years
civilisation	A large group of people who live together under the same rules and laws
empire	A vast group of countries or places ruled over by a monarch
indigenous	People who lived in a place first
mariachi	A type of music popular in Mexico
peninsula	A part of land that is surrounded by sea on most sides
ritual	A series of actions and movements that are performed in order to remember something important
rural	Land where there are lots of fields, trees and grass, located outside of a town or city