

Chapter 2 Questions pages 39-44

Name: _____

- 1) Mexico celebrates its independence day on September 16 in honor of the famous “Grito de Dolores”. During that famous speech, Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla implored his followers to do what?

- 2) The early Mexican Revolution started in 1810 making it one of the earliest liberation efforts in all of Latin America. Yet it was the one of the last of Latin American nations to actually earn its independence from Spain. What factors account for the long and bloody fight?

- 3) Even after Independence from Spain was achieved, Mexico struggled to establish a stable governmental system. Between 1821 and 1867, more than 50 governments ruled Mexico, an average of more than 1 per year. List and describe at least three factors which account for the revolving door of governments.

- 4) The United States has enjoyed only one government (The Constitution) in the last 235 years making it the most stable nation in the world during that period. What do you think the USA would look like today if we had a new form of government every year as Mexico had during its first 50 years?

- 5) How did Hidalgo’s upbringing/background contribute to his revolutionary path?

- 6) How did Napoleon’s invasion of Spain open the door for revolutionaries in Mexico to move against the Spanish government there?

- 7) How did the caste system help contribute to the early Mexican revolution?

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- 8) Although Hidalgo started the Mexican revolution, others would have to finish it. What mistakes did he make which led to his downfall?

 - 9) After Hidalgo was executed after handing out a basket of candies, he would be replaced by Morelos, another Catholic priest. What skill(s) did Morelos have which Hidalgo did not?

 - 10) After Morelos was captured, consider whether the rebel movement fall apart? If not, why not?

 - 11) By 1820, the early Mexican Revolution had raged for a decade, devastating Mexican production and killing tens of thousands. What effect did this continuous struggle have on the population and economy of Mexico and how would this affect the Revolution?

 - 12) In 1821, the Plan of Igualda was a major turning point in the Mexican Revolution. What were its three major provisions and why was it successful?

 - 13) What is the connection between the Plan of Igualda and the symbolism/colors of the Mexican Flag?

 - 14) Despite the triumph of General Iturbe in 1821 and the Plan of Igualda, what problems would confront the new nation and its new government?