

Forces Across Borders

Trace how major forces affect people and communities in Latin America.

SS6H1.d "Explain the impact of poverty, the war on drugs, and migration to the United States on Latin America."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each effect on people or communities. In the margin, write P, D, or M beside it to show whether poverty, drug-control conflict, or migration caused the effect.

Three Forces, Many Effects

- ① Across Latin America, poverty can shape daily choices for families. When jobs pay little or work is unreliable, parents may struggle to buy food, pay rent, or keep children in school. Some young people leave school to earn money. Communities with limited tax income may have fewer well-funded schools, health clinics, roads, and clean-water systems. Poverty does not mean people lack skills or effort. It often grows from unequal access to land, education, credit, safe work, and public services, making it harder for families and communities to build stability.
- ② The war on drugs refers to government efforts to stop illegal drug production, sales, and trafficking. In several Latin American countries, drug cartels have used violence, bribery, and threats to protect their profits. Governments have spent money on police, soldiers, prisons, and border control. These actions can disrupt trafficking, but they can also bring armed conflict into neighborhoods and strain trust in public institutions when corruption occurs. Farmers who grow illegal crops may lose income when fields are destroyed unless they have realistic ways to earn money from legal crops or other work.
- ③ Migration to the United States has connected Latin American families and economies across borders. People may migrate to seek safer communities, jobs, schooling, or reunification with relatives. Money that migrants send home, called remittances, can help families pay for food, housing, health care, or small businesses. Yet migration can also separate parents from children and remove workers from home communities. Migrants may face dangerous journeys, uncertain legal status, or discrimination in the United States. These effects differ by country, family, and the reasons a person migrates.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What are two ways poverty can affect families or communities in Latin America?

2 What is one goal of government drug-control efforts, and what are two effects these efforts can have on communities?

3 Give one way remittances can help a family and one challenge migration can create.

4 Why might a farmer lose income after illegal crop fields are destroyed?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine the fictional town of Santa Luz. Write four sentences explaining how poverty, drug-trafficking conflict, and migration to the United States could affect the town. Include one possible benefit and two possible challenges, and show how two of the forces might connect.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each effect on people or communities. In the margin, write P, D, or M beside it to show whether poverty, drug-control conflict, or migration caused the effect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two ways poverty can affect families or communities in Latin America?	Poverty can cause young people to leave school to earn money, and it can leave communities with fewer well-funded schools, clinics, roads, or clean-water systems.
2	What is one goal of government drug-control efforts, and what are two effects these efforts can have on communities?	The goal is to disrupt illegal drug trafficking. The efforts can bring armed conflict into neighborhoods and strain trust in public institutions when corruption occurs.
3	Give one way remittances can help a family and one challenge migration can create.	Remittances can help a family pay for needs such as food, housing, health care, or a small business. Migration can separate parents from children.
4	Why might a farmer lose income after illegal crop fields are destroyed?	The farmer may lose income if there is no realistic way to earn money from legal crops or other work.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In Santa Luz, low-paying jobs make it hard for some families to afford school supplies and food. A drug cartel's threats cause local businesses to close, so fewer safe jobs are available. Elena moves to the United States and sends remittances that help her grandmother buy medicine. However, Elena's younger brother misses her, showing how migration can support a family while also separating it.

Accept accurate paraphrases of the passage for Questions 1 through 4. For the open response, accept varied realistic effects if all three forces are included, one benefit and two challenges are identified, and a connection between two forces is explained.