

Revolution Changes Mexico

Trace how conflict can reshape laws, power, and daily life.

SS6H1 "Explain conflict and change in Latin America."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two conditions that helped cause the conflict. Circle three changes that happened because of the conflict, then number them 1, 2, and 3.

Mexico's Revolution

- ① In 1910, Mexico faced a major conflict called the Mexican Revolution. For more than 30 years, President Porfirio Díaz had ruled the country. Railroads and factories grew, but much of the land was controlled by wealthy owners and foreign companies. Many rural families had little land to farm, and workers had few political rights. Francisco Madero called for fair elections after Díaz announced another run for president. His challenge helped start an armed rebellion against the Díaz government.
- ② Different groups joined the fighting for different reasons. In the south, Emiliano Zapata and his followers demanded that villages regain land. In northern Mexico, Pancho Villa led forces that opposed the old government. Díaz resigned in 1911, but peace did not follow. Leaders who had once worked together fought one another for power. The revolution lasted about a decade, harming communities and causing many people to flee or lose their lives. Homes, farms, and local economies were damaged.
- ③ Conflict brought important changes. Mexico's Constitution of 1917 promised land reform, limits on the workday, and stronger rights for workers. It also restricted the power of the Catholic Church in public life. These promises did not quickly solve every problem. Some land was redistributed slowly, and many people remained poor. Still, the revolution ended Díaz's long rule and changed Mexico's laws and government. It showed how unequal power and resources can lead to conflict and demands for change.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two conditions in Mexico helped cause people to challenge Díaz's government?

2 Why did fighting continue after Díaz resigned in 1911?

3 Name two changes promised by the Constitution of 1917. Explain which people each change could help.

4 What evidence shows that the revolution changed Mexico but did not solve every problem?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a five-sentence explanation of how unequal land and power led to conflict and change in Mexico. Include at least three facts from the passage and explain one problem that continued after the revolution.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two conditions that helped cause the conflict. Circle three changes that happened because of the conflict, then number them 1, 2, and 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two conditions in Mexico helped cause people to challenge Díaz's government?	Wealthy owners and foreign companies controlled much land, leaving many rural families with little land. Workers also had few political rights, and Madero called for fair elections.
2	Why did fighting continue after Díaz resigned in 1911?	Peace did not follow because leaders who had once worked together fought one another for power.
3	Name two changes promised by the Constitution of 1917. Explain which people each change could help.	It promised land reform, which could help rural families and villages, and stronger worker rights and limits on the workday, which could help workers.
4	What evidence shows that the revolution changed Mexico but did not solve every problem?	The revolution ended Díaz's rule and changed laws and government through the 1917 Constitution. However, land was redistributed slowly, and many people remained poor.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Unequal land ownership helped cause the Mexican Revolution because many rural families had too little land to farm. Zapata's followers demanded that villages regain land. After the conflict, the 1917 Constitution promised land reform and worker protections. This changed Mexico's laws and government. However, land was redistributed slowly, so many people remained poor.

Accept equivalent evidence-based explanations of causes, conflict, and changes. For the open response, look for an accurate cause-and-effect chain, at least three passage facts, and a continuing problem.