

# Preview of the Mexican National *Video*

## Unit 4: Mexican National

Name:  Date:  Period:

### Video Introduction

This video provides a brief introduction of the major themes and events of the Mexican National era unit. Use this viewing guide worksheet to assess your understanding of the topics in the video.

### Video Vocabulary

**Directions:** Before you begin the video, read the terms below to familiarize yourself with the new vocabulary introduced in this video.

Term	Definition
<b>Debt</b> ( <i>n</i> )	Money owed that must be paid back
<b>Decimated</b> ( <i>v</i> )	Destroyed
<b>Scheme</b> ( <i>n</i> )	A plan ( <i>also a verb: To Scheme is to plan</i> )
<b>Citizenship</b> ( <i>n</i> )	Being an official member of a country and having rights and responsibilities in that country as a result.
<b>Tejano</b> ( <i>n</i> )	A Texan of Hispanic descent; A Mexican Texan.
<b>Colonize</b> ( <i>v</i> )	To move into a new land and establish political control over that land. (In the context of this unit, “colonize” is used more similarly to “immigrate.”)

### While You Watch:

1. According to the video, what were three challenges Mexico faced after it won its independence from Spain in 1821? Circle or highlight THREE.

The Tejanos in Texas were dissatisfied with Mexican control.	Conflict between Texas Indians and the U.S. was likely to lead to war.	Tejanos strongly opposed Mexico’s plan to settle Americans in Texas.
Spain threatened to invade and reconquer Mexico from Cuba.	Mexico was in debt from the war and economically weak.	Mexico’s position in Texas was incredibly weak.

2. The Mexican government wanted to strengthen its position in its northern state of Texas. How did the government of Mexico plan to increase the population and improve the economy of Texas after the War for Mexican Independence?

3. Which statements are TRUE of Mexico's plan to strengthen its position in Texas?

Place a checkmark next to all TRUE statements. Choose THREE.

- ☐ Most Tejanos supported inviting Americans to settle in Texas because it promised to improve the economy and grow the non-Indian population.
- ☐ Many Americans were interested in moving to Mexican Texas for access to cheap land primarily to grow the cash crop, cotton.
- ☐ As cotton farming increased in Texas, so did the number of enslaved people being brought into Texas by plantation owners.
- ☐ Most Mexicans supported slavery and did not oppose the growth of slavery in Texas.
- ☐ American immigration to Texas had very little effect on the economy, politics, or security of Texas during the Mexican national era.

4. Which of the following answers best completes the following statement:

The Mexican National era of Texas history is best characterized by ...

- a. ... Mexico's work to strengthen its position in Texas by inviting American immigrants to settle and work in Texas as Mexican citizens.
- b. ... the United States of America's efforts to claim Texas for the U.S. and establish a strong agricultural economy based on the cash crop, cotton.
- c. ... the Tejanos, Indians, and Americans in Texas working to establish a strong trade partnership in order to improve the economy of Texas.
- d. ... the Spanish king's attempts to reconquer Mexico and return Mexico to its former state as a colony of Spain.