

Wheal Luna | Spring **Mexico and Ancient Maya**

Geography of Mexico



Mexico's landscape is very diverse. There are deserts in the north, rainforests in the south, and mountains, plateaus, and canyons in the centre.



The population of Mexico is appoximately 129.2 million people. It is the most populated Spanish-speaking country.

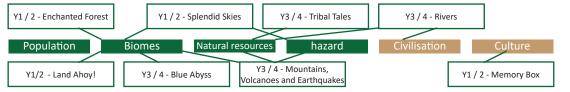


Mexico's capital city is named Mexico City and is located in the southern part of the country where the climate is tropical. Some other large cities in Mexico are Guadalajara and Tijuana.



Mexico's tropical climate means it is able to grow a wide range of fruit such as bananas and avocados. These are often exported to countries in Europe.

Link to Prior Learning / Key Concepts



Ancient Maya (2000BCE - 1697CE)



The Maya were an ancient civilisation that settled in the Yucatan peninsula and across other surrounding countries.

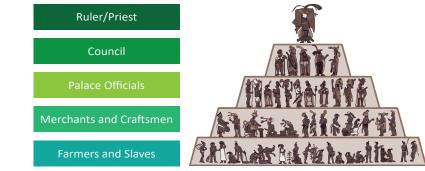
They built large city states across Central America across the land other the modern day countries of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras.

Religion was very important to the Ancient Maya. They built impressive temples such as the pyramid in their capital city, Chichen Itza.

In the 1500s, the Spanish began to colonise the area around key Maya cities and the civilisation began to decline.

Social Hierarchy

Like many ancient civilisations, a clear social hierarchy formed. The Maya lived in many city states and each city state had its own ruler.



Human Features

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Vocabulary

Civilisation	A ell-organised and developed society.
City State	A city and its surrounding area which has its own ruler.
Climate	The weather in a particular place over a period of time.
Culture	The lifestlye of a group of people or a society.
Hierarchy	A system that ranks rthings, often in order of power or importance.
Peninsula	A piece of land that sticks out into the ocean but is still connected to the land.
Plateau	A raised, flat piece of land. Often with cliffs or steep slops on one or more side.
Settlement	A place where people live and build homes.
Temple	A building devoted to the worship of a god or gods.
Topography	The shape of the land in a particular area.

Physical Features



Peninsula





Topography





Climate

Mountains