

Latin America History Study Guide Key

1. Describe the independence movement that took place in Haiti. Toussaint L'Ouverture led the independence movement and they gained independence through a black slave revolt. Haiti was the second nation the in the Western hemisphere to gain independence.
2. In the 1500s, who led the soldiers who conquered the Incan civilization? Francisco Pizarro
3. Explain what Toussaint L'Ouverture, Simon Bolivar, and Miguel Hidalgo all have in common. They were leaders of independence movements in Latin America.
4. Explain why the Spanish believed they were justified in going to war with the Incas. Atahualpa refused to convert to Christianity.
5. Describe who the "The Liberator" was and what he did. Simon Bolivar led Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador in their successful fight for independence from Spain.
6. Explain why the African slave trade grew. European nations wanted the captured Africans to work on the plantations in their colonies.
7. Explain why the Aztec thought Montezuma was such a great leader? He expanded the territory of the Aztec.
8. Describe how Spain's influence is still seen in many countries in Latin America today. Most of the people in these countries are Roman Catholic and speak Spanish.
9. Explain how the Spanish were able to conquer the Aztecs even though they were outnumbered. Better weapons, horses, and diseases killed thousands.
10. Describe the Colombian Exchange. The movement of crops, animals, ideas, diseases, and people from the Old World to the New World and from the New World to the Old World.
11. Explain why the Spanish established missions in North and South America. To spread Christianity
12. Describe what occurred in the 1400s and 1500s as a result of European exploration of the Americas. The destruction of the Aztec and Incan civilizations
13. Who is known as the Father of Independence in Mexico? Miguel Hidalgo
14. Describe the religion of the Inca. They were polytheistic which means they worshiped many gods.
15. Describe one effect of the African Slave Trade. The further blending of ethnic groups in Latin America
16. Explain who Hernando Cortes was and what he did. Spanish conquistador who captured the Aztec emperor Montezuma in 1519 and defeated the Aztec Empire in 1521.
17. Explain why the religion practiced and languages spoken throughout much of Latin America are similar. They were colonized by the same countries.

18. Explain what allowed Cortes and Pizarro to conquer the Aztecs and the Incas. European diseases killed many Native Americans who might have fought the Spanish.
19. Explain how Haiti won its independence from France in 1804. In a revolt led by the former slave, Toussaint L'Ouverture.
20. Explain how Miguel Hidalgo is different from Toussaint L'Ouverture and Simon Bolivar. Hidalgo was not a successful general.
21. Explain how the Colombian Exchange led to the decline of the indigenous population, change in agriculture and introduction of the horse. The Colombian Exchange brought about disease among the Native Americans in which they had no immunities. A large number of Native Americans died from diseases brought over by the Europeans such as smallpox and measles. The Colombian Exchange brought many new types of food to Latin America, which altered Native Americans diets. The introduction of the horse made it possible for Native Americans to travel farther and faster.
22. Describe the roles Cortes, Montezuma, Pizarro, and Atahualpa played during the Spanish encounter and conquest of the Aztec and Inca. Cortes was a Spanish conquistador who explored Mexico. He encountered the Aztec along with their Emperor Montezuma. Montezuma thought Cortes was a god. Cortes successfully conquered the Aztec civilization. Pizarro was also a Spanish explorer. He explored South America and discovered the Inca civilization. Atahualpa was the leader of the Inca and fought against Pizarro and his men. Pizarro eventually conquered the Inca civilization.
23. Why were Toussaint L'Ouverture, Simon Bolivar, and Miguel Hidalgo important in the independence movements of Latin America? Toussaint L'Ouverture led the independence movement in Haiti. This was a movement to free the African slaves from their white masters. He was taken back prison in France where he died. His army continued to fight and won their independence from France. Simon Bolivar led the independence movement in South America. He wanted to free his homeland from rule by the Spanish. He successfully liberated several South American countries but was unable to unite South America into one country. He eventually retired. Miguel Hidalgo was the leader of the independence movement in Mexico. He wanted to stop the Spanish oppression and wanted Mexicans to recover lost land. He was captured and executed but Mexico continued to fight for independence which they won 11 years later.