

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____



World Studies: Countries, Cultures, and Connections -6

Chapter 12: The Geography and History of Latin America ***Section 2: From Colonies to Independence***

Guided Reading

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Central and South America had amazing _____ cultures.
2. The _____ civilization developed Central America on the Yucatán Peninsula.
3. Among the most famous of the indigenous people of Central and South America were the _____ and the _____.
4. The _____ Empire was centered in what is now Mexico. Its capital city, Tenochitlán, was built on an island in a lake where _____ City is today.
5. Further south along the western coast of South America, the _____ Empire developed in the Andes Mountains.
6. This event started an _____ between the Old World (Europe) and the New World (the Americas). This _____ included goods, people, ideas, plants, animals, and diseases.
7. As the Spanish and the Portuguese spread their empires, the indigenous populations began to _____. _____ was a big part of this decline—killing an estimated 50 to 75 percent of the population.
8. In order to meet the demand for goods to be sent back to Europe, the Europeans transported _____ to the New World as enslaved servants to work in mines and on plantations and to do other jobs against their will.

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9. _____ and _____ found by conquistadors (conquerors) made Spain and Portugal wealthy. The wealth also made the countries _____.
10. For about three hundred years, businesses that depended on _____ grew.
11. This labor force helped to build many of the countries of Latin America, but most of the _____ was sent back to Europe.
12. Mexico's move toward _____ from Spain began in 1810, but the rebels failed.
13. Freedom of _____ and _____ of all people were important parts of the Mexican independence movement.
14. Nearly all of South America was free of _____ rule by 1825.
15. Through the remainder of the 19th century, the _____ had a dominant role in many Latin American countries.
16. President James Monroe declared in 1823 that the United States would not tolerate European nations _____ in Latin America. This idea, later called the _____, became an important part of the policy of the U.S. government.