**Mexico's Independence Day**

* You may know that the USA declared its independence from England in 1776. And some of you may know the story of another country's independence. In this WebQuest you will find information about Mexico's story of independence.

## Introducción

* The year is 1776 and you are a reporter located in Philadelphia.  It is a blazing hot beginning to July and you are privy to the most important story of the century:  American Independence.
* This is sort of what this assignment is about   only it's a different year in a different Spanish-speaking country (I know some of you saw that coming).  THIS IS SPANISH CLASS!!
* You are in a team of 4 reporters who are to cover this story from different angles.  Remember this is the biggest story of the...18th century?  17th century?  You tell me.

**Tarea**

The task of this WebQuest is for you to assume the role of a journalist writing a newspaper article about the events taking place around the Independence Day of Mexico.

You should pick some part of a newspaper in which you want to assume a role.  This could be an editorial, a comic strip, a cover story, a sports article, or come up with one on your own.  BE CREATIVE!

To be clear:  The imaginary paper for which you are writing will be published hypothetically on or around the actual date of independence of Mexico.

## Proceso

Answer the following questions to help you in understanding Mexico's Independence and the events leading up to it.

1.   Name 3 of the "first people" to inhabit Mexico.

2.   What is the date of the Spanish Invasion of Mexico, how long was their rule, and what did they call their "new" territory?

3.   What became the social hierarchy of this "new" territory?  Explain each

4.   Why did the people of Mexico revolt?

5.  How did the fighting begin?  How long was the war?

6.   What is the official date of Mexico's Independence?

7.   What do the colors of the Mexican flag mean?

8.   What are 5 things used to decorate for Indpendence day and how do they celebrate?

9.   What is the 'grito de dolores'?

You may use these websites or any others you can find your information.

<http://www.inside-mexico.com/featureindep.htm>

<http://www.mexonline.com/mexican-independence.htm>

<http://www.presidiolabahia.org/mex_ind.htm>

<http://gomexico.about.com/od/festivalsholidays/p/independence.htm>

1. You have been assigned a group of 4.

2. Once you are in your group you should figure out which 4 parts of the newspaper you want to cover (eg:  editorial, comic, etc.).  Part of this decision making process will be obvious when members of your group say, "I want to do a comic strip."  or "I love sports."

3. Now that you each have your roles in the group it is time to put your research to work.   Make sure your "newspaper" reflects what you have learned in your research.

As you are conducting your research I want you to remember two things:  First, I want each article to include 3 credible websites in its research; second, this is a collaborative assignment and you should be working with and for the other members of your group.

The way that this collaborative approach looks like at this stage is simple:  If you are researching information for a non-biased cover story on page 1, you will most likely come across information that might help your partner who is doing a biased editorial article on page 3.  SHARE THIS INFORMATION. There is no cheating in this assignment.  The whole internet is yours to pull information and you can share that information with whomever you wish.

Of course you must compose the articles yourselves, meaning you cannot cut and paste an article into your newspaper from the internet.  It must be your own work.

 Also, make sure to cite all your resources using the format you have learned in your English classes.  If you have any questions about how to cite from a newspaper article check here.

[Easy Bibliographies](http://easybib.com/)

As you begin to finish writing your articles/cartoons/comics you should start thinking too about how your newspaper is going to look.  Be as creative as you want with this part of the assignment.  I will not grade on how much your creation looks like an actual newspaper but I will be checking that your final creation somewhat resembles a newspaper  I have attached a template that you should feel free to use to help you in seeing my vision for this assignment, or you can just take a look at mine and come up with your own.  

[Newspaper template](file:///C:\Users\heather.felix\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1_Mexicos%20independence%20day%20webquest.zip\090830185042\files\Newspaper_template,_example.doc)

Good luck and have fun.  Review each other's articles and check for continuity.  This means that if someone's article has July 4th listed as the country's independence day then another article should not say it was on July 5th.

 Also make shore too check each other four grammatical mistake and spellings mistakes that would most likely bee missed buy a spell check program.

Before you turn this in make sure to take a final look at the rubric provided and make sure you will get a great grade on your great project

**Evaluación**

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|  | **The objective was not  met**  **1** | **Parts of the objective were met**  **2** | **The objective was met**  **3** |
| Questions | Questions were turned in 2 days late and/or are incomplete. | Questions were turned in 1 day late and/or most but not all are completed. | Questions were turned in on time and all questions were completed. |
| **Web Based Research** | Each student used either 1 or no websites in the process of discovering information for the newspaper article. | Each student used 2 websites in the process of discovering information for the newspaper article, | Each student used at least 3 websites in the process of discovering information for the newspaper article. |
| **Content** | The content was narrow as it explored few aspects of the country's independence. | The content was limited as it explored only several aspects of the country's independence. | The content was full as it explored many different aspects of the country's independence (e.g. time, people, place, arguments, wars, other countries, economy, milieu) |
| **Language & Grammar** | The language used in the article was not good.  There were over 20 errors that could be found. | The language used in the article was good.  Between 11-20 errors could be found. | The language and grammar used in the article was superb.  Some errors could be found but these errors were limited to 10 |
| **Newspaper Format/Style** | The format and style of the article did not have elements resembling that of a newspaper. | The format and style of the article had elements of one that could be found in a newspaper, however these elements are limited in scope. | The format and style of the article very clearly reflected one that could be found in an average newspaper. |