

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Mexico: A Vibrant Land of Culture and History

### Short Answer Key

1. Mexico features diverse landscapes, including towering mountains like the Sierra Madre and vast deserts in the north. The country also boasts tropical rainforests in the south and stunning coastlines along the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean.
2. The Zócalo is Mexico City's main square and is famous for its historical significance. It was the heart of the Aztec city of Tenochtitlán and remains a central gathering place for celebrations and events.
3. An example of a traditional Mexican festival is Dia de los Muertos, which is culturally important as it honors deceased loved ones and showcases a deep connection between the living and the dead.
4. Mexican cuisine varies by region, with ingredients like corn, beans, chilies, and tomatoes being common staples. Coastal regions feature seafood, while the interior is known for dishes like mole and tamales.
5. The Maya civilization was known for its sophisticated calendar system and complex architecture, including step pyramids and temples. They also excelled in mathematics and astronomy.

