

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Understanding Mexico's Government: A Journey into Democracy

Mexico, a diverse and culturally rich country, boasts a democratic government that has evolved over centuries. In this passage, we'll explore the structure and functions of Mexico's government, its history, and the role of its citizens in shaping the nation's destiny.

### The Three Branches of Government

Mexico's government is divided into three branches, much like the United States. These branches are:

- **The Executive Branch:** The President of Mexico is the head of the executive branch. The president is both the head of state and the head of government and is responsible for implementing and enforcing the country's laws. The president serves a single six-year term and cannot seek reelection.
- **The Legislative Branch:** Mexico's Congress is responsible for making and passing laws. It consists of two chambers: the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. The Chamber of Deputies has 500 members, while the Senate has 128. Members of Congress are elected by the people.
- **The Judicial Branch:** Mexico's judiciary is responsible for interpreting and applying the law. The Supreme Court of Justice is the highest court in the land and ensures that laws and government actions are in line with the constitution.

### A Brief History of Mexican Government

Mexico's government has a rich history that includes periods of colonial rule, revolution, and the establishment of democratic institutions. Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821 and initially adopted a monarchy. However, it later became a federal republic.

The Mexican Revolution, which began in 1910, led to significant political and social reforms. It also resulted in the 1917 Constitution, which forms the basis of Mexico's current legal system.

### Citizen Participation and Democracy

Mexican citizens play a crucial role in shaping their government. They have the right to vote in elections, including presidential, congressional, and local elections. Mexico's democratic system encourages active participation and allows for different political parties to compete.

