

Name _____

Understanding Mexico's Government: A Journey into Democracy

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Both Mexico and the United States have three branches of government: executive, legislative, and judicial. However, their specific structures and functions may differ. For example, the President of Mexico serves a single six-year term without reelection, while the U.S. President can serve two four-year terms. Both countries have a judiciary responsible for interpreting and applying the law, but the specifics of their highest courts may vary.
2. The 1917 Constitution is significant because it laid the foundation for modern Mexico and its legal system. It introduced principles of land reform, workers' rights, and education. It also established the framework for the country's political institutions and rights of citizens.
3. Mexico's democratic system encourages citizen participation through voting in elections. Challenges include ensuring fair and transparent elections, addressing corruption, and managing political diversity in a multi-party system. Opportunities lie in fostering civic engagement and representing a diverse population.
4. Mexico's government has shaped the country's culture and identity through historical events, such as the struggle for independence and the Mexican Revolution. Democratic principles, such as citizen participation and respect for human rights, have become integral to Mexican identity. The government also plays a role in preserving and promoting Mexican culture, including its indigenous heritage.

