

Name _____



Discovering Mexico's Geography: From Mountains to Beaches

Welcome to the fascinating world of Mexico's geography! Situated in North America, Mexico is a diverse country with a wide range of landscapes, from towering mountain ranges to beautiful coastlines. In this passage, we will explore Mexico's geography from both a global and local perspective, discovering the natural wonders that shape this vibrant nation.

Mexico in the World

Mexico is the third-largest country in North America, covering an area of approximately 1.96 million square kilometers. It shares borders with the United States to the north and Belize and Guatemala to the south. To the west, the Pacific Ocean stretches for thousands of kilometers, while the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea grace its eastern coast.

1. Mountain Majesty

One of Mexico's prominent geographical features is the Sierra Madre mountain range. There are three main branches: the Oriental, Occidental, and del Sur. The highest peak, Pico de Orizaba, is also known as Citlaltépetl and stands at an impressive 5,636 meters above sea level. These mountains not only add to Mexico's breathtaking beauty but also provide essential water resources and habitat for various wildlife.

2. Plateaus and Plains

Central Mexico is home to the vast Mexican Plateau, or the Altiplano. It is a highland region with an average elevation of about 1,800 meters. The Altiplano is dotted with cities and fertile farmlands, making it an essential agricultural region for the country.

3. Lush Lowlands and Jungles

The southern part of Mexico is covered in lush tropical rainforests and jungles. Here, you'll find a rich diversity of plant and animal species. The Yucatán Peninsula, famous for its ancient Mayan ruins, is part of this region.

4. Coastal Charms

Mexico boasts more than 9,000 kilometers of coastline along the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea. Its beautiful beaches and warm waters attract visitors from all over the world. The Baja California Peninsula in the west and the Yucatán Peninsula in the east are known for their stunning coastal areas.

