

CHAPTER 28 Section 4 (pages 822–827)

Turmoil and Change in Mexico

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about U.S. economic imperialism in Latin America.

In this section, you will read about revolution and reform in Mexico.

AS YOU READ

Use the time line below to take notes on the reforms and key events of the Mexican Revolution.

TERMS AND NAMES

Antonio López de Santa Anna Leader in Mexico’s fight for independence

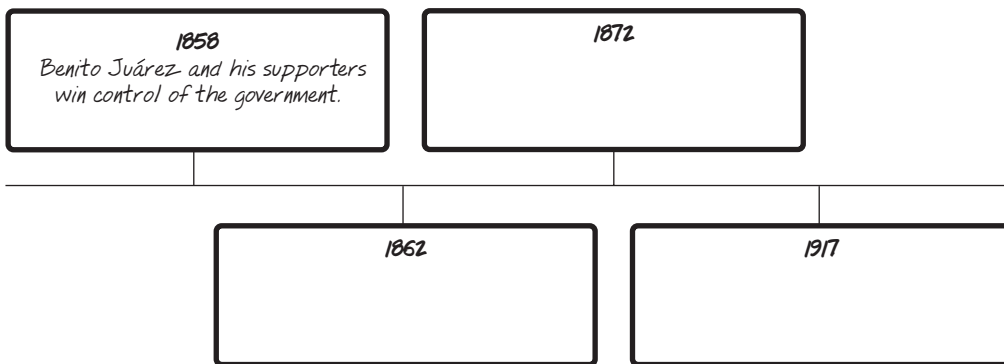
Benito Juárez Leader of *La Reforma*
La Reforma Movement in Mexico aimed at achieving land reform, better education, and other goals

Porfirio Díaz Dictator who came to power after Juárez

Francisco Madero Enemy of Díaz who believed in democracy

“Pancho” Villa Popular leader of the Mexican revolution

Emiliano Zapata Leader of a powerful revolutionary army



Santa Anna and the Mexican War (pages 822–823)

Who was Santa Anna?

Antonio López de Santa Anna was a leading figure in the early history of independent Mexico. He fought for Mexican independence from Spain in 1821. He fought against Spain again in 1829 when Spain tried to recapture Mexico. He served as Mexico’s president four times.

But in the 1830s, Santa Anna was unable to stop Texas from winning independence from Mexico. In the 1840s, the United States annexed Texas. This angered many Mexicans.

When a border dispute between Mexico and Texas turned into armed conflict, the United States

invaded Mexico. Santa Anna led his nation’s army and was defeated. Mexico surrendered huge amounts of land to the United States.

1. What losses did Mexicans suffer under Santa Anna?

Juárez and *La Reforma* (pages 823–825)

What was *La Reforma*?

Another important leader of the middle 1800s was **Benito Juárez**. Juárez wanted to improve conditions

for the poor in Mexico. He led a movement called **La Reforma**—“the reform.” *La Reforma* aimed to break the power of the large landowners and give more schooling to the poor. Juárez and his supporters won control of the government in 1858.

But conservatives who opposed *La Reforma* did not give up. They plotted with France to retake Mexico. In 1862, Napoleon III of France sent an army that captured the country in 18 months. Napoleon III named a European noble as emperor. But Juárez and his followers kept fighting. Five years later, they drove the French from Mexican soil and executed the emperor.

2. How did conservatives oppose *La Reforma*?

Porfirio Díaz and “Order and Progress”

(pages 825–826)

Who was Porfirio Díaz?

Juárez again pressed for his reforms. He made some progress but died in office in 1872. Soon after he died, a new leader emerged. **Porfirio Díaz** was a leader in Mexican politics for more than 30 years. Díaz brought order to the country. He ended raids by bandits and brought some economic growth, but

he limited political freedom. A leader named **Francisco Madero** called for the overthrow of Díaz.

3. What were the benefits and drawbacks of Díaz’s rule?

Revolution and Civil War

(pages 826–827)

Who were Villa and Zapata?

In the early 1900s, calls for reform got louder. Francisco “**Pancho**” **Villa** and **Emiliano Zapata** called for better lives for the poor. They raised armies and forced Díaz to step down. But political unrest continued. For many years, leaders struggled for power. In 1917, Mexico adopted a new constitution that survived all of the turmoil.

Conflict continued until a new political party gained control of Mexico in 1929. The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) brought peace and political *stability* to a troubled land.

4. What was the main goal of Villa and Zapata?
