

## Cultural Fragments (MX)

- 1 – The most important period of the Mexican art movement of Mexican \_\_\_\_\_ (8) took place in the 40 years from the 1920s through the 1960s. The historical significance of the movement relates to its social and political undertones.
- 2 – The largest city park in Latin America is located in Mexico City and is \_\_\_\_\_ (11) Park. One of the park's main functions is to be an ecological area amongst the city.
- 3 – The largest public square in the western hemisphere is Constitution Square, also known as El \_\_\_\_\_ (6), which occupies the ceremonial site of the capital of the Aztec Empire.
- 4 – The oldest conserved colonial era structure is the Palace of Cortés, which is almost 500 years old. The building was built as a residence for Hernán Cortés and his wife and was converted in the eighteenth century into a \_\_\_\_\_ (4).
- 8 – The first major Pre-Columbian civilization was the Olmec who lived in the low lands of south central Mexico. The Olmec's artwork is the most familiar aspect of their culture and they were defined through artifacts which were sold on the pre-Columbian art \_\_\_\_\_ (6).
- 9 – The Nobel Prize winning writer and poet, Octavio \_\_\_\_\_ (3) was influenced in part by Marxism and Buddhism. His later poetry was about modern painting, love and eroticism.
- 10 – The Mesoamerican deity, \_\_\_\_\_ (12), is a “feathered serpent” who was related to the god of Venus, wind, dawn, arts and crafts and knowledge. He was one of several important Aztec gods.
- 11 – With roots into the Pre-\_\_\_\_\_ (8) period, a tianguis is an open-air market held in a town on certain days. Traditional merchandise is still sold in rural areas. Mass-produced goods are mostly sold in cities.
- 12 – With origins dating back to the Aztecs and Mayans, \_\_\_\_\_ (7) were originally created as clay pots which were meant to be broken with poles or sticks so the contents spilled out, signifying the abundance given from the gods.
- 13 – An eighteenth century palace, The “House of Tiles” is recognized by its distinctive façade, which contains three sides of expensive blue and white tile. The palace was purchased by a private individual and turned into a \_\_\_\_\_ (10).
- 14 – One of the most serious environmental issues in Mexico is deforestation. Since 2007 the country has spent a significant amount of money on programs to restore and \_\_\_\_\_ (8) forests. More than half of the annual budget of Mexico's National Forestry Commission goes toward reforestation programs.
- 15 – The Mayan city of Palenque flourished during the seventh century and after its decline was absorbed into the jungle. The area has since been excavated and is now a famous archeological site. Another famous archeological site is \_\_\_\_\_ (11), which contains some of the largest pyramid structures.
- 16 – The seat of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Mexico and the largest and oldest cathedral on Mexico is the \_\_\_\_\_ (12) Cathedral of the Assumption of Mary of Mexico. The cathedral has a gothic style flanked with columns, statues and two bell towers.
- 17 – The history of Mexico's music is full of many different musical styles, influences and contrasts. The country had an important and complex musical history when it was inhabited by \_\_\_\_\_ (6) one thousand years prior to sixteenth century European contact.
- 18 – The Mexican holiday celebrated on November 1<sup>st</sup> each year is the Day of the Dead. The focus of the holiday is to remember friends and family members who have died. The traditional flower used in these celebrations is the \_\_\_\_\_ (8).
- 19 – El Paseo de la Reforma is a main road that runs in a straight line from Chapultepec Park to Constitution Square. One of the most famous monuments on the Paseo is El \_\_\_\_\_ (5) de la Independencia, which was built to commemorate the centennial of Mexico's independence.
- 20 – Located in an area that was once an Aztec marketplace, the Alameda Central \_\_\_\_\_ (4) is a garden with decorative fountains and paved paths, which frequently holds civic events. The original area was less than half the size of the current one.
- 21 – Primarily popular in the northern regions when first created, norteño is a style of Mexican music. In the late 1800s Polish immigrants settled in Mexico bringing with them music influenced by \_\_\_\_\_ (5). Local bands soon adopted this new style and mixed it with the styles of the time to create Norteño.