Cause and Effect of Mexican Independence from Spain
Why did Mexicans want to rebel against Spain?

- Economic and Social divisions between the rich and poor in New Spain
By the early 1800’s, residents of Mexico were tired of being ruled by Spain.

Poverty and racism in “New Spain” were extreme:

- **European**-born Spaniards, called *peninsulares*, occupied the highest positions of wealth and power
- Next were, **criollos**, Spaniards born in the Americas.
- **Mestizos**, people of mixed Spanish and Indian heritage, were near the bottom of the social scale
- At the very bottom were **Indians**
Social Structure

Spaniards - from Spain

Creoles - Spaniards that were born in Mexico

Mestizos - mixed blood

Indios - natives
On September 16, 1810, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a priest from the town of Dolores, began a revolt against Spanish rule. His call for revolt became known as the “Grito de Dolores” or “Cry of Dolores.” Father Hidalgo wanted all people treated equally, regardless of their race. Despite lower-class support, Father Hidalgo’s revolt was defeated and he was executed by the Spanish government.
Go back to your journal entry from yesterday and redo the see think wonder now that you know what is happening in the picture.
MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY
The Cry of Dolores

The Cry of Dolores was a rallying cry uttered by the Catholic Priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla from the town of Dolores on September 16, 1810. It called on the people to rise up and revolt against the Spanish colonial government. It is the event that marks the beginning of the Mexican War of Independence and is now celebrated as Mexican Independence Day.

On the evening of September 15 each year the President of Mexico starts the Independence Day celebrations by calling out the following “grito” from the National Palace in Mexico, to a 500,000 strong crowd in remembrance of the heroes of the war.

EL GRITO DE DOLORES
(The Cry of Dolores)

¡Mexicanos!
¡Vivan los héroes que nos dieron patria!
¡Viva Hidalgo!
¡Viva Morelos!
¡Viva Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez!
¡Viva Allende!
¡Vivan Aldama y Matamoros!
¡Viva la independencia nacional!
¡Viva México!
¡Viva México!

José María Morelos
Also a Roman Catholic priest, Morelos became a revolutionary fighter, assuming the role of leader following the 1811 death of Hidalgo. Morelos himself was captured by the Spanish and executed in 1815.

Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla
A priest and the leader of the Mexican War of Independence. He called out the original Grito and rallied tens of thousands of people to rise up and fight.

Juan Aldama
Aldama was a captain in the Queen’s militia who participated in secret pro-independence meetings with Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez. As the authorities learned of the conspiracy, Aldama fled to Dolores where he witnessed the original Grito and formed part of the original revolutionary leadership.

Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez
The insurgent wife of the Querétaro magistrate for the Spanish colonial government. She developed sympathy for the oppressed poor and Indians of Mexico, and became a leading figure of the independence movement.

Ignacio Allende
A captain in the Spanish Army, Allende became a sympathizer who joined the conspiracy being organized at Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez’s home. His military background led to his leadership role with the rebellion.

Mariano Matamoros
A priest who became one of Morelos’ top commanders, leading various victories before suffering major losses at the Battle of Valdavida.

Poncho8
MEXICAN MADE FRESH
“Cry of Dolores”

- Full text of the 2009 version (as translated to English)

- Mexicans!
  Long Live the Heroes that gave us our Fatherland!
  Long Live Hidalgo!
  Long Live Morelos!
  Long Live Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez!
  Long Live Allende!
  Long Live Aldama and Matamoros!
  Long Live National Independence!
  Long Live the Independence Bicentennial!
  Long Live the Centennial of the Revolution!
  Long Live Mexico!
  Long Live Mexico!
  Long Live Mexico!

- 4 minute video on Father Miguel Hidalgo
The execution of Father Hidalgo in Chihuahua.
The American Revolution

- The American Revolution (& other Latin American revolutions) gave Mexicans successful examples to follow.
Filibusters

- A filibuster is someone who engages in an unofficial war on a country.
- The unrest in Mexico prompted several Americans to mount filibuster expeditions to try and free Texas from Spanish rule.
  - Most wanted to make it a part of the United States.
  - The most successful was an 1812 expedition led by Samuel Kemper and Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara.
    - Their army captured Nacogdoches and La Bahia and forced the Spanish back to San Antonio.
    - In 1813, however, their army was destroyed by the Spanish at the Battle of Medina.

The Battle of Medina (1813), in which a large filibuster force was destroyed by a Spanish army. No prisoners were taken.
In 1821, a revolt in Spain limited the power of the king and established a more democratic government. Spain quickly began to lose control of Mexico.

That same year, the two main groups of Mexican rebels agreed on the Plan of Iguala. Under its terms:
- Peninsulares and criollos would be equal.
- The Catholic Church would keep its power
- Slavery would be illegal

On August 24, 1821, the new nation of Mexico was born.
Effect on Texas

- Mexico now **owned** Texas, but only about 2500 Mexicans actually lived there
  - Most Mexicans did not want to move to Texas because of **hostile Indians** like the Comanche and Apache
- Mexico still worried that the **United States** was interested in **annexing** Texas (adding it to its own **territory**)

Despite the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819 in which the U.S. renounced any claim to Texas, Mexico worried about its northern neighbor’s territorial ambitions.
Effects of Mexico’s Independence

- Mexico becomes and independent, but unstable, republic
  *Republic-ruled without a monarch; power to elect officials belongs to the people
- Mexico had a ruined economy and drained resources
- Tejano population in Texas was greatly decreased. (Most fled or were killed during the war with Spain.)
Effects of Mexico’s Independence

- Mexican government made more of an effort to colonize Texas with immigrants from Europe and the United States.
- As a result of increased immigration to Texas, relations with Indians went bad= more Indian attacks on settlers.

I love Texas!

I miss my friends back in the U.S.
- Briefly explain the effect of the events listed on the timeline on citizens living in Mexican-Texas:

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

- Together, the events listed on the timeline led to what important event in Mexican-Texas history?

________________________________________________________________________________________
| Causes of Mexican Independence | Effects of Mexican Independence |