

CULTURA NOTES

Olive oil is one of the most healthful oils available and Spain is the world's leading commercial producer of olives. Fish is also a main staple of the Mediterranean diet, a diet said to contribute to the average lifespan in Europe being higher than in America.

GOT OLIVE OIL? ACEITE DE OLIVA

TRAVELING TO MANY SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES CAN BE FUN AND EXCITING. HOWEVER, YOU HAVE TO WATCH YOUR WATER INTAKE. TO KEEP UP ON BUENA SALUD, MAKE SURE TO TOMAR ONLY AGUA EN BOTELLA, AND STAY AWAY FROM ICE CUBES. ¡NO NECESITAS PROBLEMAS DE ESTÓMAGO!

BEFORE TRAVELING TO SOME SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE AMAZON BASIN, ONE NEEDS TO HAVE CERTAIN SHOTS SUCH AS MALARIA.

CAREERS IN THE HEALTH PROFESSION ARE CURRENTLY THE HIGHEST IN GROWTH AND DEMAND BOTH IN THE U.S.A AND IN SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES. WHAT ARE SOME POSSIBLE JOBS IN THE HEALTH FIELD?

LA SIDA, or AIDS, is a deadly disease and affects millions of people worldwide. In countries such as Costa Rica where the life expectancy is high, there are over 12,000 people living with the HIV virus. Which continent is most affected by AIDS? Also, what is the difference between the HIV virus and AIDS?

OBJECTIVE: Students will identify the Spanish Speaking Countries and demonstrate background knowledge about some of the countries. Using this information, we will eventually broaden this perspective to understand how teens in Spanish speaking countries have similarities and differences to teens in the U.S.

Directions: ON THE PURPLE CULTURE PAPER AT YOUR PUPITRE, COPY DOWN THE CULTURE NOTE FROM BELOW INTO #1. BE READY TO SHARE YOUR ANSWER TO THE QUESTION AS WELL.

#1 CULTURA (copy this onto PURPLE paper)

THERE ARE 21 COUNTRIES WHERE THE MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN IS SPANISH. THESE ARE: ARGENTINA, BELICE, BOLIVIA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, ESPAÑA, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, MÉXICO, NICARAGUA, PANAMÁ, PARAGUAY, PERÚ, PUERTO RICO, LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA, URUGUAY AND VENEZUELA. WHAT ARE SOME OF THEIR CAPITALS?

--copias en CULTURA #2

Ponce de León led the first European expedition to reach what is now Florida. In 1513 he explored much of the area while searching for the legendary Fountain of Youth. Where is this?

--copias en cultura

In 1565 the Spanish establishes a fort in northeastern Florida, Today St. Augustine is the oldest continuously existing city in the United States. What does *St.* stand for?

--copias en cultura

An isthmus is a strip of land that connects two larger bodies of land and that has water on both sides. Panama is an isthmus, now separated into two parts by the Panama Canal. What is the difference betwixt Isthmus & Peninsula?

--copias en cultura

Mexico and the United States share a common border. Part of the border is el Rio Grande, the river that separates Mexico and the United States. What does Río Grande mean?

--copias en cultura

There are two countries in the island of Hispaniola. One is the Dominican Republic (a Spanish-speaking country) and the other is Haiti (non Spanish-speaking country). French and Creole are spoken in Haiti. Do you know someone who speaks Creole?

--copias en cultura

Cities in the United States and some Spanish-speaking countries share similar latitudes or longitudes. What is our latitude/longitude in NP?

--copias en cultura

Acapulco, Mexico, is known for its beautiful beaches, half-moon bay, warm sun, and remarkably blue sky. What is your favorite beach?

--copias en cultura

Many towns and cities in the United States have the same name as cities in Spain. The largest of these is in Ohio. City being Toledo. What are some other cities with Spanish names?

Today's Highlights

Friday, August 12, 2005

🌟**Spotlight:** Mexican clown, acrobat, musician and satirist [Cantinflas](#) was born on this date in 1911. Having made some 50 films in Mexico, Cantinflas became well known in the English-speaking world for the two [Hollywood](#) movies he made, [Around the World in Eighty Days](#) and [Pepe](#). Cantinflas' real name was Mario Moreno Reyes. When he died in 1993, the [US Senate](#) held a minute of silence to honor his memory.

🌟**Quote:** *"I remember in the circus learning that the clown was the prince, the high prince. I always thought that the high prince was the lion or the magician, but the clown is the most important."* - [Roberto Benigni](#)

🌟**Word:** [muleta](#): the small red cape that a [bullfighter](#) uses to draw the bull's attention; Cantinflas was a fan of bullfighting, and did all the [toreador](#) scenes in his movies, himself.

Un paso al día

Copy into CULTURA



Cantinflas

[View Poster](#)

Today's Top 5 Alt-Clicks:

1. [hegemony](#)
2. [quintessence](#)
3. [voracious](#)
4. [egregious](#)
5. [conspicuous](#)

There are seven countries in Central America. Spanish is the official language in all except one.

Christopher Columbus (known in Spanish as Cristóbal Colón) was born in Italy. Yet the King and Queen of Spain have him the money for his voyage to the New World.

Julio Iglesias, a world-famous Spanish singer has sold more records than any other male singer-even Frank Sinatra! A former soccer player, he began to play the guitar while recuperating from a car accident. And the rest as they say, is history!

From February 23 to March 6, 1836, a band of 189 men defended the Alamo against an attack by 4,000 Mexican soldiers led by General Santa Anna. Among the fort's defenders were such famous frontiersmen as Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie. All of the men lost their lives when the fort fell.

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Washington D.C., is the headquarters of the Organization of American States (O.S.A.) that provides for collective self-defense, cooperation, and peace among Latin American countries and the United States.

Body language is a nonverbal means of communication. In Hispanic cultures, there are many unique forms of body language.

This gesture is common in Mexico. A person might use it to describe someone's attitude toward money. If you see a person tap her elbow with the palm of her hand that means she is gesturing that the person is cheap.

In the Spanish-speaking world, Christmas Day is a purely religious holiday. January 6 is the day for gift giving and is called el Día de los Reyes, which means Day of the Kings.

Mexican Independence Day is September 16. In 1810, a priest named Miguel Hidalgo shouted the famous "¡Viva México!" that urged people on to revolution. They gained independence from Spain.

A very popular event takes place in Spain at 4:00 on Sunday afternoons (as well as at other times). This event is also popular in other Spanish-speaking countries. If you were to attend, you would be going to la corrida at la Plaza de Toros, bull fighting at the bull ring.

Baja California is a long peninsula known for its beautiful beaches, blue waters, and abundant fishing. It is becoming a very popular tourist attraction.

Olive oil is one of the most healthful oils available and Spain is the world's leading commercial producer of olives. Black olives are ripe and green olives are not.

Aconcagua is the highest mountain in South America and is located in Argentina. It rises 6,959 meters above sea level.

Copy into cultura:+

One of the driest places on earth is the Atacama Desert. It receives less than half an inch of rain yearly. This desert is located in Chile and Peru.

The Galapagos Islands are famous for being the home of unusual birds, tortoises, and the Galapagos marine iguana. The Islands are part of Ecuador. The country of Ecuador is located in South America between Colombia and Peru. Its capital is Quito.

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If you enjoy Mexican cuisine, you are surely familiar with this fruit. Among its many varieties are *Poblano*, *Serrano* and *jalapeno*. It's the pepper.

One of the benefits of travel is eating foods that are not common-or may even be unknown-in the United States. If you traveled in Central America, you would have a chance to try *guayaba*, *mamey*, or *mango*.

The Red Cross (la cruz roja) is often the first to bring aid when disaster has occurs. Its symbol is recognized and welcomed around the world.

Copy this information into CULTURE

Corn (el maíz) has been a very important staple in Latin America since pre-Colombian times.

A very popular dish in Central America and the Caribbean is black beans and rice (arroz). In many places this is known as *moros y cristianos* (Moors and Christians).

Copy this info in "CULTURA"

The cuisine of Spain can be found in countries around the world.

Flan- baked custard with caramel sauce

Gazpacho- cold vegetable soup that includes oil, vinegar, and garlic

Paella- chicken, seafood, and rice dish seasoned with saffron (a yellow spice)

Tortilla Española- potato omelet

Copy this info in "CULTURA"

Latin people use 2 apellidos to identify themselves. They combine the apellido of their padre + el apellido de madre. Example: Juan Delgado Sanchez (where Delgado is Juan's Dad's last name & Sanchez is his mothers last name). This is a difference from in the U.S.A. where normally we just use el apellido del padre. What would your last name be (if you combined)?

Copy this info. into CULTURA

In Spanish speaking countries, it is common for extended families to live together in the same CASA (house). They will add a room onto a house to help take care of Abuelos, bisabuelos, tíos y primos. How is this diferente than in Los Estados Unidos?

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El Dia de la Raza is celebrated in the Spanish-speaking world in October. We call this day Columbus Day and it is to celebrate the arrival of Columbus in the New World.

The guitar is an integral part of all Hispanic music. Spain's Andres Segovia made it world popular as a classical instrument as well.

Mantilla is a large, beautiful piece of lace that adorns the head of Spanish women dressed in the traditional *flamenco* or *sevillana* style. It may be held in place by an elegant comb and is often worn in church throughout the Hispanic world.

About the size of the state of Washington, Uruguay is the smallest Spanish-speaking country in South America. There is only one large city: Montevideo. Almost the entire population is of European descent, largely Spanish and Italian.

A famous Calendar Stone was dedicated to the sun god, Tonatiuh. Today, visitors to Mexico City's Museum of Anthropology can marvel at the beauty of this huge sculpture. The Aztecs crafted this stone.

Copy this information into "CULTURE" in binder

Located in the Andes Mountains of Peru at an altitude of more than 2700 meters, these ancient ruins are one of the best-preserved archeological sites in South America. These ruins were rediscovered in 1911 by Hiram Bingham. The name of this site is Machu Picchu and the Incas built this city.

NOW, PAIR UP WITH A GROUP THAT TRANSLATED THE OTHER PART. TAKE TURNS EXPLAINING YOUR TRANSLATION TO THE OTHER GROUP. THEN, ON YOUR PAPEL DE W.U., WRITE DOWN WHAT THE MAIN IDEA IS. WORK WITH THE OTHER GROUP.

The music of Los Lobos, a popular rock group, is based on the Tex-Mex music known as nortena (Spanish songs with a German polka beat). The music is characterized by the accordion and the bajo sexto, a 12-string guitar.

The artist Francisco De Goya (1746-1828) painted the family and court of Spain's King Carlos IV. He also painted many works that dramatically illustrate the horrors of war.

The turkey, native to the Americas, was called un guajalote by the Aztecs. Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be used as the symbol of the United States.

The rock of Gibraltar is a piece of land in southern Spain that has been a British possession since 1704. It is only 2.3 square miles in size, and most of it is taken up by a huge limestone mass.

Roberto Clemente was a great Puerto Rican baseball player that led the Pittsburgh Pirates to the World Series championship in 1960. He died in a plane wreck in 1972 while bringing aid to the victims of a disastrous earthquake in Nicaragua.

One of the most important holidays in Hispanic cultures is Carnaval. It is celebrated with parades, music, and dancing in the streets.

This Colombian artist (b. 1932) is known for his huge, inflated-looking figures. His paintings of oversized people and his large, whimsical sculptures attract crowds everywhere. (Fernando Botero)

Carlos Santana is considered to be the Father of fusion Latin rock and was one of the first Latino musicians to become popular with mainstream U.S. audiences. One of his best-known songs is "You've got to Change Your Evil Ways."

Over 90 percent of Chile's population lives in or near the city of Santiago. It is the capital, as well as the cultural, political, and financial center of the country.

Simon Bolivar a Latin American hero (1783-1830) led several South American countries in their fight for independence from Spain. The Republic of Bolivia was named in his honor.

Gloria Estefan is a popular Cuban-American singer that brought the Latin beat to millions through the band Miami Sound Machine.

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) allows for more consumer products to be sold freely among three countries (U.S., Canada, and Mexico).