

Name \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

# Learning to Research

Look at this Table of Contents.

What chapter might we look in to find information about Mexico's government?

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To what page should we turn to begin our research? \_\_\_\_\_

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## An Independent Country

Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821. One of the heroes of Mexico's war for independence, General Santa Anna, was elected president in 1833. The next year, Santa Anna decided Mexico was not ready for **democracy** and made himself **dictator**. Santa Anna led Mexico in many battles over land with the United States.

Today, Mexico's government is a democracy. It works a lot like the United States government. Mexico's leader is a president, and a congress makes the country's laws. Both the president and congress are chosen by the Mexican people.

◀ When Santa Anna became president, Mexico included Texas. In 1836, Santa Anna's army defeated Texas soldiers at the Alamo in San Antonio. Texas gained its independence soon after. After almost ten years as an independent country, Texas became part of the United States in 1846.

What are two words that might be important to know?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Where can we look to find out what these words mean? (hint: look at Table of Contents)

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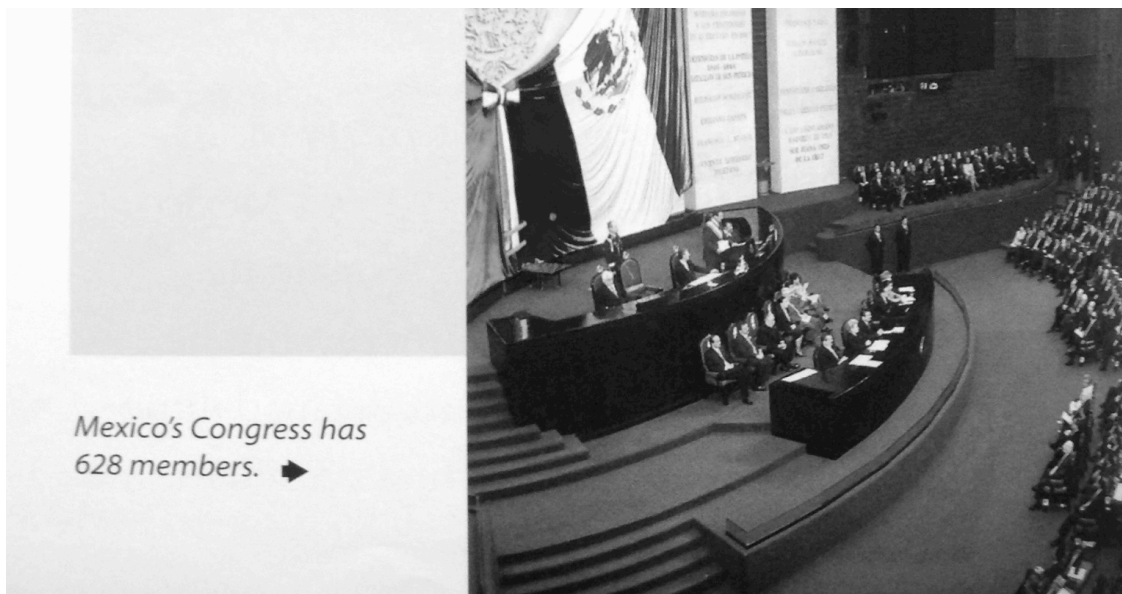
The Alamo

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**Look at the Table of Contents above.**

If we want to learn about Mexico's government, on what page should we begin reading? \_\_\_\_\_

We don't need to read page 16. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_



What can we learn by reading the caption?