

Knaphill School – What are the similarities and differences between Mexico and the UK?

Focus Subjects: Geography and History

Year Group: 3

Term: Summer

What do I already know?

- The **town** I live in is called Woking, which is in Surrey.
- Surrey is a county in England.
- Mexico is a **country**.
- The seven **continents** of the world are: Europe, Antarctica, North America, Africa, Asia, South America, Oceania.

What will I know by the end of the topic?

Where Mexico and the UK are located?

Mexico is in the **continent** of North America (and sub-continent of Central America).

Surrey is a **county** in England. England is one of four **countries** in the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom is in the **continent** of Europe.

The climate in Mexico and the UK

Mexico:
Along the coast it is hot and humid, particularly in Summer. Inland communities are much dryer and more temperate. Mexico City, with its much higher elevation of 7545 ft (2300 metres) above sea level, can reach freezing temperatures in Winter.

United Kingdom:
The UK has a temperate climate. This means that it gets cool, wet winters and warm, wet summers. It rarely features the extremes of heat or cold, drought or wind that are common in other **climates**.

The History of Mexico City

The Aztecs were a group of warriors who first settled in the valley of Mexico in the 14th century. During the Aztec period, Mexico City was initially built over a lake, the Lago de Texcoco. Hernán Cortés destroyed the Aztec city of Tenochtitlan in the 1520s. By the late 1700s, Mexico City had over 100,000 people.

The Aztecs were famous for inventing chocolate, popcorn and chewing gum as well as building pyramids and temples.

Traditions in Mexico and in the UK

Some of the traditions in Mexico include Dia de los Muertos, Las Posadas, Fiestas and Cinco de Mayo.

Some of the traditions in the UK include Scottish Highland Games, British Maypole Dancing, British Morris Dancing, Summer Solstice and English Cheese Rolling.



Vocabulary

Continent	One of the main masses of land in the world.
Country	An area of land which is controlled by its own government.
County	A region of a country. There are 48 in the UK.
Climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place.
City	A large town.
Town	A town is a human settlement. Towns are generally larger than villages but smaller than cities.
Urban	An area where many people live and work close together. The population density is higher and the buildings are often close together.
Rural	Areas which are not towns or cities and are often areas where there is lots of farming. They have a low population density.
Human Features/ Geography	Where humans have altered or interacted with the land and environment.
Physical Features/ Geography	The features of the land that are naturally occurring.
Population	The number of people who live in a geographic area for example, a country or city.

Physical and Human Features of Mexico City and Surrey

Mexico City

Human Features Mexico has many villages, towns and cities. Mexico's capital city is Mexico City, one of the largest cities in the world.

Physical Features There is a Volcanic Belt in Mexico City surrounded by mountains and volcanoes. Mexico City has been built on a dried lake.

Surrey

There are many towns and villages in Surrey. Guildford is the biggest town in Surrey. Woking is the second largest town in Surrey. Woking has great transport links to London, which is why it is such a popular place to live. One of the most famous landmarks in Surrey is Guildford Cathedral.

The River Wey joins the River Thames. The Surrey Hills are an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.