



What would you do for your freedom?

01 Write a list of things you imagine are related to the two periods of history below.

< Pre-Independence >

< Post-Independence >

02 Read "Walk the Talk." Write the number of the paragraph next to the statements.

1. Creoles started fighting for independence in Peru before they did in New Spain.

2. Spain was fighting a war in Europe.

3. Some royalists decided to fight for independence after King Ferdinand reduced trading rights.

4. Spain ruled in the Americas for about 300 years.

5. The fight for independence took less than 20 years.

6. Creoles fought for independence because they felt mistreated by the Spanish government.

Walk the Talk

- After nearly three centuries of colonialism in Latin America, between 1808 and 1826, almost all territories in the region gained their independence from Spain. Although the process took less than two decades, many factors slowly pushed the Spanish colonies toward independence before fighting began.
- By the end of the eighteenth century, many Creoles, the children of Spaniards born in the New World, felt that Spain was **undervaluing** their privileged place in society over other castes of people, and that they were no longer benefiting as they once had. When a trade crisis in Spain led it to give the colonies more freedom in trade, many felt **vindicated**. However, the tide fully turned when a recently crowned King Ferdinand tried to take away those privileges, **infuriating** many still on the side of the royalists.
- In South America in 1806, liberationists took to arms to establish **autonomous** governments in the then Viceroyalties of Peru, Nuevo Granada, and Río de Plata. Simón Bolívar and José de San Martín commanded these patriotic Creole-led armies fighting the remaining loyalists. In 1810, the Creole priest Miguel Hidalgo began an uprising in the Viceroyalty of New Spain, which shook current-day Mexico, the Southern United States, and Central America for over a decade. With Spain **hindered** by the French invasion of Portugal and Spain and more than a decade of fighting in its territories, Spain eventually had to **concede** independence to its former territories, and new nations were born.



04 With a classmate, reflect on how your life would be different if your country hadn't achieved independence from Spain in the following situations.

- your personal opportunities for studying
- your job prospects
- your personal freedoms



03 Read the text again. Write the definitions of the words in bold from the text in your notebook.



05 Write “C” if the sentence is grammatically correct. Write “I” if the sentence is incorrect and correct it.

1. The achieve of independence in Latin America was relatively quick.
2. The establishment of constitutions in newly liberated countries was contentious.
3. The interpret of trade laws in Latin America led to international conflicts.
4. Historians have many hypotheses as to the origins of the fight for independence.
5. During the wars for independence, children lacked proper nourish.
6. Spain’s growing indifferent toward Creoles was a major reason for the outbreak of the war.



06 Write the letter of the word that best completes the sentence.

a. compete

b. competition

c. employed

d. employment

e. settled

f. settlement

1. Dan’s family _____ in Colombia before it achieved independence.
2. The _____ of mestizo workers led the rebellion in 1809.
3. Before independence, mestizo and indigenous workers were limited to _____ in the mines and the fields.
4. My great-grandfather was _____ by the history museum as an archivist.
5. During the war for independence, families had to _____ for food resources.
6. At Sarah’s school, she won the history _____.



07 Write a journal entry as if you were Miguel Hidalgo, Simón Bolívar, or San Martín, explaining why you are fighting for independence.



08 Individually, research the independence of a viceroyalty, considering the factors below. Compare notes with classmates who research different ones. Together, make a poster outlining the differences.

- date and location of the first battle
- leaders of the fight for independence
- major causes of discontent
- date and results of the final battle