

# Lesson 2

LI: I can explore the topography  
of Mexico.



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- You are going to be exploring the topography of Mexico.
- A topography represents the physical features of a particular area in detail (natural and man-made) such as mountains, lakes, rivers, valleys, desert and canyon.



**mountains**



**river**



**lake**



**desert**



**canyon**



**valley**

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## Mexico

Is located in the North American continent.

It is on the 'Ring of Fire', the world's most well-known volcano and earthquake region.

In 2018, it had a population of 130 million people.

The capital of this country is Mexico City and the main language spoken is Spanish.



Watch the link below that introduces Mexico:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zbdmpv4>

# L1: I can explore the topography of Mexico.

- You are going to create a mini fact file of the topography of Mexico (3 . Select similar topographic features from the two countries so you can compare them such as a mountain in the UK to a canyon or volcano in Mexico.

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- Use the links below to help you research:

## **Topography information of Mexico**

-Copper Canyon (Canyon):

<https://www.visitcoppercanyon.com/facts-about-mexico-copper-canyon/>

-Chihuahuan Desert: *See next few pages*

-Lacandon rainforest (information from a video)-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0113y2b>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0113qpi>

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## Chihuahuan Desert

- The Chihuahuan is the largest desert in North America-stretching all the way from the southwestern United States deep into the Central Mexican Highlands. The Chihuahuan Desert covers an area of over 200 000 square miles. It is mainly in Mexico but also covers parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.
- Because of the region's high altitude (914 to 1524 metres) winters and nights are cool while summer days can reach temperatures over 100 degrees. The average temperature is 24°C but this changes with the altitude. Very little rain falls in the area, but underground springs, small streams and the Rio Grande River provide precious water.

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## Chihuahuan Desert

- The Chihuahuan Desert, long a corridor for trade between Mexico City and Santa Fe, New Mexico, is now home to five million people. There are over 130 species of animal living in the Chihuahuan Desert, all of which are able to live in its dry conditions.



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## **Topography information of UK**

-Ben Nevis (mountain): <https://primaryfacts.com/541/ben-nevis-facts-about-the-highest-mountain-in-scotland/>

-Epping forest (forest): <https://primaryfacts.com/3404/epping-forest-facts-and-information/#:~:text=The%20forest%20is%20home%20to,since%20been%20allowed%20to%20grow.>

-River Thames (river): <https://primaryfacts.com/249/river-thames-facts-and-information/>

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## Topography of UK- teacher example

**Type of topography:** Mountain

**Name:** Scafell Pike

**Where:** Lake District, Cumbria in England

**Size:** 978m tall

**Temperature:** daytime 4 degrees Celsius and minimum nighttime temperature 0 degrees Celsius

**Why it is there:** Formed 450 million years ago as part of Borrowdale Volcanic Group of igneous rock.

**Who lives nearby:** People of Keswick which is about 8 miles away

**Other facts (what is built, grown or attracts people to it):** The mountain is part of the National Three Peaks Challenge, Westwater Lake is at the bottom of the mountain and is the deepest lake in England. Has a summit cairn (large stone structure that marks the top of the mountain)



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## **Activity**

- 1) To write a fact file about the topography of Mexico (of at least 2 features) and plot them on a map of Mexico using a key.
- 2) Then you are to research the topography of UK (at least 1 feature).
- 3) You are to write a paragraph of the differences between the topography of both countries (UK and Mexico) and explain why this is.

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## **Blank map of Mexico**

