

Reading Quiz 0.2

Hispanic America's Historical Dynamics

1.

a) Mexico –

The school of mining opened in 1792, school of botany opened in 1788, and the school of the arts was created in 1786

b) Peru –

In 1792 the city of Lima opened the Chemicometallurgical Laboratory which was sponsored by the Mining Tribunal.

c) Venezuela –

Mathematics Academy was founded in 1760 which was supported by the “business consulate”.

d) Guatemala –

The Jardin Botanico also known as Botanical Garden was established in 1796, along with the drawing and mathematics schools which was set up in 1797 by the Economic Society of Friends of the Country.

Modern Scientific Culture

1. Empiricism was important and influential during this time period as scientist in this era were continuing to discover more innovative information. The rise of this empiricism was affected by a society dominated by scholasticism as the author makes it clear that scientific results in the 1600s-1700s were not properly accepted or systemized at all. The Catholic Church also condemned some of the most notable scientists from this era as teachings of scholasticism emphasized tradition and church. As the eighteenth century began the sciences continued to develop as fields like geography, medicine, and agriculture become more prominent

Scientific Libraries

1. These private libraries that were developing were important because they showed the change in ideologies that was taking place in the Americas. The expansion of books in Hispanic America tells us that people were beginning to value knowledge and information more than ever before in history as books were in high demand. The author talks about books being smuggled uncontrollably from France in 1704. These scientific books that supported the

Enlightenment were seen as a threat to the Catholic Church and therefore labeled forbidden works.

2. The first science journal from the American Enlightenment was called the *Diario Literario de Mexico* which was established in 1768. These texts written by Alzate highlight problems of the Hispanic American Enlightenment while tying in modern science and religion. Another journal that had an impact was *Flying Mercury with Important Curious News about Physics and Medicine*. This was published by Jose Ignacio Bartolache in October of 1772. Bartolache was known for writing for the Masses and not for specialists therefore he wrote his work in Spanish. Another notable magazine that impacted Hispanic culture was called *Miscellaneous Warnings and Reflections on the Proper Use of Large and Small Clocks and Their Regulation* by Diego de Guadalupe. This magazine covered chronometry and the construction of instruments. Many of these publishes helped establish scientific values, approaches, and practices, all while freezing the traditional practices of scholasticism.

3. Mining faced controversial obstacles in this time period as this industry suffered from lack of supplies, financing problems, excessive taxes, along with expensive supplies such as quicksilver and gunpowder. Mine owners were at a severe disadvantage so they decided to come together and create an economic, scientific, and technical plan towards getting reforms towards mining. They were able to create a school of Mining in 1783 which was geared towards advancing the field and studies of mining. The formation of this powerful union helped the mining industry develop in Latin America.