

  
**Chapter 2**

# The Spanish in the Southwest

## Scope and Sequence

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### **Pueblo Peoples**

- Hopi
- Zuñi
- Ácoma

### **Other Native American Nations**

- Apache
- Jumano
- Comanche

### **Spanish Explorers**

- Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca
- Fray Marcos de Niza
- Estevanico
- Francisco Vásquez de Coronado
- Juan de Oñate

### **Native American Cities**

- Hawiku
- The Seven Cities of Cibola

### **The Founding of the First Spanish Settlements**

- San Juan
- Santa Fé
- El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro

## Chapter Goals

In this chapter, we transition from pre-history to history—from speculation based on archaeological discovery to conclusions drawn from written sources. Our knowledge of how Native Americans lived before the coming of the Spaniards to the Southwest falls, of course, under pre-history. Our knowledge of Native American cultural life, however, is based both on archaeological discoveries and written evidence. It could be helpful to students to explain, briefly and simply, how historians reach their conclusions—how they look to written sources, which directly relate what happened in the past; and how they also try to understand the meaning of artifacts, without the benefit of contemporary accounts to relate their purpose and use.

It would be good to discuss the contradictions found in the Spanish conquests in the Americas. On the one hand, the Spanish were motivated by a desire to spread the Gospel; this was true, of course, of the missionaries, but it was true, too, though often to a lesser degree, of the conquistadors as well. Yet, despite and alongside this missionary zeal were baser motives—such as the desire to exploit the riches of the New World. That the evangelical and acquisitive motives existed alongside one another explains the contradictions seen in Spanish America.

## What Students Should Know

- The descendants of the Ancestral Pueblo continued to live in the Southwest region, though they moved farther south. Among the descendants of the Ancestral Pueblo are the Pueblo people—the Hopi, the Zuñi, the Ácoma, and others.
- At the time Europeans first came to North America, there were about 70 independent Pueblo villages led by a group of religious leaders who met in underground rooms called *kivas*. Those villages, located near good water sources, like the Río Grande, did more farming. Other villages relied more on hunting and gathering.
- Other Native American nations lived in the Southwest region. Sometime before the 1500s, the ancestors of the Navajo and the Ute peoples moved into the Four Corners area where, today, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah meet, and where the Ancestral Pueblo peoples lived originally. The Apache, great hunters and fierce warriors, moved around with the bison and lived by hunting. The Jumano traded goods between Native American nations. The Comanche originally lived in the northern plains of what today is Kansas and Oklahoma, but from around 1300 to 1500, they began conquering territory in the southern plains in what is today western Texas and eastern New Mexico. The Comanche, who were also known for being strong warriors and great traders, forced the Jumano and Pueblo peoples out of that region.
- When the Spanish came to the Americas in the late 1400s, they conquered lands and brought massive changes to the Caribbean islands, and South, Central, and North America. We call the Spanish explorers *conquistadores* (conquistadors)—“conquerors”—because they conquered so many lands.
- The first Europeans to set foot in the Southwest were 15 survivors of a Spanish expedition who, in 1526, were shipwrecked on the Texas coast. The leader of this group, Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca, and his men were enslaved by Native Americans. Having gotten the reputation of a healer, Cabeza de Vaca traveled through what is now southern Texas, trading but also talking to the native peoples about Jesus and praying for the sick. In 1536, Cabeza de Vaca returned to New Spain, and in subsequent years he promoted kind treatment for Native Americans by the Spanish. The tale

of his captivity and travels told of rumors of gold in the lands north of where he traveled. Such rumors attracted Spaniards to the region.

- In 1538, the viceroy of New Spain sent a Franciscan friar, Fray Marcos de Niza, to find rumored gold-rich cities. Fray Marcos traveled through what is now New Mexico and Arizona, and into a region called Cibola. He eventually saw a large Native American city, but only from a distance. When the Zuñi people in the city attacked a party Fray Marcos sent to scout out the city, he and the expedition retreated back to New Spain. In New Spain, Fray Marcos told stories about the amazing city he had seen in Cibola. Reports of the story said he had found one of the cities of gold.
- In 1540, the viceroy of New Spain sent Francisco Vázquez de Coronado on an expedition to find Cibola. Coronado had orders to claim the cities and all the land of Cibola for Spain. He was told to make a settlement in what is today New Mexico and to convert the native people to Christ. Coronado brought more than 400 soldiers and settlers with him, five Franciscan friars, and hundreds of native people, who cared for the livestock.
- After a long and difficult journey, Coronado and his expedition met their first Pueblo people, the Zuñi of Hawiku. When the Zuñi refused to be subject to the king of Spain, Coronado captured Hawiku. Following the capture of Hawiku, Coronado traveled thousands more miles, all the way up into what is now Kansas, in search of the Seven Cities of Cibola. Wherever Coronado found Native American villages, he would enter them and claim them for the Spanish king and the Catholic Church. If the Native Americans resisted, Coronado used violence against them. In the end, Coronado never found the Seven Cities of Gold. Almost the entire expedition returned to New Spain. Only a few of the friars stayed behind, along with a handful of soldiers. Because Coronado's expedition seemed to be such a failure, another Spanish expedition did not set out for New Mexico for more than 50 years.
- In 1598, King Felipe II of Spain sent Juan de Oñate out from New Spain with a group of people ready to start the first Spanish settlement in what is now the Southwest. The king ordered this expedition in part because Franciscan friars had reported that their missionary work among the Native Americans of the region was growing successful. Settlers with Oñate, however, were more interested in finding gold or silver than in converting natives. Oñate eventually established the first permanent Spanish settlement, San Juan Pueblo, in the region that had come to be known as *Nuevo México*—New Mexico. From San Juan, expeditions set out in search of silver or gold, but the explorers were always disappointed. However, they claimed the territory for Spain and began to collect taxes from the Native Americans.
- When the Spanish demanded food of them, the Pueblo people of Ácoma refused, and a fight broke out between the Ácoma and the Spanish. In this battle, Oñate's nephew was killed. Oñate then sent a large group of soldiers to attack Ácoma. It was a difficult battle, because Ácoma was built on a tall mesa, but the Spanish soldiers finally triumphed. As many as 800 Ácoma were killed, and around 500 were taken prisoner.
- Santa Fé replaced San Juan as the capital of New Mexico. From Santa Fé, Franciscans set out on missionary journeys and founded many missions. Along the road Oñate had established, called *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro* ("The Royal Road into the Interior"), missions, and with them the Catholic faith, took root among the Native Americans in the Southwest.

- *Identify:*  
**Estevanico:** a black man and a slave of the Spanish from sub-Saharan Africa. He was a member of Cabeza de Vaca's expedition and was later sent with Fray Marcos de Niza to look for the Seven Cities of Gold. The Spanish explorers relied on Estevanico because he was able to learn the languages of the of the Native Americans and became an expert on the territories he passed through.  
**Sister María de Jesús de Agreda:** a Franciscan nun in Agreda, Spain, who in the 1620s is said to have appeared miraculously to the Jumana people of what is today Texas, instructing them to receive baptism from the Franciscans in New Mexico.
- *Identify on a map:* Río Grande, Colorado River, Santa Fé, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro
- *Define the following terms:* continent, colony, viceroy, fray, Franciscan

## Chapter Checkpoint

1. How did the Pueblo peoples obtain their food?

The Pueblo peoples engaged in farming and in hunting and gathering.

2. **Describe two important characteristics of the Apache.**

*Possible answers:* They were great hunters and fierce warriors. They followed the bison and relied on hunting to survive. They made clothes from the hides of the bison and ate its meat. They made beautiful baskets.

3. **How did Cabeza de Vaca think the Spanish should treat Native Americans?**

Cabeza de Vaca thought the Native Americans should be treated with kindness. He thought they should not be converted by force but through kindness and service.

4. **What did Coronado hope to find in the land of Cibola? Was his expedition successful?**

Coronado hoped to find cities of gold in Cibola. His mission was not successful. He found no cities of gold, and the settlement he had established failed. Almost the entire expedition returned to New Spain.

5. **What name did the Spanish give to our Southwest region?**

The Spanish called this region *Nuevo México* (or New Mexico).

## Some Key Terms at a Glance

**colony:** an area that is under the control or rule of another country

**viceroy:** an official who represents a king in a particular place. In New Spain, the viceroy had almost all the powers of the king in Spain.

**fray:** A Spanish word meaning “brother”

**Franciscan:** the name of an order or group of priests and brothers who follow the way of St. Francis of Assisi

**Nuevo México:** New Mexico: the name for the Spanish-controlled region that included the modern states of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Texas, and beyond.

**mesa:** a hill with a flat top and steep sides. The word, *mesa*, in Spanish means “table.”

6. Name two settlements Juan de Oñate founded near the Río Grande.

Oñate founded San Juan and Santa Fé.

7. Why were the Franciscans important to the history of the Southwest?

The Franciscans were important because they founded missions to convert the native peoples.

### Geography Challenge

Use the map below as reference.

1. On the map your teacher gives you, indicate where the Ácoma, Zuñi, Hopi, Navajo, Apache, and Cheyenne peoples lived. Students should use the map on the page facing page 1 of the textbook for reference. See answer key.

### Chapter 2 Geography Challenge Map



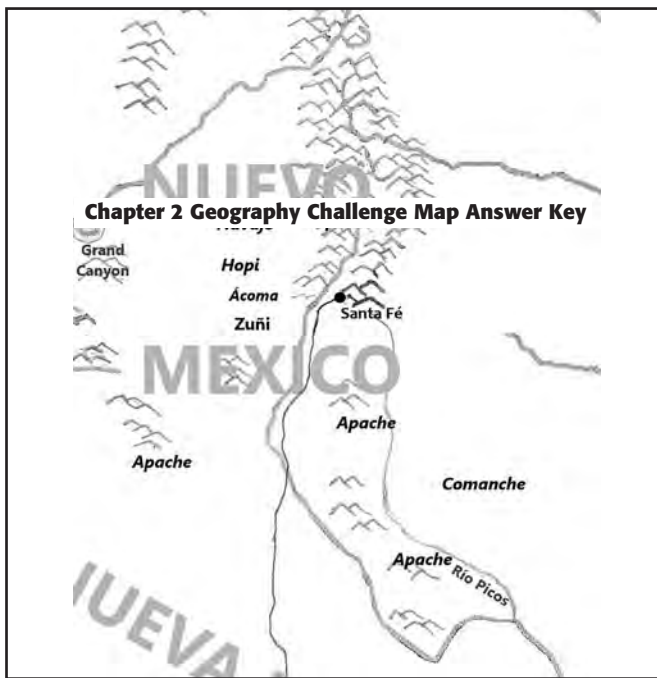
2. On the map your teacher gives you, indicate Santa Fé, the Río Grande, the Colorado River, and *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro*.

Students should use the map on the page facing page 1 of the textbook for reference. See answer key.

4. What Native American people lived in the pueblo of Hawiku? **Zuñi**
5. What is the Spanish word for a hill with a flat top and steep sides. It means table. **mesa**
6. Who was the Franciscan nun in Spain who was said to appear miraculously to the Jumano people in what is now Texas? **María de Jesús de Agreda**

### Answer Key:

1. Santa Fé
2. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro
3. Río Grande
4. Colorado River



## Chapter Extra: Doll-Making

Using a wooden peg doll, modeling clay, or another doll form, make a doll of Fray Marcos de Niza in his Franciscan habit. You may paint the doll and add hair made from yarn. Wrap yarn around your fingers several times, and then cut the end. Then, take the loops of yarn from your fingers and cut them all in the middle. This will make shorter pieces of yarn for the hair. Add buttons or google-eyes to the face. Draw on a nose and a mouth, or use extra clay. Make his habit out of gray construction paper or some other gray cloth. (The Franciscan habit he wore was gray.) Cut small pieces for his cape and hood. Add a piece of white yarn for his belt.

## Chapter 2: Sample Quiz I (pages 9–15)

Please answer the following in complete sentences.

1. Name one or more Native American peoples who came from the Ancestral Pueblo.
2. What is a *kiva*?
3. What did the Apache people hunt for food?
4. Name two tribes that were known for being fierce warriors.
5. Which Spanish explorer was known as a healer? (Hint: he thought the Spanish should treat Native Americans with kindness.)

### Vocabulary and Important Names

Answer the following questions with the correct name or term.

1. What is another name for a *buffalo*? **bison**
2. What is the name for a large landmass, like North America? **continent**
3. Who was the Franciscan friar who published the news about the Seven Cities of Cibola? **Fray Marcos de Niza**

### Answer Key to Sample Quiz I

*Students' answers, of course, should only approximate the following.*

1. Possible answers: The Hopi, the Zuñi, and the Ácoma were descendants of the Ancestral Pueblo.
2. A *kiva* is an underground room where Pueblo religious leaders met.
3. The Apache people hunted the bison, or buffalo, for food.
4. Two tribes that were known for being fierce warriors were the Apache and the Comanche.
5. Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca (or just Cabeza de Vaca) was known as a healer.

### Chapter 2: Sample Quiz II (pages 15–19)

*Please answer the following in complete sentences.*

1. Who was Estevanico?
2. What is a Franciscan?
3. Whom did the viceroy of New Spain send on an expedition to find Cibola?
4. Describe what it was like to travel in the Southwest expedition of Coronado.
5. Who established the first permanent Spanish settlement, San Juan?

### Answer Key to Sample Quiz II

*Students' answers, of course, should only approximate the following.*

1. Estevanico was a black man, a slave of the Spanish, and a translator for Fray Marcos in the search for the Seven Cities of Gold.
2. A Franciscan is a member of an order or group of priests and brothers who follow the way of St. Francis of Assisi.
3. The viceroy of New Spain sent Coronado on an expedition to find Cibola.

4. It was very hard to travel with Coronado. The explorers faced illness, injury, and starvation. They walked across deserts, mountains, and dry valleys.
5. Juan de Oñate established the first permanent Spanish settlement, San Juan.

## Chapter 2: Sample Test

*Please answer the following in complete sentences.*

1. How did the Ancestral Pueblo who lived in villages near good water sources, like the Río Grande, obtain their food?
2. Name the states that make up the Four Corners area of the Southwest.
3. Who conquered territory in the southern plains of west Texas and eastern New Mexico and forced the Jumano and Pueblo peoples out of that region?
4. Who had the reputation of being a healer and said the Spanish should treat the Native Americans better?
5. What was the name for the region that Coronado had orders to claim for Spain?
6. Whenever Coronado came upon a Native American village, he claimed it for Spain. What did he do if the Native Americans resisted him?
7. Why did King Felipe II send Juan de Oñate to New Mexico to found a settlement there?
8. What is the name for the missionaries who set out from Santa Fé and founded many missions?
9. What town replaced San Juan as the capital of New Mexico?
10. On the map your teacher gives you, indicate the following geographical places: Río Grande, Colorado River, Santa Fé, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro

## Chapter 2 Geography Test Map



### Answer Key to Sample Test

Students' answers should only approximate the following.

1. The Ancestral Pueblo who lived in villages near good water sources, like the Río Grande, obtained their food by farming.
2. Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah make up the Four Corners area.
3. The Comanche conquered this territory.
4. Cabeza de Vaca had the reputation of being a healer and promoted kind treatment of the Native Americans by the Spanish.
5. Coronado had orders to claim the cities and all the land of Cibola for Spain.
6. When the Native Americans resisted him, Coronado used violence against them.



7. King Felipe II sent Juan de Oñate to New Mexico because the Franciscan missions reported that their missions to the natives were successful.
8. The missionaries that set out from Santa Fé and founded many missions were called Franciscans.
9. Santa Fé replaced San Juan as the capital of New Mexico.
10. *Answer Key:*
  1. Santa Fé
  2. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro
  3. Río Grande
  4. Colorado River

## Resources for Further Student Reading

*Morning Star: A Little Pueblo Girl*, by Roger Vernam (1935)

*Estevanico, Black Explorer in Spanish Texas*, by Carolyn Arrington

*Francisco Vasquez de Coronado: The Search for Cities of Gold (Proud Heritage: The Hispanic Library)*, by Carrie Nichols Cantor

*Christopher Columbus: The Catholic Discovery of America*, by Fr. John A. Hardon (Setonhome.org)

### Teacher Resources

*Cabeza de Vaca's Adventures in the Unknown Interior of America*, translated and edited by Cyclone Covey

*The Journey of Fray Marcos De Niza* (English and Spanish Edition), by Cleve Hallenbeck

*The Origin Myth of Acoma Pueblo* (Penguin Classics), by Edward Proctor Hunt

*Narrative of the Coronado Expedition/Relación de la Jornada de Cibola* (in English and Spanish), by Pedro de Castañeda de Nájera, Ed. John Miller Morris (The Lakeside Press)