CLASS SET- DO NOT WRITE ON!

**Heroes of the Mexican Fight for Independence 1810-1821**

**Seat One - Father Miguel Hidalgo:** Hidalgo gave his speech for freedom on September 16,1810. Hidalgo is revered as the father of Mexican independence. When Hidalgo called the Native Americans to action, he tapped into powerful forces that had been simmering for over three hundred years. With clubs, slings, axes, knives, machetes and intense hatred, the Indians took on the challenge of the Spanish artillery. The battles started in the town of Dolores Hidalgo and made their way to Mexico City. The fighters did not manage to take Mexico City, but they did start a trend of rebellion that lasted the next 11 years. Hidalgo was captured by the Spanish and was assassinated in 1811.

**Seat Two - Jose Morelos:** Morelos took over as the leader of the Mexican Independence movement after Hidalgo was killed. Morelos established a Congress which created a declaration of rights and independence from Spain under King Ferdinand VII and a Constitution which included abolition of slavery and equality of classes. Morelos was [captured](http://www.tamu.edu/ccbn/dewitt/morelos1.htm#capture) while attempting to escort the Congress from Vallilodad to Puebla. He is said to have diverted the royal troops attention to a small diversionary force of which he was at the head from the Congress. After capture, Morelos was tried by both military tribunals and the Inquisition.  He was executed in December 1815.

**Seat Three -** **Vicente Guerrero:** Guerrero served in the revolutionary armies during the entire period of the struggle for independence, 1810-1821. Guerrero took over leadership of the Independence movement after Morelos was killed. Guerrero was one of the most effective leaders of the Independence movement because he was able to convince both the upper class Criollos and Mestizos to fight against the Spanish as well as the Native Americans, while the Hidalgo and Morelos armies were made up of mostly Native Americans. While Guerrero was the leader of the rebel Mexican forces, Agustin Iturbide was the General in charge of the Spanish forces. Iturbide realized that if the upper class and lower class were joining forces with Guerrero, Spain would have no chance of winning.

**Seat Four - Agustin Iturbide:** Iturbide was instructed by the Spanish Government to destroy Guerrero and crush the rebellion. Iturbide ignored his orders and instead, formed a pact with revolutionary Vicente Guerrero to engineer Mexican independence in 1821. Together Guerrero and Iturbide announced on February 24, 1821 the [**Plan de Iguala**](http://www.tamu.edu/ccbn/dewitt/iguala.htm#plan)**which declared Mexican Independence and put Iturbide at the head of the new Mexican government. At this point, Spain realized that they were defeated. Both upper class and lower class alike supported the Plan de Iguala. With these developments, Texas became part of an independent Mexico and the "Lone Star" of hope for a second democratic, multi-cultural Federal Republic in the Americas.**

**Assignment Part 1: Create a mural on the paper provided to honor your assigned hero from the fight for Independence. Think of the murals we looked at in class. The mural should contain the hero and show what action they took to free New Spain from Spain, thus creating the new country of MEXICO! You will be sharing with your neighbor so make them look good ☺!**

**Assignment Part 2: Using the reading packets provided create a two paragraph summary of the role your hero played in the fight for independence. Write this in your notebook and share with your table so they know the significance of your hero.**

**Assignment Part 3: Take turns sharing with your table and write a one paragraph summary of each hero on the space provided.**