Gonzalez Reading Questions, Chapter 5: Mexicans

What is unique about Mexicans? (second sentence)

What percentage of all Latinos in the United States are of Mexican origin

Why does Gonzalez say “Most troubling (for Anglo-Americans) are the descendants of the Mexican pioneers, for once you admit Mexicans long history on US soil…?

List the five most significant source countries of immigrants since 1820.

This book was originally written in 2000, updated in 2011. What is incorrect on page 96, besides that Mexico now has around 110 million residents? For a reference with more recent data that will help you answer this question, read <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/07/06/world/americas/immigration.html?hp>

What group founded Monterrey and Cerralvo in northern Mexico?

How many a) towns, and b) missions did Jose de Escandon found?

How many still exist today?

How many Indian converts were made by these missions in the first few years? How does this compare with how many converts the Puritans accomplished in their first century?

How well did the cattle, sheep, and horse herds of Nuevo Santander do within two years? (numbers?)

Who settled in Starr County Texas?

How did the Canales family do socially and economically, overall?

What did the latter sign that was of significance to Mexico?

OK, OK, OK. You are probably wondering why Gonzalez goes into such detail here about the settlement of Mexicans in this region (and particular the Canales family). So what’s the big deal? Why does he do this? You may wish to read the rest of the chapter and then return to this question.

Here are some maps that will help you better follow the narrative of what happened to Mexico’s territory.

<http://www.emersonkent.com/historic_documents/gadsden_purchase_1853.htm>

<http://www.emersonkent.com/map_archive/mexico_1835.htm>

From Gonzalez, what was the significance of the Nueces strip?

What did General Zacary Taylor do in 1846?

Who was the Chaparral Fox and what did he do (p. 99)? How was Canales viewed in Mexico? (note state of Tamaulipas)

How did the Rio Bravo get its name changed to the Rio Grande? Does this difference still persist today?

What did the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo do with the Nueces strip, and what did this mean to Canales family settlers north of the Roio Grande on the Buenavista Ranch?

Which group was the majority, Anglo or Mexican, in the area north of the River?

Did Mifflin Kennedy believe in the concept of private sector, free market completion? (Explain how he made his fortune)

How did the smuggler H.L. Kinney cash in on the fighting? What city was later founded on the site?

How did many Mexicans lose their land in South Texas?

Was lynching legal under US law in the 1800s and 1900s in the US? (of course not)

Summarize the statement of the Galveston Weekly News in 1855.

“A scant six years after Texas Independence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Anglos had gobbled up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ million acres in “legal” sales from 358 Mexican landowners.

What is the whole point of the paragraph that starts at the end of page 100 and continues on the next page?

How did the Texas Ranger describe the Santa Gertrudis ranch house?

Richard King, of the famous King Ranch (there is even a Ford Pickup model now named after it), was said to have done what with the Texas Rangers? Read short account of the Corpus Christi World newspaper in 1878.

Who was Juan “Cheno” Cortina, and what did he do for two decades?

Who arrested Cortina in 1875, and at the request of whom?

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Anglo and Mexican land ownership in Texas (US Census Data):

1850: Tejanos comprised \_\_\_% of workers and owned \_\_\_% of wealth (land)

1870: Tejanos comprised \_\_\_% of workers and owned \_\_\_% of wealth (land)

1900. In South Texas, Mexicans were overwhelming majority but 1/3 of ranchers and all the large estates were in Anglo hands.

According to current Mexican landowner (Buenavista Ranch) Fiacro Salazaar, what did Mexicans in South Texas have to do if they were to keep their land in those days?

By 1920s the Rio Grande Valley was as segregated as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Mexicans comprised more than 90 percent of its population, but the white majority controlled most of the land and all the political power.

Example of Imelda Garza, retired public school teacher: before she was \_\_\_\_ years old, she had met how many Anglos?

Nonetheless, between 1900 and 1930 more than 1 million Mexicans migrated into the Southwest from Mexico. Why? (great term paper topic?)

What is the meaning of the term LULAC? What was it chief goal?

Anti-Immigrant Hysteria of the Great Depression: About how many Mexicans were forcibly deported in the 1930s?

How were many Mexicans in the Rio Grande Valley a) able to survive nutritionally and economically in the 1930s, and b) not be deported? (comments of Santo Molino)

What was the Bracero Program that began in WWII, and up to how many workers were contracted to work in the USA?

Did they all return home after seasonal work? (Gonzalez misses a huge opportunity here, as these workers laid the foundations for millions to later migrate through social networks they initiated, providing knowledge jobs, how to migrate, where to stay, and so on…to new migrants)

Page 104, first full paragraph. When the war ended in… “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” What continued, and what changed?

Describe race relations in Kingsville (remember the King Ranch) with Mexican busboys, cooks, and Mexican customers. This was post World War II.

Ok, now go back and answer the question about why Gonzalez makes such a big deal about the Mexican settlement of Nuevo Santander and what today is part of Texas.