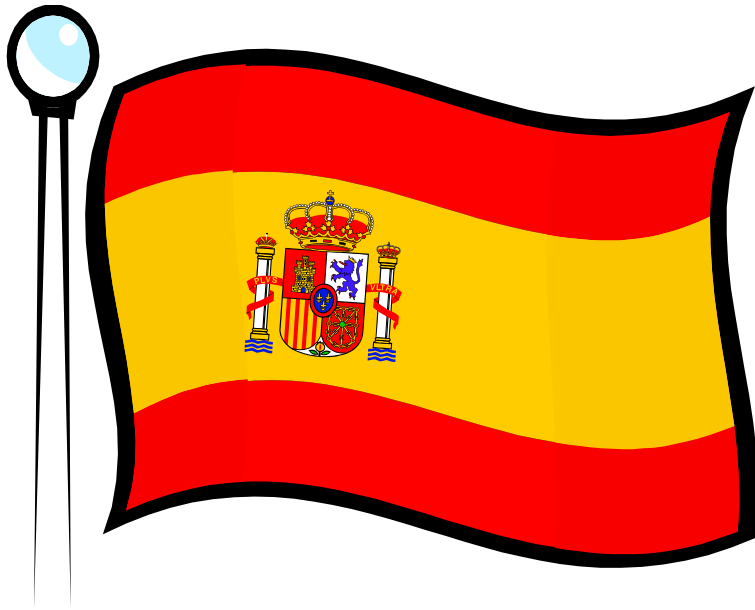


Spain



- There are two countries in the Iberian Peninsula: Spain and Portugal.
- The name of the peninsula comes from the first inhabitants, the Iberians. After them, the peninsula was invaded by the Celts, the Phoenicians, Greek, Carthaginians, Romans, Visigoths, and Moors.
- The Moors occupied Spain from 711 to 1492. Their influence is seen particularly in the south, in the area of Andalusia.
- There are 4 famous regions in Spain: Galicia, Cataluña (where Barcelona is), País Vasco, and Castilla-y-León (where Madrid is, the capital)

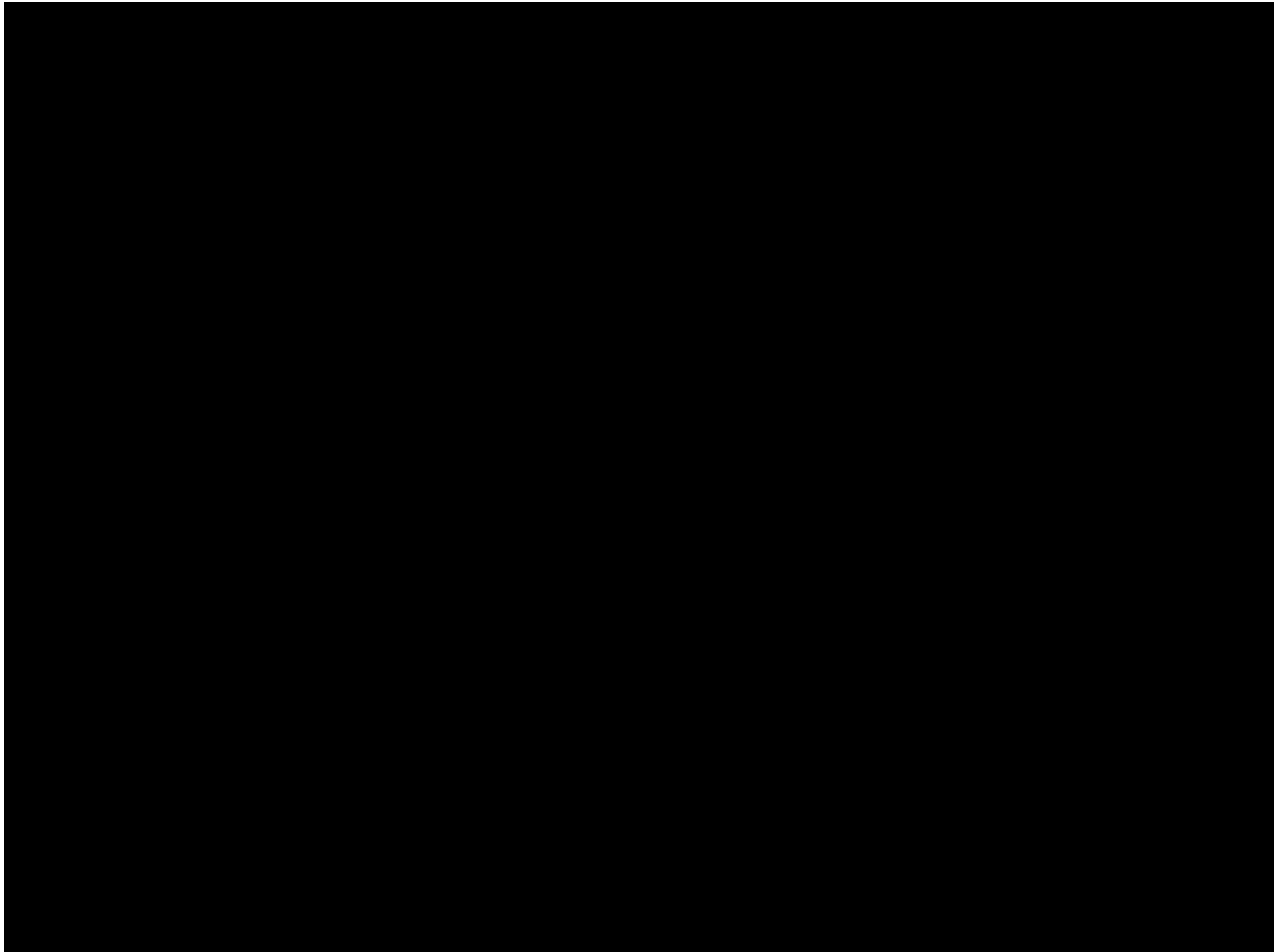
- There are four official languages in Spain:
 - Gallego: A mix of Portuguese and Castellano, from the area of Galicia
 - Castellano: The official language of all Spain and what we are learning.
 - Euskera: Spoken in the “País Vasco”. No one knows it’s origins.
 - Catalán: In the area of Cataluña (Barcelona)
- There are 17 autonomous communities.
- Cervantes, the author of Don Quijote de la Mancha, is considered the “Shakespeare” of the Spanish world. Don Quijote it’s believed to be the most widely read work in the world after the BIBLE

17 autonomous communities

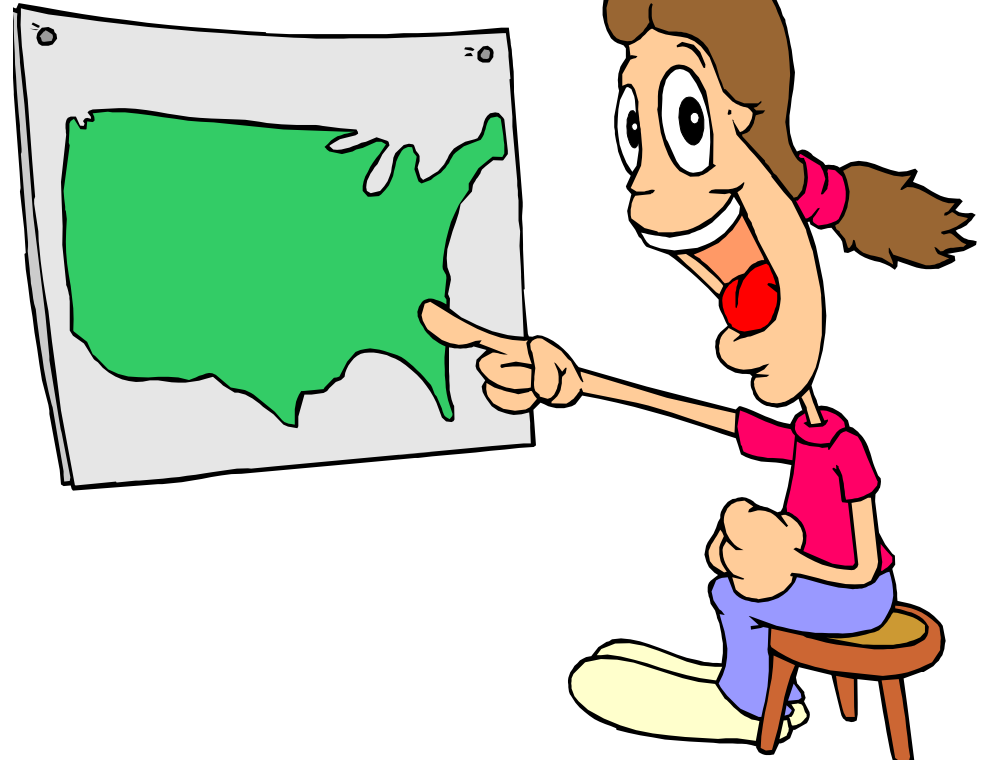
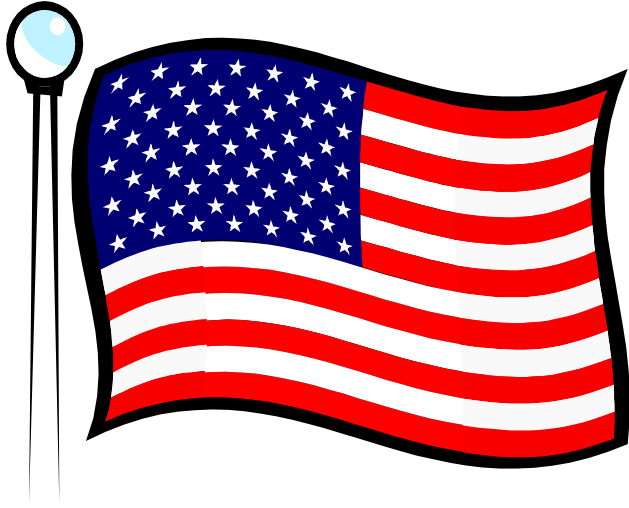




Veamos un video...



United States



- There are 350 million people that speak Spanish in the world.
- Spanish is from the region of Spain call CASTILLA. The real name of the Spanish language is “Castellano”.
- It is called the “language of Cervantes”, the author of the famous Don Quijote de la Mancha.
- The “conquistadores” and “exploradores” brought the language to the AMERICAS in the 15th century and 16th century.
- Spanish is the official language of almost all the countries in Central and South America.
- In the U.S., it is the heritage language of more than 40 million people...and counting.

México



Notes on Mexico

- Two of the most influential cultures in Mexico were the Aztecs and Mayans.
- The capital of Mexico before Christopher Columbus arrived in America was Tenochtitlán. It was the capital of the Aztec Empire. The name of the capital of “modern Mexico” is Mexico city (D.F.: Distrito Federal)
- In Mexico there are many indigenous ruins such as Teotihuacán and Chichén Itza (Chichén Itza is a pyramid where sacrifices were made to the Gods).

- The Aztecs and the Mayans were advanced in mathematics (in fact their calendar was more accurate than the European one at the time...)
- Mexico has a large indigenous population still.
- Mexico has beautiful resorts such as Cancún and Cabo San Lucas. An industrialized city in Mexico is Monterrey.
- The language spoken by the inhabitants of all Mexico, before Cristopher Columbus arrived was NAHUATL.

A video about Chichén Itza

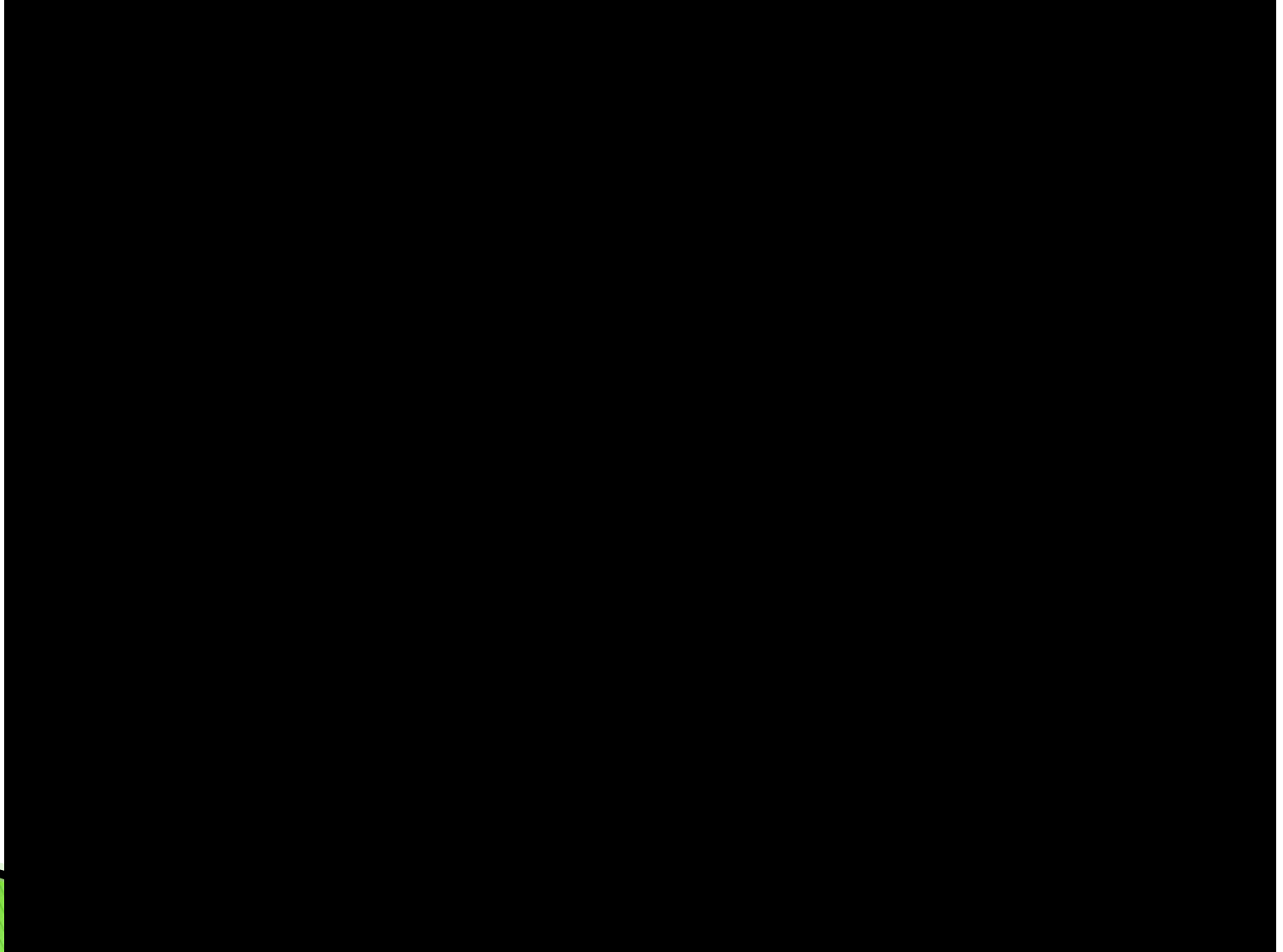
- ▶ <http://on.aol.com/video/the-chichen-itza-sacrifices-120020738>



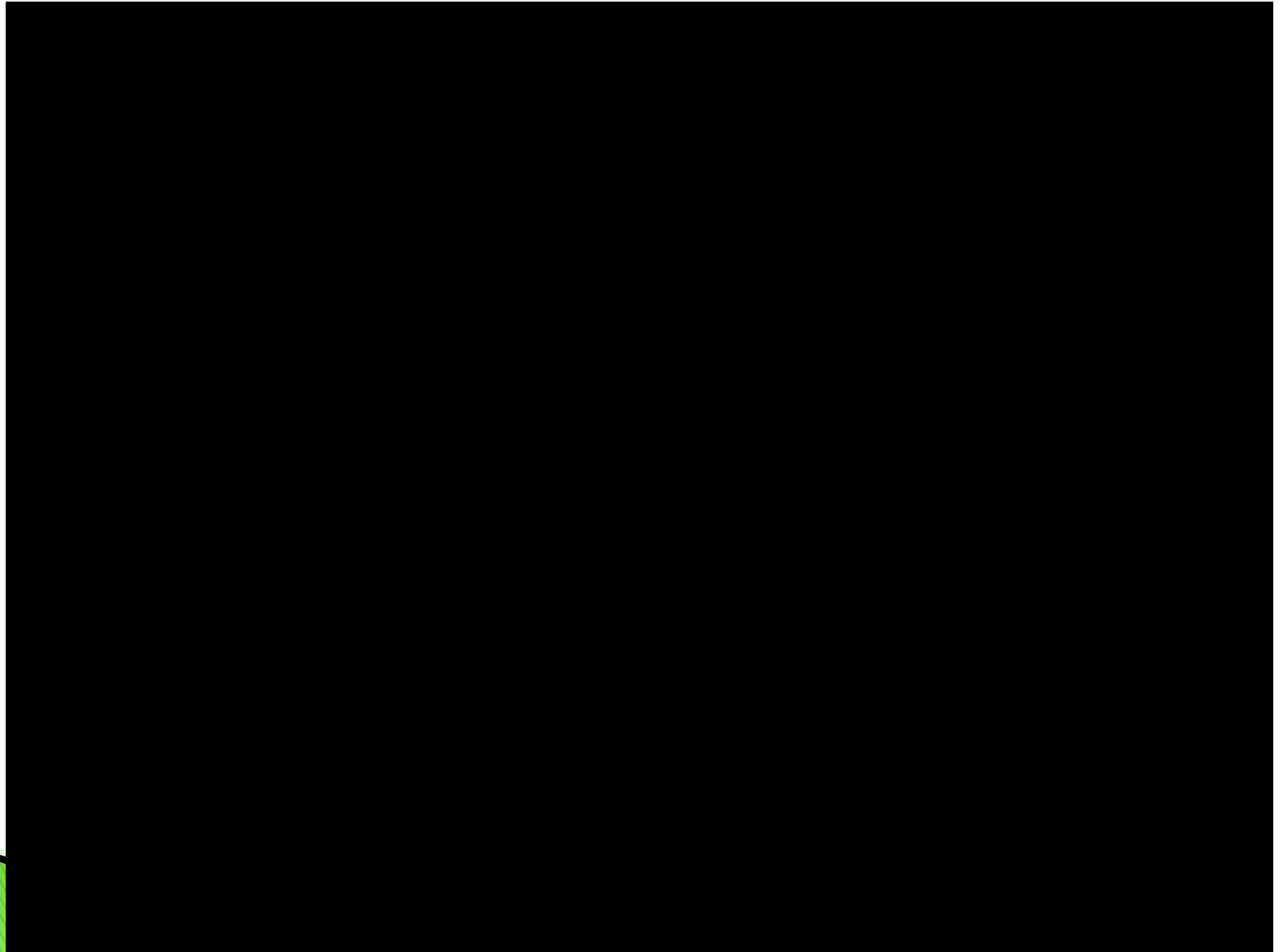
Tenochtitlan



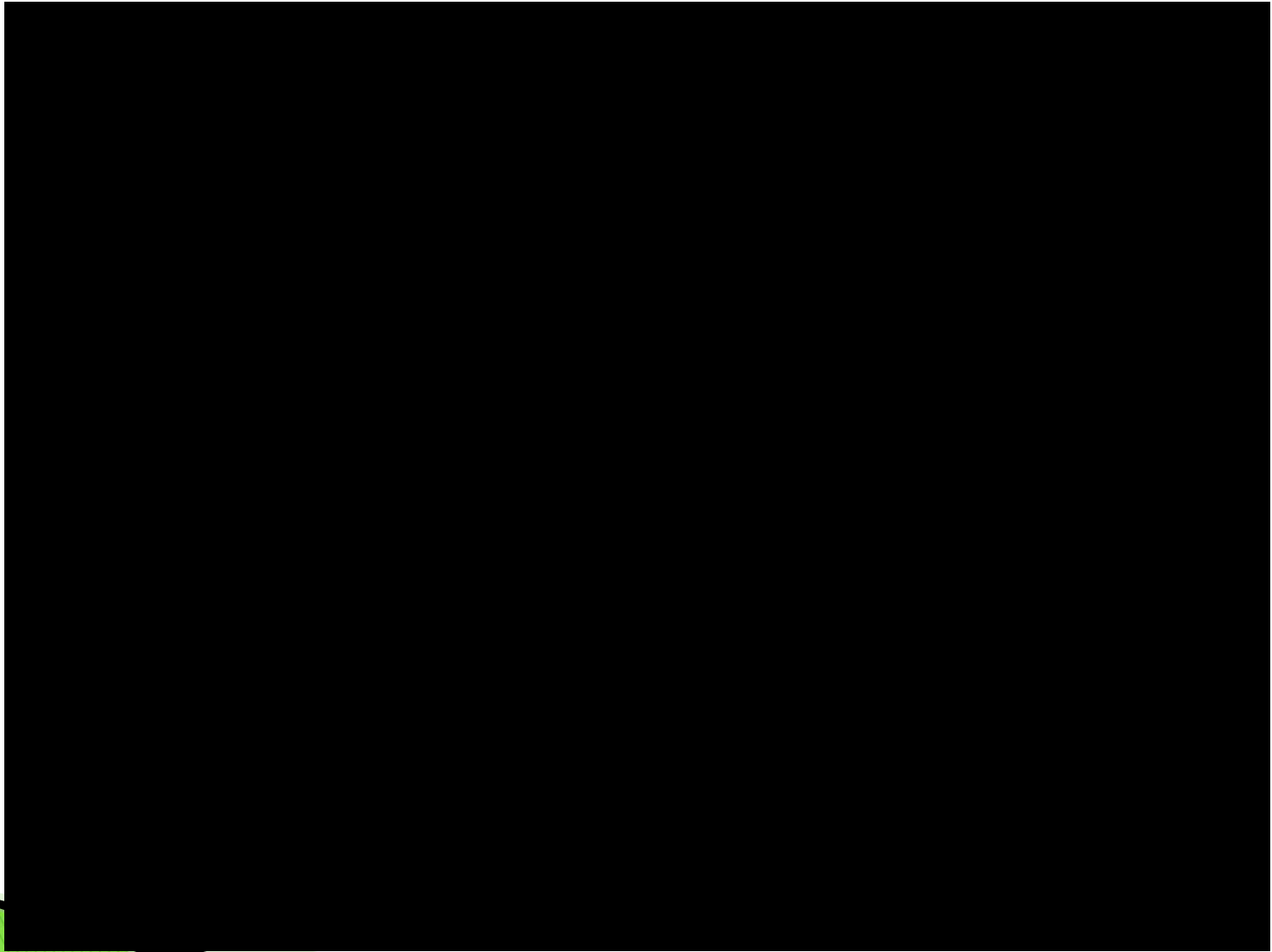
A video of Tenochtitlán



El Zócalo en la Ciudad de México

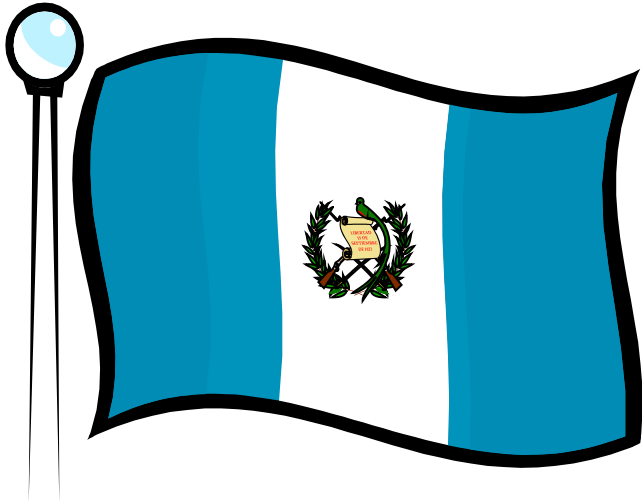


MEXICO




Guatemala P. 21

- Let's take notes



Guatemala (Nahuatl: *Cuauhtēmallān*)

- ▶ In Nahuatl, Guatemala means "place of many trees"
 - ▶ Guatemala is a country of mountains, volcanoes, and jungles.
 - ▶ The capital of Guatemala is **Guatemala City**. Antigua used to be the capital until 1776 when it was destroyed by an earthquake.
 - ▶ In Lake Atitlán, there are three majestic volcanoes: San Pedro, Tolimán, Atitlán.
 - ▶ The town of Antigua is an example of old architecture.
 - ▶ Towns like Chichicastenango, where the majority of the people are still Mayans or descendents of Mayans takes us back to the Pre-Columbian times.
 - ▶ The Mayans in Guatemala prospered for two thousand years. No one understands the reason of their decline.
 - ▶ The currency in Guatemala is the QUETZAL.
- 

Some photos (Tikal Mayan Ruins)



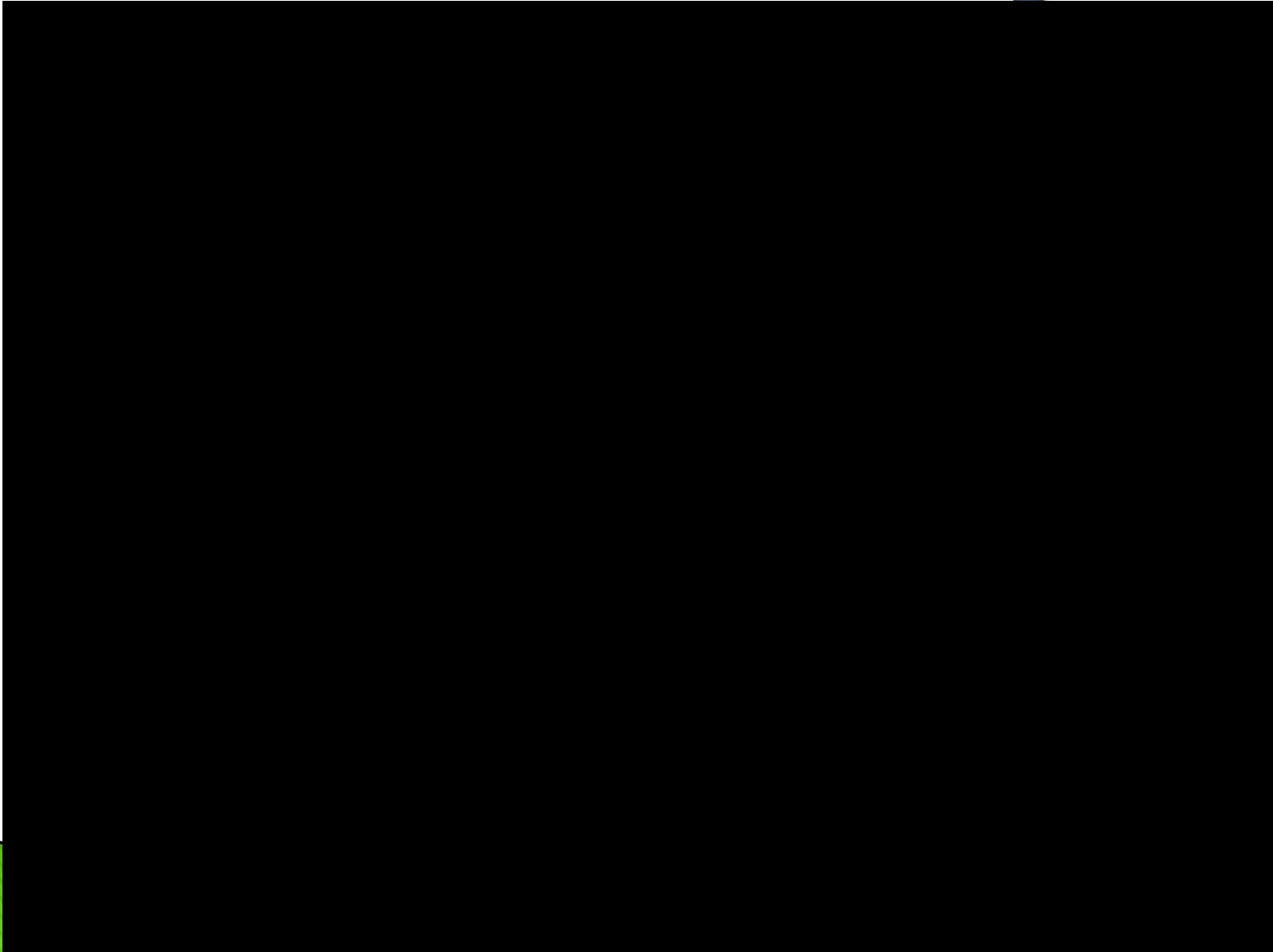
Calle del Arco (Antigua)



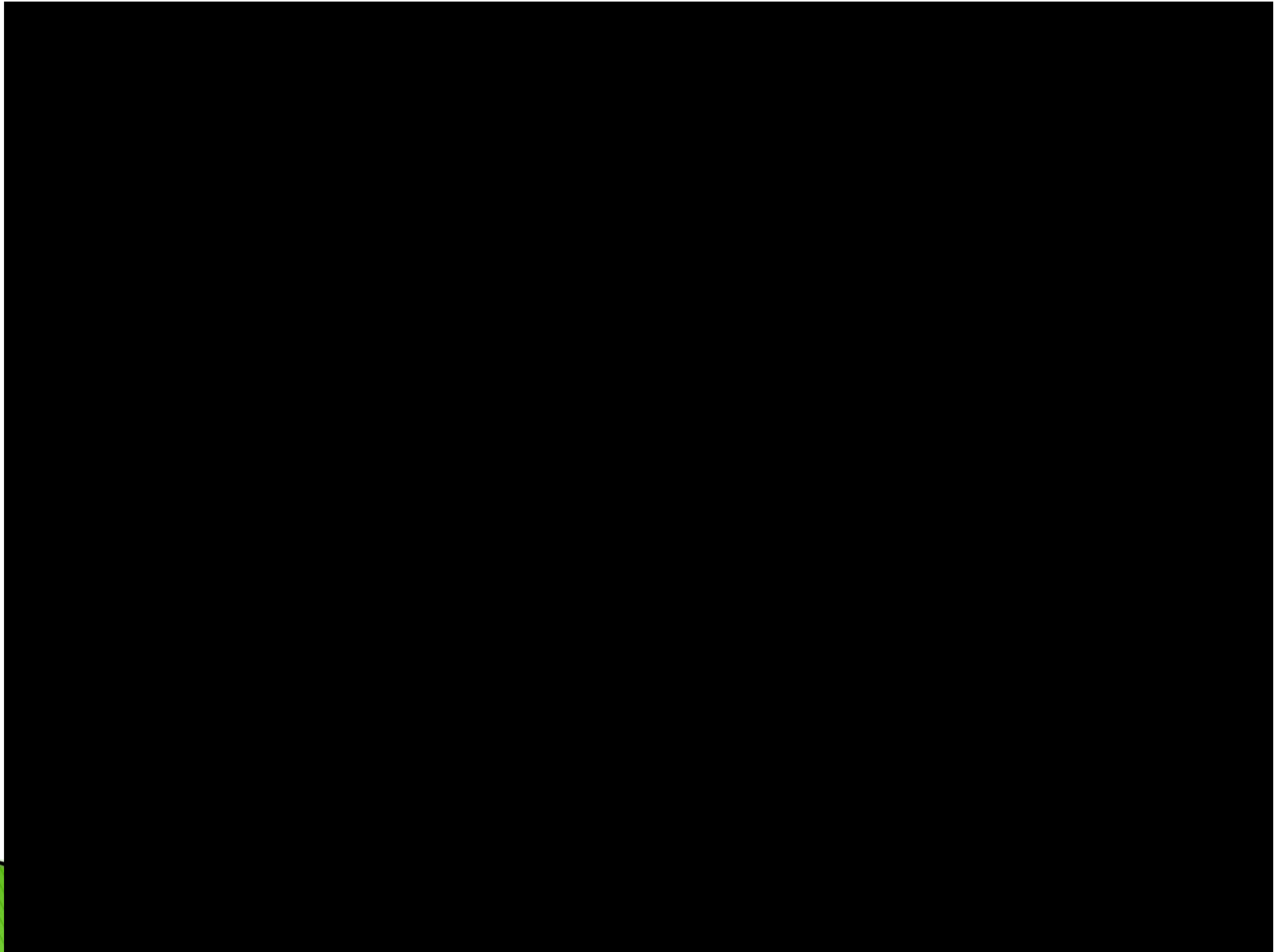
Chichicastenango



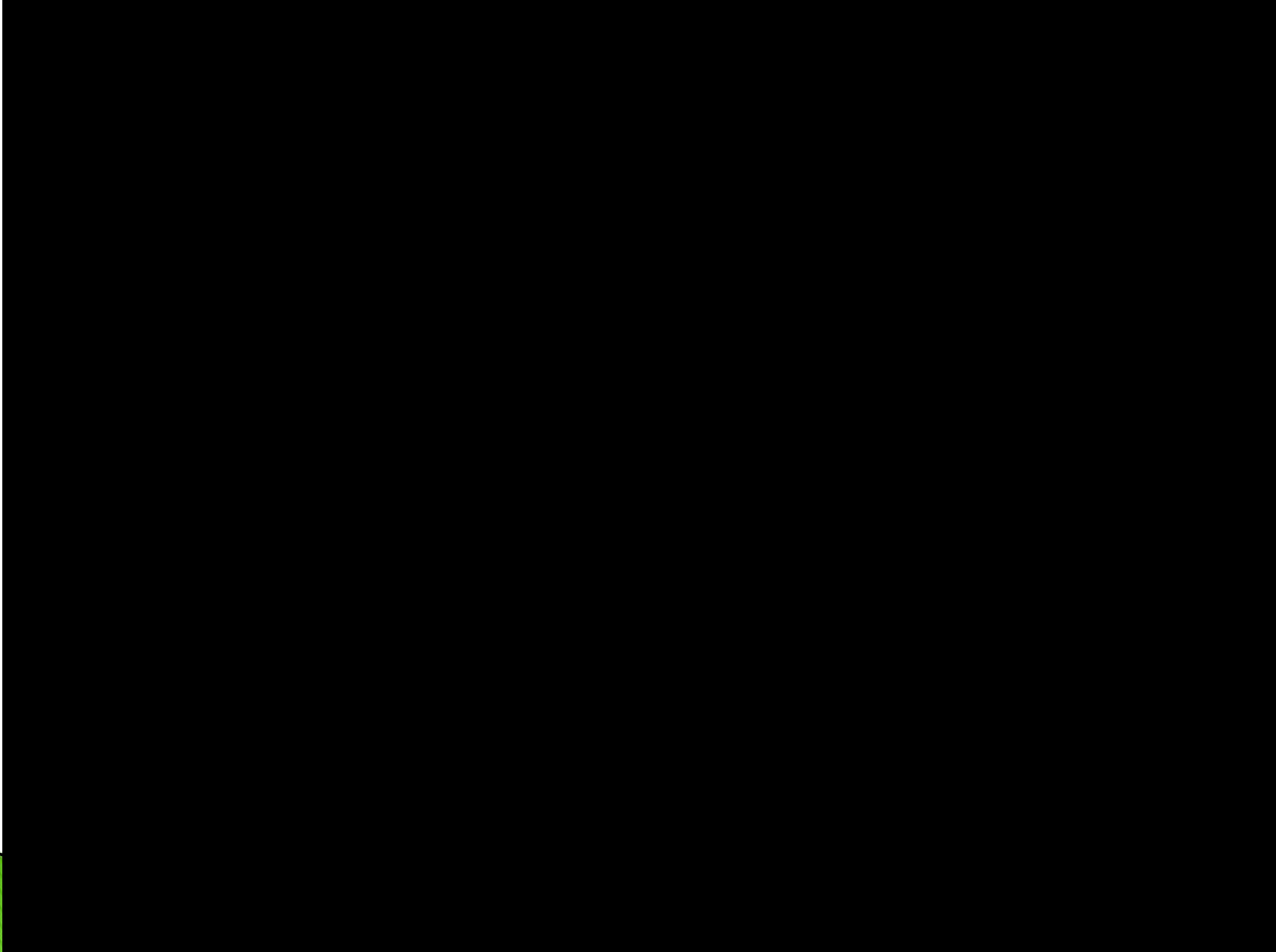
Video of Chichicastenango



Video of Antigua



Video of Tikal



Leamos: EL SALVADOR

- P. 15



El Salvador

- El Salvador is the smallest country in Central America. It only has coast on the Pacific Ocean.
- El Salvador is mainly volcanic.
- The capital of El Salvador is San Salvador.
- **Salvadoreños** are people from El Salvador. The majority of the population in El Salvador is MESTIZOS (Caucasians and Indians). Both Mayan and Aztec empire had influence in the region. The original name of the country in nauhatl was ***Cuzcatlán***
- The salvadoreños are famous for being hard workers.
- Some of the factories in El Salvador are: Shoes, textiles (fabrics), pharmaceutical (medicines) companies, machines (appliances and computer parts)
- The currency of EL Salvador was the Colón until 2001, when they adopted the U.S. dollar.

Honduras P. 24



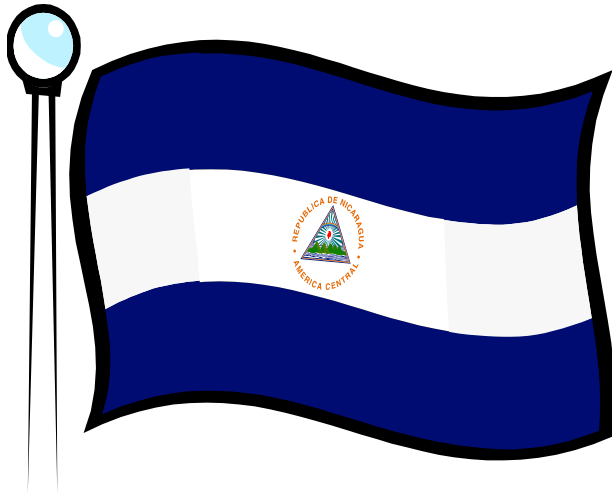
Honduras

- La capital de Honduras es Tegucigalpa, which means “silver” and “hill”. It used to be a mining town.
- The majority of the country is mountainous.
- Traditionally is an agricultural country. Honduras is most notable for production of minerals, coffee, tropical fruit, sugar cane and recently for exporting clothing to the international market.
- Los **hondureños** are known for being *friendly*.
- *San Pedro Sula* used to be an agricultural center but today is industrial.
- Near San Pedro is **Copán**. This city is considered the most beautiful city of all the Mayan Empire. It has ruins such as sculptures, plazas, ball courts and pyramids. Honduras was home to several important indigenous cultures, most notably the Maya.
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvWst_QE-Uc

Copán



Nicaragua P.31



- The capital of Nicaragua is Managua. In *nahuátl* it means “where there is an extension of water”
- It is a land of lakes. The largest lake, LAKE MANAGUA is very interesting. The lake has many saltwater species, such as sharks and swordfishes. This is because a long time ago this lake had access to the sea. The lake today is landlocked .
- They have an active volcano called MOMOTOMBO
- Rubén Darío, a famous poet, was born in the city of León, one of the most beautiful colonial towns.



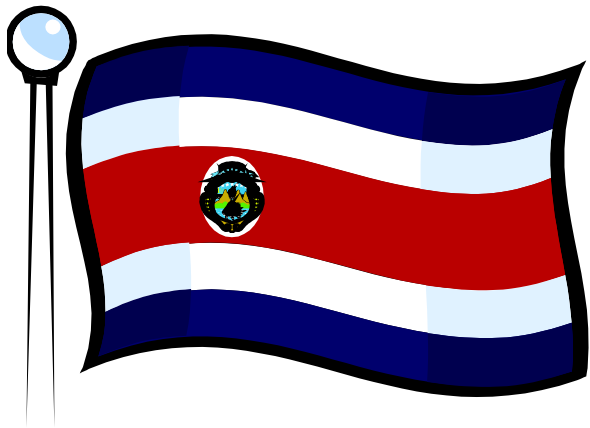


foto : Frédéric Eveno

Video of Nicaragua

- Let's watch a video of Nicaragua
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DpFPPOLOohQ#t=145>

Costa Rica P. 35



Costa Rica

- The capital of Costa Rica is San José, located in the central mountains. It has many buildings and its very modern but most of the structures are not taller than 4 story high.
- Los **costarricenses** (**their nickname is TICOS**) are known for being polite and friendly...and very peaceful!
- Costa Rica DOES NOT have an army. They boast for having more school teachers than police officers.
- On the Pacific Coast the beaches have black volcanic sand. On the Caribbean coast there are tropical jungles.
- Costa Rica is considered around the world as one of the most environmentally aware. It is the fifth “greenest” country in the world. Also, in 2012, it banned recreational hunting.

Images



Red-eye frog



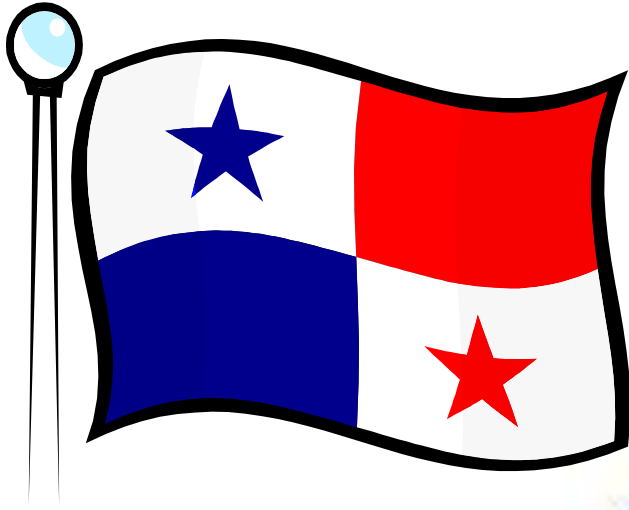
Iglesia Inmaculada Concepción



Video

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jc2GL1f2z4g>

Notes: Culture: Panamá Page 41



Panamá

- Small country located on an “isthmus” that joins the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.
- A country of many cultures: Spanish, Chinese, African, Hindu and indigenous.
- Panama is the largest “financial center” of Latin America.
- Panama is the home of the famous “Panama Canal”, which was built by the Americans during T. Roosevelt government and was finished by 1914. The canal has been “panameño” since 1999. Is considered a “neutral international water way”. Panama and the US defend the canal.
- The currency of Panama is the DOLLAR, since they deal with so many international buisenesses.
- People from Panama are called **“panameños”**.