*The Pearl*

**Answer Key**

**Pages 8-9: Comprehension Check: Mexico into the Early 20th Century**

1. remorse – regret, sorrow, or guilt; superficially – on the outside, to all appearances, outwardly; monarchy – supreme power held by a single person; exorbitant – very high, excessive; emancipated – unbound or set free, liberated; discord – disagreement, conflict, or friction; instigated – set off, started; dictator – a tyrant or ruler; ousted – thrown out, expelled; advocate – a supporter or believer; subjugation – defeat, conquest
2. The Spanish had the advantages of horses, guns, little remorse for their actions, and European diseases that weakened the natives.
3. The conservatives and the liberals were established.
4. He was successful in bringing great change to the country in terms of transportation, communication,  and the utilization of natural resources. However, he ruled as a dictator, not a president, and widened  the gap between the poor and the rich, creating bitterness and unrest amongst his people.
5. *Answers will vary*. Conditions in Mexico fluctuated for over 400 years. It would be unrealistic to  expect them to change too quickly, even with a new leader and constitution put into place. Behaviors, habits, and attitudes had been established for quite some time and would need years to adapt to new ways of thinking.