



With a partner, discuss what you already know about Cuba. Include the government, economy, freedoms, etc.



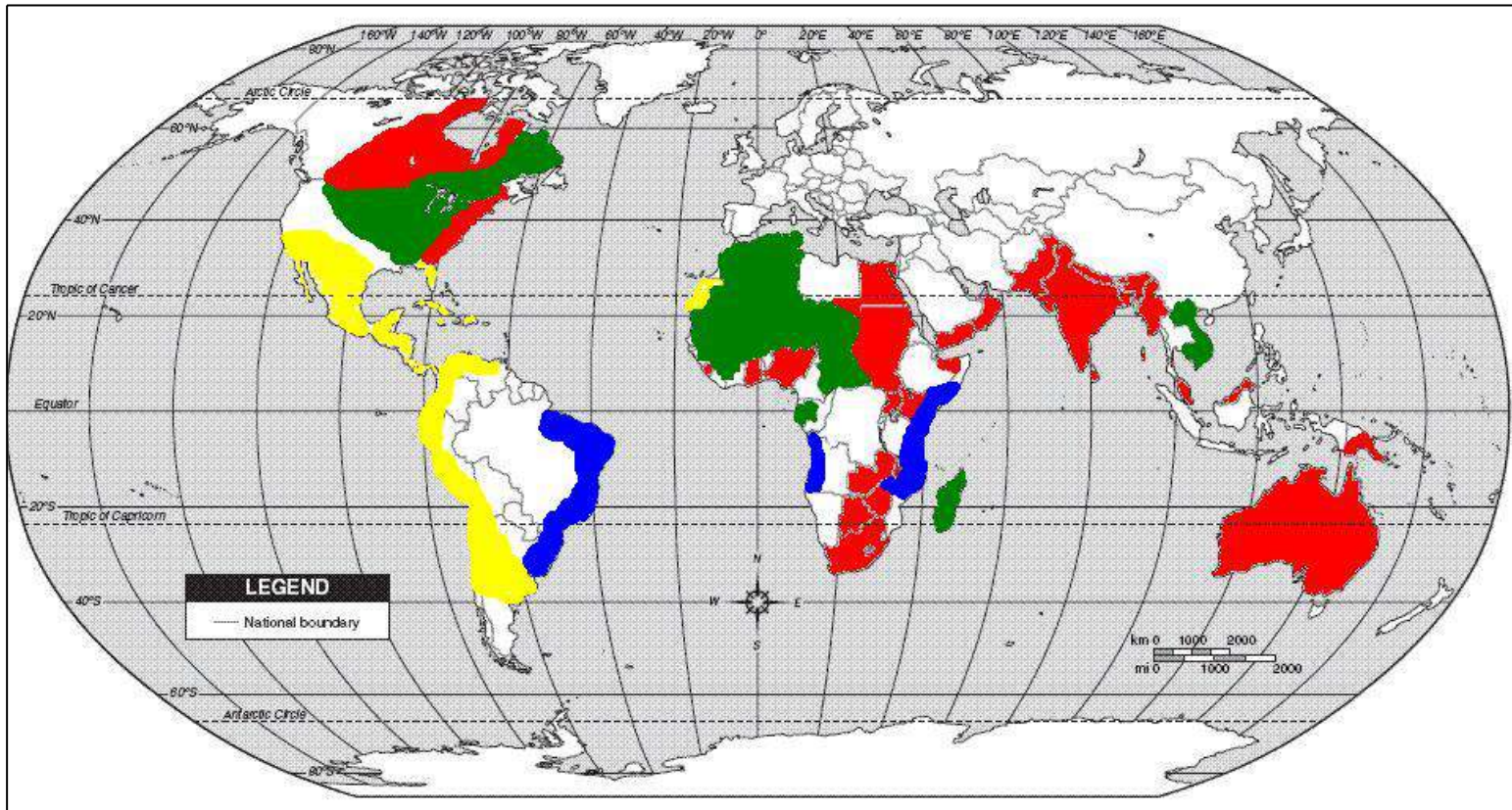
In this lesson, we are going to examine a specific event that has had a lasting affect on the country of Cuba.

**Essential Question:
How did the Cuban
Revolution impact
Cuba?**

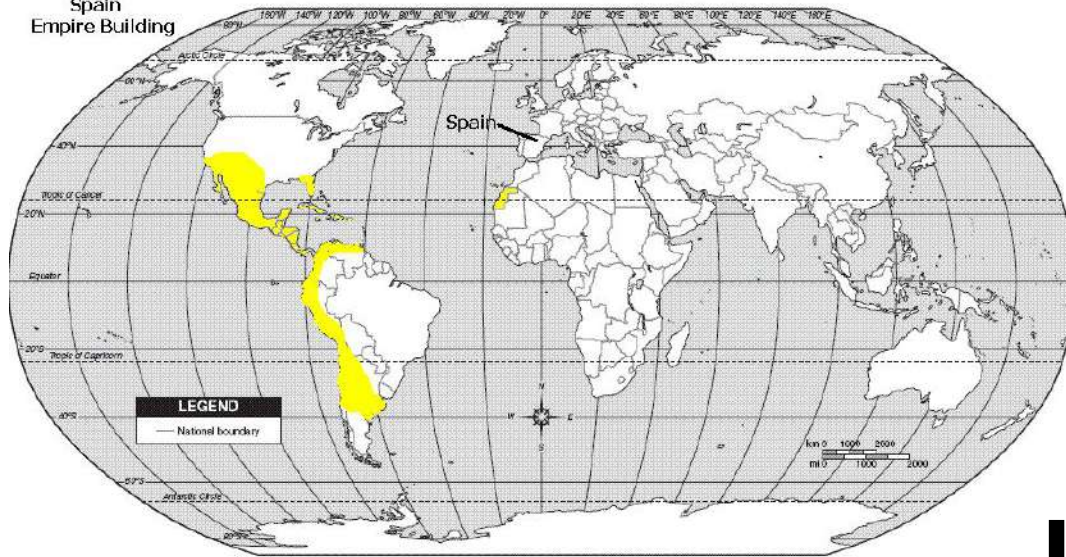
**Standard:
SS6H3a. Explain the
impact of the Cuban
Revolution.**

**Let's review
what we have
learned so far...**

**By the 15th century,
European exploration and
colonization was underway.**

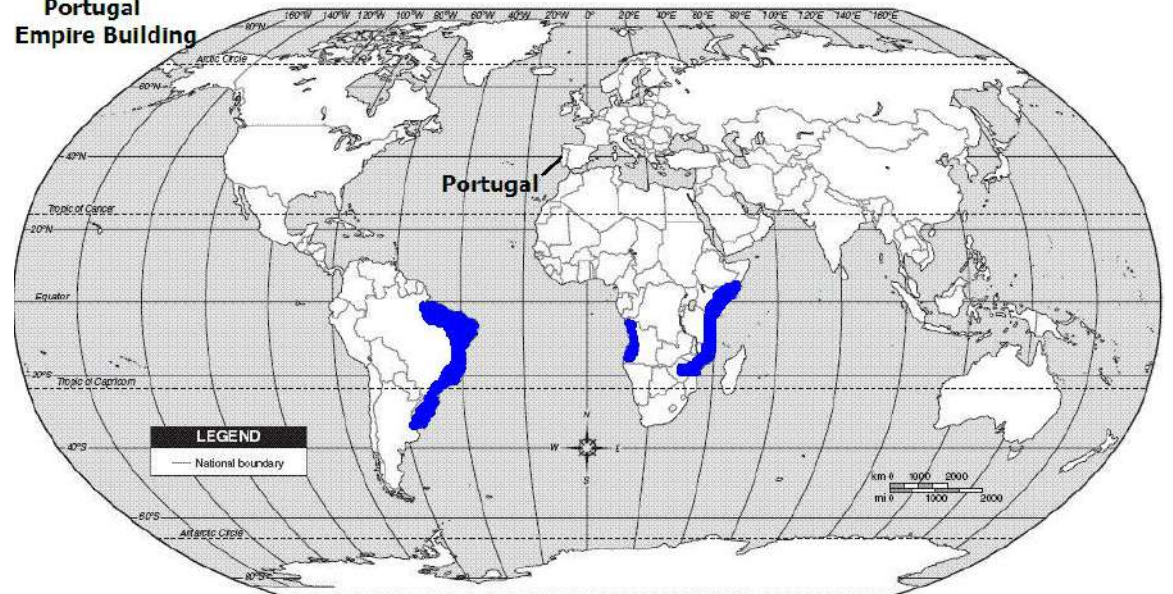


Spain
Empire Building

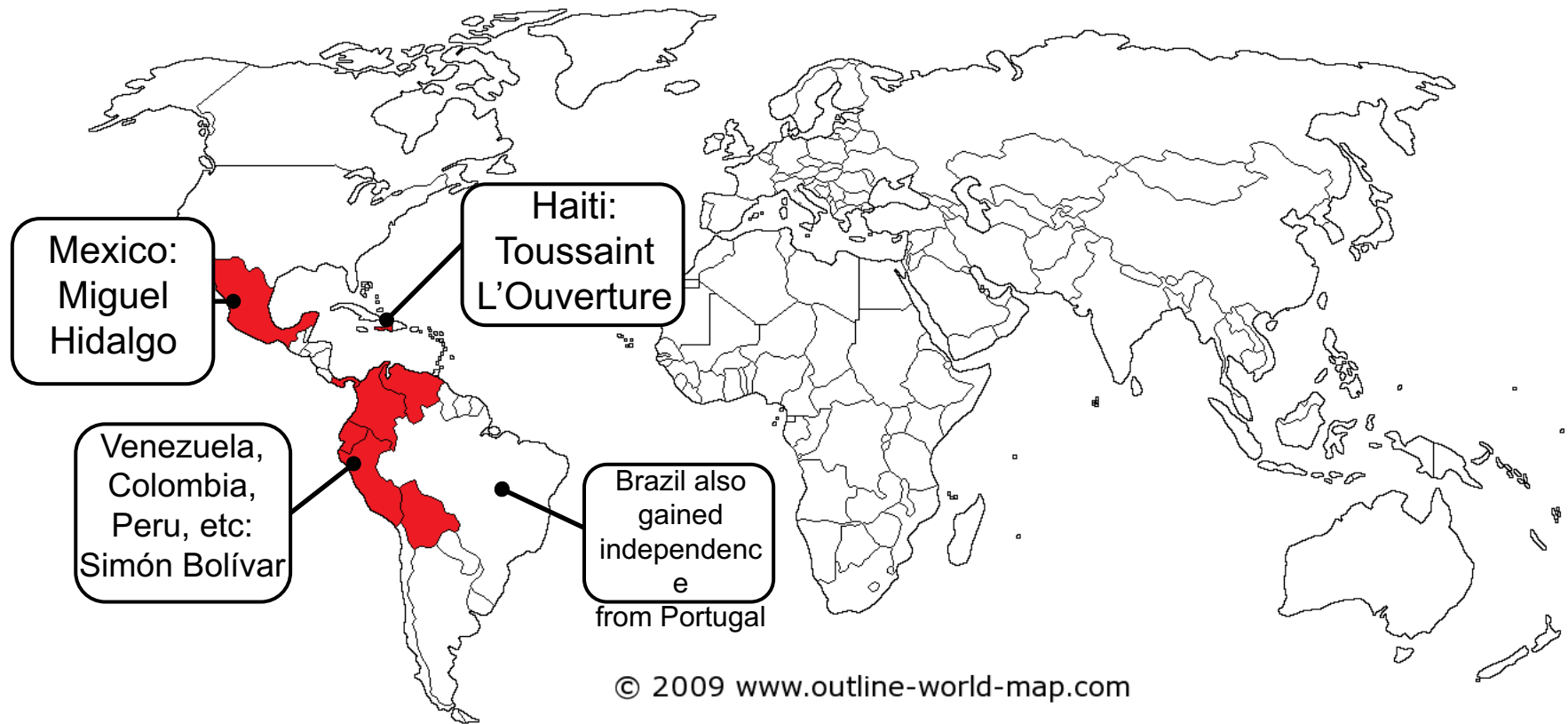


Spain and Portugal set up empires in Latin America.

Portugal
Empire Building

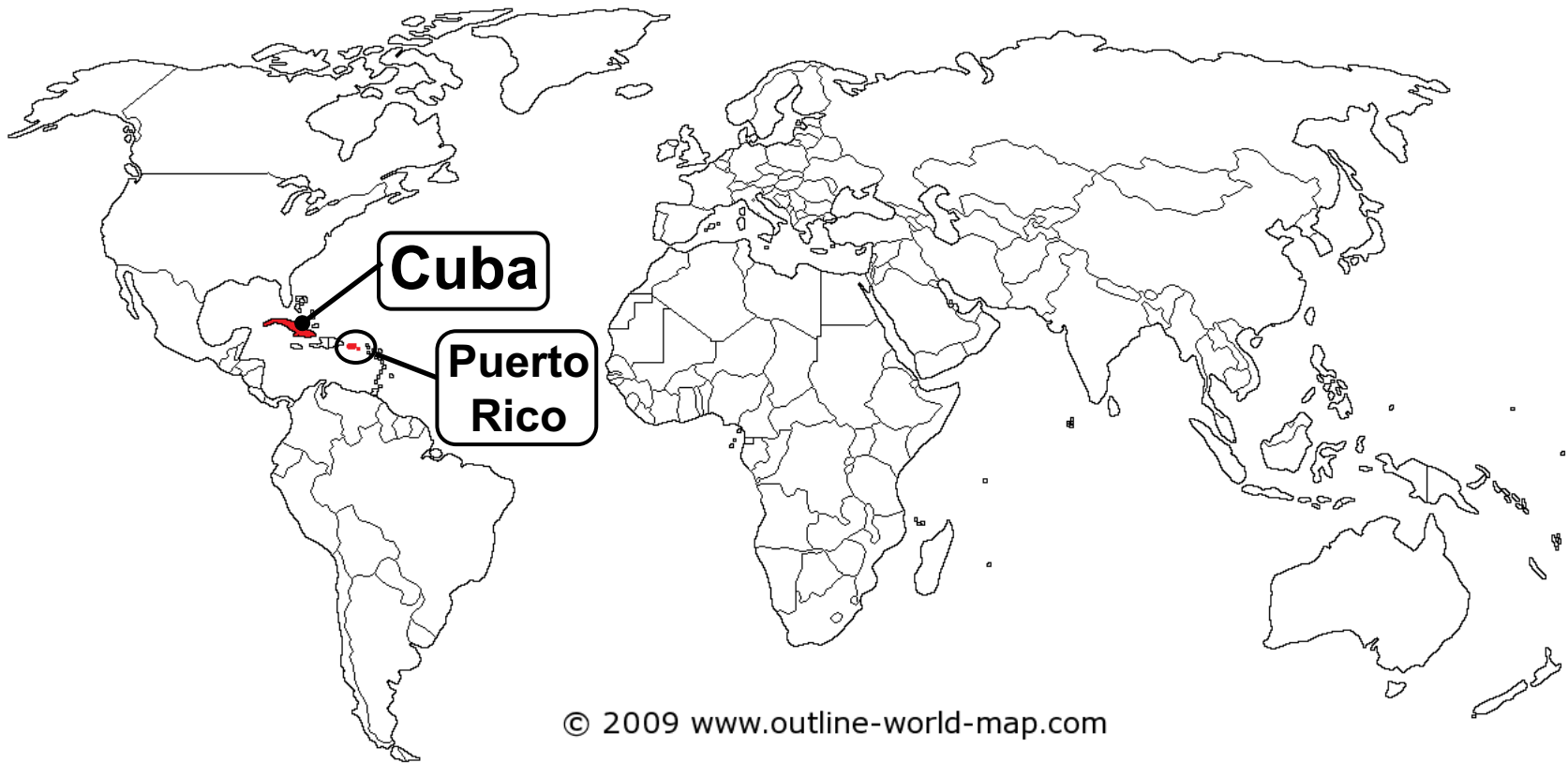


By the mid 19th century, most Latin American countries had achieved independence from Spain and Portugal.



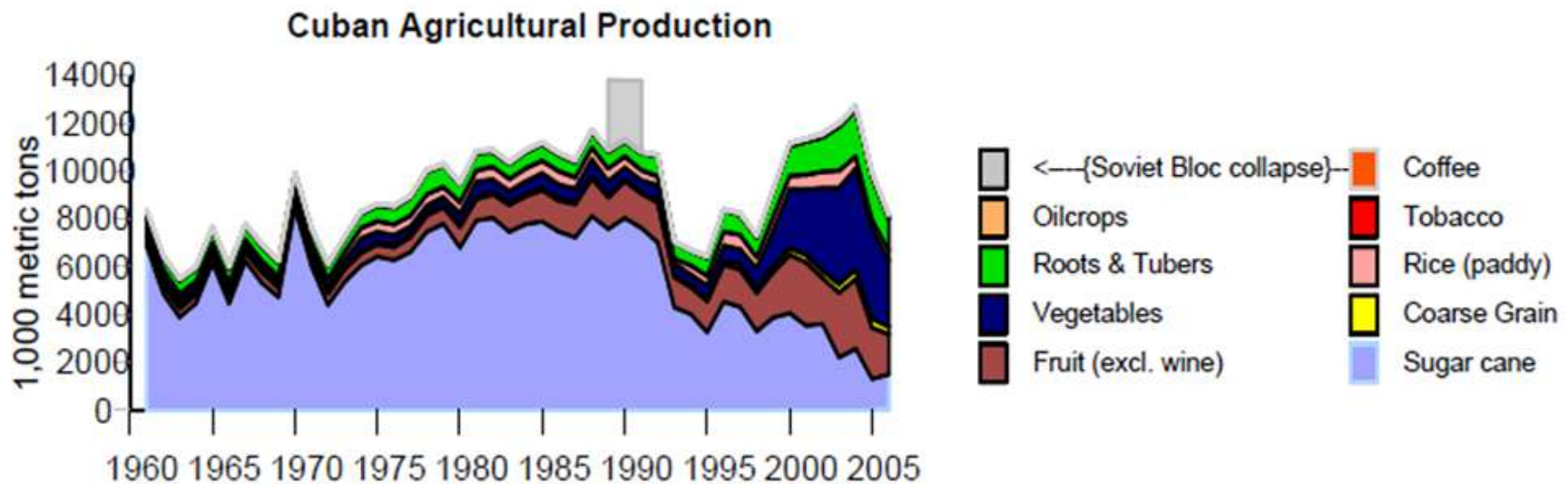
**This is where
we begin...**

By the late 19th century, there were only two Spanish colonies left in the Americas.



What can you remember about Cuba's natural resources?

Cuba has rich soil which is good for growing sugarcane, coffee beans, tobacco, and other crops.



Sugar is Cuba's most important product.

At the end of the 19th century, the U.S. declared war on Spain to help the people gain freedom from Spanish rule and to protect sugarcane plantations owned by American businesses.



The U.S. won the war, and Spain gave up Cuba and Puerto Rico.



Puerto Rico became a U.S. territory. Cuba became independent, but stayed under U.S. control for many years.



For the next 50 years, Cuba had many leaders (some elected, some dictators). The country was very wealthy, but most of the people were extremely poor.



What's a dictator?

A ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained power by force

With a partner, summarize the important events before the Cuban Revolution on your graphic organizer.

Cuban Revolution

Summary of Important Events before the Cuban Revolution:

Summary of the Causes of the Cuban Revolution:

Impact of the Cuban Revolution:

**Impact on Cuba's
Government**

**Impact on Cuba's
Economy**

**Impact on Cuba's
Citizens**

**Impact on U.S. and
Cuban Relations**

Cuban Revolution

Summary of Important Events before the Cuban Revolution: Cuba gained independence when the U.S. fought a war with Spain to gain Cuba's freedom and protect U.S. sugarcane plantations. Cuba had many leaders over the years following their independence. Some leaders were elected and some leaders were dictators.

Summary of the Causes of the Cuban Revolution:

Impact of the Cuban Revolution:

Impact on Cuba's
Government

Impact on Cuba's
Economy

Impact on Cuba's
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Impact on U.S. and
Cuban Relations

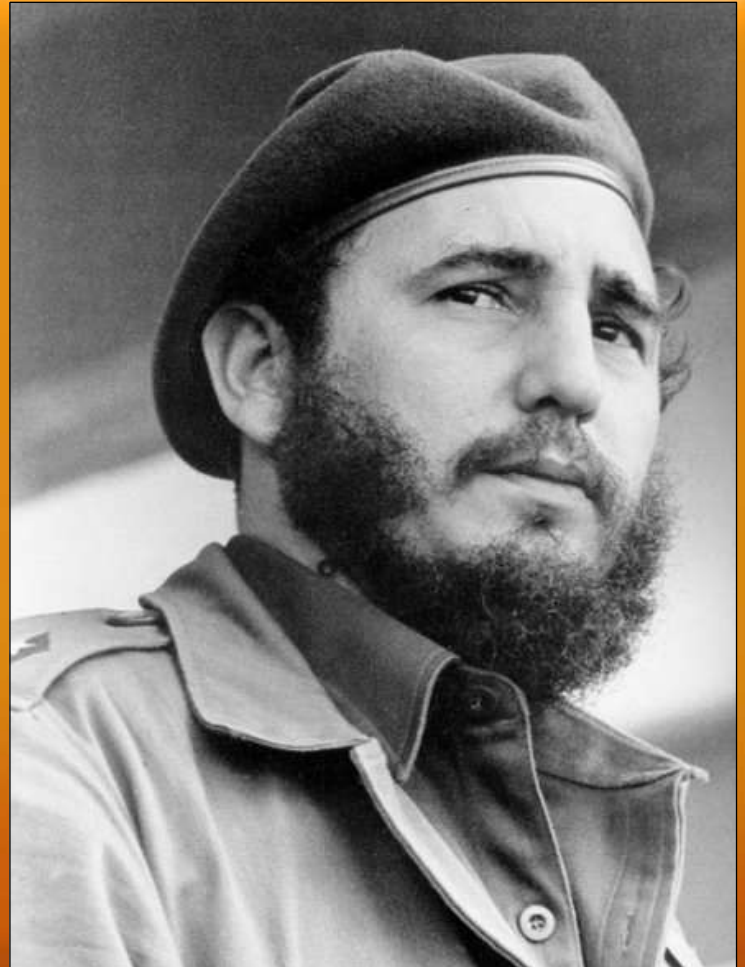
**Why do
revolutions
occur?**

**Which group was exploited
(taken advantage of) in Cuba?**

**The poor were taken advantage
of in Cuba and were angry with
their government.**

Fidel Castro

Just like in other Latin American countries, a leader emerged to take up the cause...



In the late 1950s, Fidel Castro led an army of rebels and defeated the corrupt government (a dictator named Batista).

This is known as the Cuban Revolution.

With a partner, summarize the causes of the Cuban Revolution on your graphic organizer.

Cuban Revolution

Summary of Important Events before the Cuban Revolution:

Summary of the Causes of the Cuban Revolution:

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**Impact on U.S. and
Cuban Relations**

Cuban Revolution

Summary of Important Events before the Cuban Revolution:

Summary of the Causes of the Cuban Revolution: Even though the country was very wealthy, most of the people were extremely poor. Unhappy Cubans were continually angry with their government. In the late 1950s, Fidel Castro led a group of rebels and defeated the corrupt government. He took over and set up a communist government.

Impact of the Cuban Revolution:

Impact on Cuba's
Government

Impact on Cuba's
Economy

Impact on Cuba's
Citizens

Impact on U.S. and
Cuban Relations

**Fidel Castro immediately
set up a communist
government.**

What is communism?

Communism is a political and economic system in which the major productive resources in a society are owned by the public or the state, and wealth is divided among citizens equally or according to individual need.

**Where does communism
fall on the economic
continuum?**

**Toward Command
Economy**

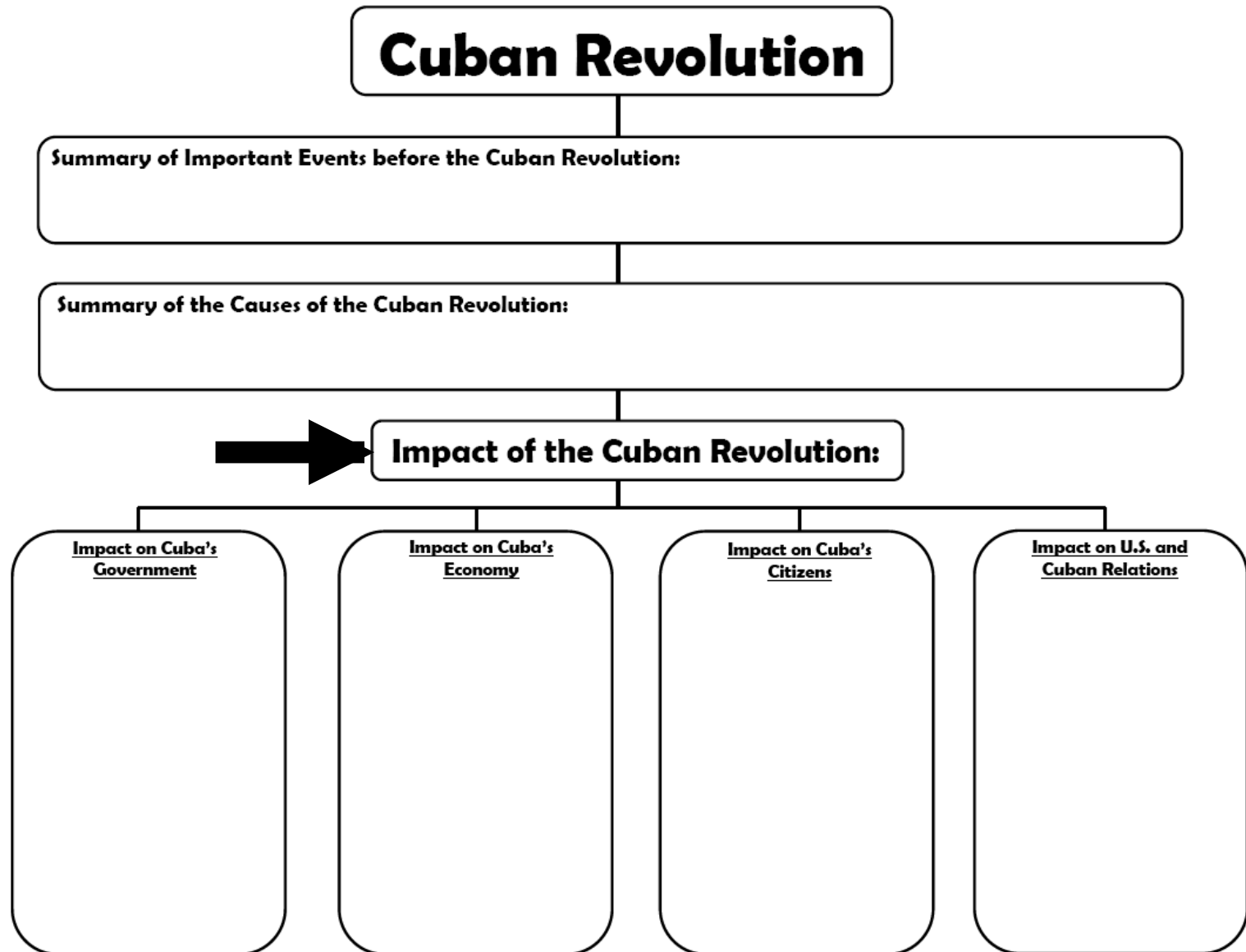
**How is power distributed
in communism?**

Unitary

World Revolution For
Students – Castro and the
Cuban Revolution Part I

[15:03]

Use your graphic organizer to record the impact of the Cuban Revolution



Impact on Cuba's Government

- **In reality, Cuba just went from one dictator to another**
- **Castro set up a communist government like its ally (supporter), the Soviet Union, and controlled all aspects of the government**

**How do you think
Cuba's economy was
affected by the Cuban
Revolution?**

Impact on Cuba's Economy

- **Castro set up a communist government which controlled all parts of the economy**
- **He took over farms and businesses, even those owned by the U.S.**

Impact on Cuba's Economy

- **The Soviet Union was a key ally and trading partner, but when they broke apart, Cuba's economy suffered and still struggles today**
- **Food shortages occur from time to time**

**How do you think
Cuba's citizens were
affected by the Cuban
Revolution?**

Impact on Cuba's Citizens

- **Many poor people supported Castro's policies because he improved their healthcare and education**
- **Successful Cubans such as business owners, teachers, doctors, and others did not like their property being taken.**

Impact on Cuba's Citizens

- **Due to Castro's communist policies, many successful Cubans left (many went to Florida)**
- **People who opposed Castro were killed or put in prison**
- **He controlled everything on the radio, TV, and newspapers.**

**How do you think the
Cuban Revolution
affected Cuba's
relationship with
the U.S.?**

Impact on U.S. and Cuban Relations

- **Castro came to power during the Cold War and sided with the Soviet Union causing hostilities**
- **Castro took over American businesses without giving compensation (costs) to owners**
- **The U.S. imposed an embargo on exports except for food and medicine to Cuba in 1960 and cut off all ties with Cuba in 1961**

**With an elbow partner,
discuss the following:**

**Was the Cuban Revolution
good or bad for Cuba?
Why?**

In 2008, Raúl Castro, Fidel Castro's brother, replaced Fidel when he became too ill to lead the country.

Cuba's government structure remains the same, but Raúl has opened the economy in some ways.

[Inside Cuba 1 of 2 BBC
Our World Documentary](#)
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[Inside Cuba 2 of 2 BBC
Our World Documentary](#)
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Which group benefited the most from the Cuban Revolution? Why?

The poor because they gained education, healthcare, and more equal treatment

Which group benefited the least from the Cuban Revolution? Why?

The wealthy, land owners, and business owners because Castro took their property for the state

Summarizer – Identify a few impacts of the Cuban Revolution

Impact of the Cuban Revolution

