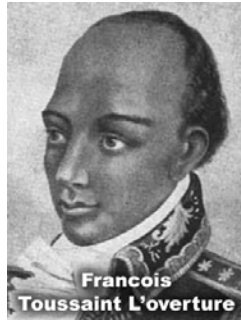


Name: _____

Date: _____

Haiti

The French colonized Haiti, and built huge sugar plantations on the fertile Haitian soil. Sugar farming is very hard work, and the plantation owners forced African slaves to work very hard to keep up production. In 1791, the Africans revolted under the direction of Francois Toussaint L'overture. In 1804, after years of bitter and bloody battle, the slaves forced the French to flee the island. The former slaves then formed the first independent black nation. There had been many great black kingdoms in Africa, but never before had a black government replaced a white colonial government.

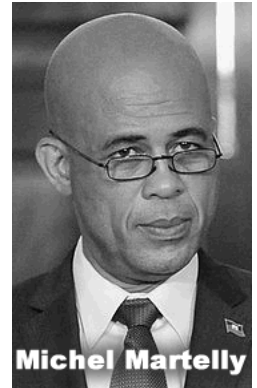


Unfortunately, the former slaves had no experience in government. Slaves had not been allowed to be educated, so almost nobody could read or write. The black government was not recognized by other nations, and the income from sugar production was gone because the sugar plantations had been destroyed in the long war.

Many power hungry men who cared little for their people controlled Haiti. From 1908 to 1915, Haiti had fifteen presidents. The United States took control of Haiti from 1915 to 1934, but the Haitians resented the uninvited Americans.

The Duvalier family ruled Haiti from 1957 to 1986. Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier was a doctor who specialized in treating malaria. Duvalier ran for the presidency and was elected by the largest majority in Haitian history.

Once in power, Duvalier became a dictator. He was raised a Roman Catholic, but he strengthened his control over Haiti by publicizing his belief in Voodoo. He created a violent military police force known as the Touton Macoutes. (pronounced TOE-tan mow-COO), who tortured or killed many of Papa Doc's opponents. During Papa Doc's rule, most of Haiti's educated people fled the country, leaving it the poorest and most illiterate nation in the Western Hemisphere.



Papa Doc's son, Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier followed his father into power. In 1986, the Haitian people revolted and Baby Doc fled to France, but he managed to leave with millions of dollars from the Haitian treasury. A series of short-lived governments followed, most of which were brutal and incompetent.

In 2010, a massive earthquake killed more than 200,000 people and left millions homeless. Despite international assistance, Haiti is still recovering from the catastrophe. A year after the earthquake, the Haitian people elected Michel Martelly to be their leader in free elections.

Answer in Complete Sentences

1. Who was Francois Toussaint L'overture?

*This is a higher order learning question. You must answer the question to the best of your ability, but any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.

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Name: _____

Date: _____



Fill in the Blanks

Francois Toussaint L' _____ led a H _____ slave r _____ in 17 _____ against the F _____ plantation o _____. After *t _____ years of *f _____, the slaves d _____ the F _____ and formed the f _____ independent b _____ nation.

The former s _____ had no e _____ in g _____. Slaves had not been a _____ to be e _____, so few people could r _____ or w _____. Other nations *r _____ s _____ to r _____ or trade with the *b _____ government, and the i _____ from s _____ production was gone.

Haiti was ruled by the D _____ family for _____ years. Francois, "P _____ D _____" Duvalier was a d _____ who s _____ in treating m _____. He was e _____ by the largest m _____ in Haitian h _____, but became a d _____ one he gained p _____. Papa Doc s _____ his c _____ over H _____ by p _____ his b _____ in V _____. He created a v _____ military f _____ known as the T _____ M _____, who t _____ or k _____ many of D _____'s opponents. In 19 _____, the H _____ people r _____ against Duvallier's, son, J _____-C _____, nicknamed "B _____-D _____."

Haiti's faced another great challenge in 2010 when a catastrophic e_r_h_u_ke killed more than _____ people and left m_l_i_ns homeless.

Answer in Complete Sentences

*2. Explain why Haiti been extremely poor during most of its post-colonial period.

*3. Who was Francois Duvalier?

*4. Why did most of Haiti's educated people flee the nation during Papa Doc's rule?

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