**1976** – Oil was discovered, Mexico becomes the largest producer in the world.

Economic Boom Continues - $$$

Continue with the Foreign Investment from other countries

Early 1980’s Oil Bubble busts – lose money, hurts economy

**1985** – in the middle of a financial crisis, earthquake = killed 10,000 in Mexico City and a lot of damage. People are very mad about how the government handles this problem. Accusation of FRAUD in the elections.

President Salinas – 1988 – **Privatize** state companies and businesses – phone, steel mill, cellular, government ran businesses, sold off for great deals to “friends”

**Dec. 1992** – George H.W. Bush – works to sign NAFTA into place. North American Free Trade Agreement. Phase out trade barriers. Canada, USA, Mexico can be a giant, beneficial trading block.

**1994 –**

Corruption of Politicians (drug money, fraudulent elections, favors, selling businesses to friends. )

PRIVITIZATION of businesses – started late 1980’s

Peso is devalued

People are not having faith in government and economy

Rich are flaunting their wealth, not helping all Mexicans

**2000** – VINCENTE FOX is PAN party – End the 70 year rule of PRI political party.

His focus: improve trade with US, reduce political corruption, crime, and drug trafficking, also improve status of Millions of illegal Mexican immigrants living in the US. But then 9/11 terrorist attacks halt much of his work.

\*6year presidential terms

**2006** - Felipe Caldron = next president in a very close race. Country is very divided along class lines. Works to address the issues of poverty, helping the poor, and works for social justice.

**2012** – President Enrique Pena Nieto elected

KEY WORDS FROM PACKET:  
1. Economic reform

2. Tariffs

3. Privatization

4. NAFTA

5. Modernization

6. Imports and Exports

7. Maquiladoras

8. Corruption

9. Fraud

10. Fiscal Policy

11. Trade Deficit