The influence of revolution – Latin America

A. The Haitian Revolution: the only successful slave revolt in history
   1. Saint-Domingue, rich French colony on western Hispaniola
      a. Society dominated by small white planter class
      b. 90 percent of population were slaves working under brutal conditions
      c. Large communities of escaped slaves, or maroons
      d. Free blacks fought in American war, brought back revolutionary ideas
      e. Widespread discontent: white settlers sought self-governance, gens de couleur sought political rights, slaves wanted freedom
   2. Slave revolt began in 1791
      a. Factions of white settlers, gens de couleur, and slaves battled each other
      b. French troops arrived in 1792; British and Spanish forces intervened in 1793
   3. Toussaint Louverture (1744-1803)
      a. Son of slaves, literate, skilled organizer, built a strong and disciplined army
      b. Controlled most of Saint-Domingue by 1797, created a constitution in 1801
      c. Arrested by French troops; died in jail, 1803
   4. The Republic of Haiti
      a. Yellow fever ravaged French troops; defeated and driven out by slave armies
      b. Declared independence in 1803; established the Republic of Haiti in 1804

B. Wars of independence in Latin America
   1. Latin American society rigidly hierarchical
      a. Social classes: peninsulares, creoles, slaves, and indigenous peoples
      b. Creoles sought to displace the peninsulares but retain their privileged position
   2. Mexican independence
      a. Napoleon's invasion of Spain in 1807 weakened royal control of colonies
      b. 1810: peasant revolt in Mexico led by Hidalgo, defeated by conservative creoles
      c. 1821: Mexico briefly a military dictatorship, then in 1822 a republic
      d. South part of Mexico was split into several independent states in 1830s
   3. Simon Bolivar (1783-1830) led independence movement in South America
      a. Inspired by George Washington, took arms against Spanish rule in 1811
      b. Creole forces overcame Spanish armies throughout South America, 1824
      c. Bolivar's effort of creating the Gran Colombia failed in 1830s
   4. Brazilian independence
      a. Portuguese royal court fled to Rio de Janeiro, 1807
      b. The king's son, Pedro, agreed to Brazilian independence, 1821
      c. Became Emperor Pedro I in the independent Brazil (reigned 1822-1834)
   5. Creole dominance in Latin America
      a. Independence brought little social change in Latin America
      b. Principal beneficiaries were creole elites
The building of American states

A. Latin America: fragmentation and political experimentation
   1. Creole elites faced political instability after independence
      a. Creole leaders had little experience with self-government
      b. White minority dominated politics; peasant majority was without power
      c. Political instability aggravated by division among elites
   2. Conflicts between farmers and ranchers and indigenous peoples common
      a. Intense fighting in Argentina and Chile; modern weapons against native peoples
      b. Colonists had pacified most productive land by 1870s
   3. Caudillos: military leaders who held power after revolutionary era
      a. Juan Manuel de Rosas dominated Argentina from 1835-1852
      b. Took advantage of chaotic times; brought order to Argentina
      c. Used personal army to crush opposition; opposed liberal reforms
   4. Mexico: war and reform from 1821-1911
      a. Shifted from monarchy to republic to caudillo rule
      b. La Reforma: liberal movement in 1850s led by President Benito Juarez
      c. Granted universal male suffrage; limited power of priests and military
      d. Reforms strongly opposed by landowning elites

B. American economic development → Latin American dependence
   1. Colonial legacy prevented industrialization of Latin American states
      a. Spain and Portugal never encouraged industries
      b. Creole elites continued land-based economies after independence
   2. British didn't invest in industry in Latin America; no market for manufactured goods
      a. Instead invested in cattle and sheep ranching in Argentina
      b. Supplied British wool and beef; most of profits returned to Britain
   3. Some attempts at industrialization with limited success
      a. Diaz encouraged foreign investors to build rails, telegraphs, and mines
      b. Profits to Mexican oligarchy and foreign investors, not for further development
      c. While Mexican industry boomed, average Mexican standard of living declined
   4. Economic growth in Latin America driven by exports: silver, beef, bananas, coffee

C. American culture and social diversity → Ethnicity, identity, and gender in Latin America
   1. Latin American societies organized by ethnicity and color, legacy of colonialism
   2. Large-scale migration in nineteenth century brought cultural diversity
      a. Small number of Chinese in Cuba assimilated through intermarriage
      b. Larger group of East Indians in Trinidad and Tobago preserved cultural traditions
      c. European migrants made Buenos Aires "the Paris of the Americas"
   3. Gauchos: Argentine cowboys on the pampas
      a. Gaucho society: ethnic egalitarianism, mostly mestizos or castizos (mixed race)
      b. Distinctive gaucho dress, independent, celebrated in legend and song
      c. Caudillo rule disrupted gaucho life: impressed into armies, lands enclosed
   4. Male domination central feature of Latin American society in nineteenth century
      a. Machismo: culture of male strength, aggression
      b. No significant women's movement; some efforts to improve education for girls
LATIN AMERICA IN THE 19TH CENTURY

- Subordinate position of Latin America, economically (to Britain) and militarily (to the US)
- Striking impact (in the late 19th Century) of the Industrial Revolution in Europe and the US--on Latin America.
- The growth of "liberalism"

Classic liberalism
- 1776--*Wealth of Nations*, Adam Smith, idea of the "unseen hand"
- Free trade
- Belief in "progress"--what is progress?
- Maximum "liberty"--what is meant here by "liberty"? "Negative liberty" vs. "positive liberty" according to Isaiah Berlin

The Industrial Revolution--brought Latin America:
- Lucrative new markets for many of its commodities (minerals, coffee, etc.
- Railroads and railroad construction
- European and US investment
- Latin American loss of economic control over own economies (dependency)
- Growing sense of inferiority on the part of Latin American elites
- Growing attempts to mimic Europe and the United States

In a sociological sense, changes included:
- Rapid modernization and empowerment of the Latin American economic elite
- Growth of new professional classes, e.g., lawyers
- Consequent changes in political power
  - liberals coming to the presidencies
  - Strongmen from the elites--in power
  - Strongmen ruling for the elites