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Mexican Economy Snapshot

Directions: Read the mini-case study about Mexico's major industries. Then answer the analysis questions in complete sentences.

Mexico's Key Industries: A Mini-Case Study

Mexico's economy is supported by several major industries that help shape the daily lives of millions of people. One of the most important is the **oil industry**, which has played a central role in the country's development for decades. Oil fields along the Gulf of Mexico supply energy for homes, factories, and transportation. Revenue from oil also helps fund government services, although prices can rise or fall depending on global demand.

Agriculture is another major part of Mexico's economy. Farmers grow crops such as **corn**, **avocados**, **tomatoes**, **and sugarcane**, which are sold in local markets and exported to other countries. Many rural families depend on farming for income, and regions with fertile soil support a wide variety of crops. However, weather conditions, water shortages, and market prices can greatly affect farmers' success.

Mexico is also known for its strong **tourism industry**. Visitors come to explore beaches, historic cities, and ancient archaeological sites. Tourism creates jobs in hotels, restaurants, transportation, and entertainment. Cities like Cancun, Oaxaca, and Mexico City benefit from millions of travelers each year. This industry can grow quickly, but it is also sensitive to environmental challenges and global travel trends.

Together, oil, farming, and tourism help create a diverse economic landscape. Each industry brings opportunities, but also challenges that require careful management and planning.

- 1. Why is the oil industry important to Mexico's economy?
- 2. What factors can affect the success of farmers in Mexico?
- 3. How does tourism create jobs for people in Mexico?
- 4. What are some challenges that the tourism industry might face?
- 5. Why is it helpful for a country like Mexico to have several different major industries?
- 6. Which of the three industries do you think is the most important today and why? (must include evidence from the text)

