I'm ___, Today we’re talking about Chilean Independence.

**Causes**

There were two main causes of the Chilean independence movement. One, Napoleon. Napoleon wreaked havoc everywhere he went. In 1808 during the Napoleonic wars, Napoleon invaded Spain, forced King Ferdinand VII to abdicate his mighty throne, and replaced Ferdinand with his brother Joseph Bonaparte. Spanish loyalists formed juntas to govern in the king’s absence. In Chile, leadership would either fall to them, Spanish rebels, or local Creole leaders. Creoles took the lead, named Santiago’s town council as a junta, and announced that they would govern until the king was restored to the throne. They proclaimed they had equal authority as the juntas in Spain, and began opening ports to all traders. This began a period of self-governance in Chile, offering Chileans a taste of freedom they wouldn’t be so quick to give up.

Creole’s resentment towards Spaniards is the second main cause of Chilean independence. To understand why Creoles hated Spaniards so much, you must understand the caste system in Latin America. (insert photos) Spaniards lied at the top, and creoles lied right below them. Creoles despised the privileges of Spanish-born peninsulares and wanted control over the social hierarchy. Although some elite Creoles worked in foreign and domestic trades, Peninsulares dominated the export-import trade both provincially and internationally. They also had key roles in financing mining. Creoles who were excluded from the mercantile business and posts in the government and church were irritated. Instead, they were sequestered to minor, ill-paying government jobs. Hatred between Creoles and Spaniards was so intense that a Spanish bishop once said that “if they could empty their veins of the Spanish part of their blood, they would gladly do so.”

**Side note:** Still, for all their resentment of institutionalized discrimination, Creoles continued to mistreat mestizos and laborers, and consciously made an effort to maintain the lower caste system during their fight for independence.

There were other smaller contributors to the independence movement, too. Bourbon reform allowed freer trade between Chile and other colonies and independent states. By the end of the 18th century, the United States and Europe were trading directly with Chile. Freer trade allowed for greater knowledge of foreign politics, liberalism, and the creation of the US. Haiti had also just won independence, and the French Revolution had just ended. US vessels introduced documents from Thomas Paine and Thomas Jefferson. It spread ideas of liberalism and the role of people in governance. Some Chileans were attached to these new
ideals of the enlightenment - reading forbidden writings from Raynal, Montesquieu, Voltaire, and Rousseau. The founding of the National Institute in Santiago, Chile in 1813 also promoted education and helped spread patriot ideas.

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<th>More Info/Revision/Other standards</th>
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<td><strong>The development of a Spanish-American political consciousness.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Nativism</td>
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<td>- Creoles use American vs. European viewpoint to form liberal and emotional appeal</td>
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<td>- Common goal of independence under the title “Americanos”</td>
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<td>- Idea of an American identity based on birthplace</td>
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<td>- All born in the Americas were Americanos</td>
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<td>- Joins the classes and races against the Spanish</td>
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<td>- Emotionally appealing, mobilized anti-foreign resentments</td>
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<td>- Positivism</td>
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<td>- Influenced education</td>
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<td>- Transformed curriculum in secondary schools and higher levels of education</td>
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<td>- Went against the influence of the Church in Chilean society and focused on education and politics</td>
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<td>- Helped consolidate the study of philosophy</td>
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<td>- Positivism was eventually associated with Authoritarianism because of the Lagarrigue brothers</td>
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<th>Foreign Intervention/Situation in Europe/Political Causes Standard</th>
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<td>- Political structures, forms of governance, or systems of rule</td>
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<td>- Napoleon’s Intervention in Spain in 1808 meant that Chile self-governed from 1810-1814, led by Jose Miguel Carrera Verduga. This was the main cause of unrest in Chile.</td>
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<td>- Chaos in Europe put pressure on Chile to govern</td>
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<td>- Cabildo abierto (open town meeting) was held in Santiago on September, 1810 to elect a junta made up of local, prominent leaders</td>
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<td>- During the Bourbon reforms, Spain stressed tighter supervision and control over South America. They realized the effects of foreign commercial involvement and their problems with communicating to such far provinces.</td>
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<td>- The Policy of other countries towards Latin America</td>
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<td>- The US remained neutral to the wars in Latin America, but maintained their policy to continuously investigate the conditions. They wanted to watch for any developments that might allow them to take advantageous measures. In 1822, against Spain's wishes, the US acknowledged the independent nations.</td>
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<td>- For commercial motives, Europeans also advocated to recognize the independence of Latin American countries.</td>
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| - Bourbons allowed freer trade between Chile and other colonies and independent states. By the end of the 18th century, the United States and Europe were trading directly with Chile. Freer trade allowed for greater knowledge of foreign politics,
liberalism, and the creation of the US. The effect of US trade is another example of the role of foreign intervention.

**Social/Religious Causes Standard**

- Social classes or structures
  - The strict caste system in Chile
  - Creoles despise privileges of Spanish-born peninsulares → resentment
  - Creoles desire control over social hierarchy → determine the best way to do this is to fight to form a new sovereign nation
  - Although some elite Creoles worked in foreign and domestic trades, Peninsulares dominated the foreign and provincial export-import trade, and had key roles in financing mining. Creoles who were excluded from the mercantile business and posts in the government and church were irritated. Instead, they were sequestered to minor, ill-paying government jobs. Still, for all their resentment of institutionalized discrimination, they continued to mistreat mestizos and laborers, and consciously made an effort to maintain the lower caste system.
  - Hatred between Creoles and Spaniards was so intense that a Spanish bishop once said that “if they could empty their veins of the Spanish part of their blood, they would gladly do so.”

  A History of Latin America, Benjamin Keen, Keith Haynes (need citation)

- Norms that govern interactions
  - Nativism
    - Creoles use American vs. European viewpoint to form liberal and emotional appeal
  - Common goal of independence under the title “Americanos”

- Enlightenment/Belief systems, philosophies, ideologies, and values
  - Bourbon reforms of freer trade allowed liberal ideology to reach Chile. US vessels introduced documents from Thomas Paine and Thomas Jefferson. Some Chileans were attached to the new ideals of the enlightenment, although many were still supportive of the traditional Spanish crown and the Roman Catholic Church. This is an example of the exchange of culture with other groups.
  - Despite being forbidden, some educated creoles read Raynal, Montesquieu, Voltaire, and Rousseau.
  - The 13 Anglo-American colonies and Haiti won their revolutions, along with the French Revolution → Ideas of Liberalism and self-governance.
  - Spain’s harsh rule after winning back its military supremacy in the Battle of Rancagua → Convinced more people that absolute independence was necessary
  - The founding of the National Institute in Santiago, Chile in 1813 promoted education and helped spread patriot ideas

**Conflicts/Issues Causes Standard**

- Internal
  - Creoles within Chile disputed how far Chile should go towards full independence
  - Internal disputes resulted in a Spanish victory at Rancagua and the migration of the Carrera brothers and O'Higgins to Argentina
External

- 1808: In the Napoleonic wars, Napoleon invaded Spain, forced King Ferdinand VII to abdicate, and replaced Ferdinand with his brother Joseph Bonaparte. Spanish loyalists formed juntas to govern in the king’s absence. In Spanish America, leadership would either fall to them, Spanish rebels, or local creole leaders. Creoles took the lead, named Santiago’s town council as a junta, and announced that they would govern until the king was restored to the throne. They proclaimed they had equal authority as the juntas in Spain, and began opening ports to all traders.

Events

The general timeline of Independence went like this:
In 1808 Napoleon kicks the Spanish king out and puts his bro into power.

In 1810, A Junta (or a town council) in Santiago Chile says they’ll take on the role of government

In 1814 Spanish dudes regain control of Chile

In 1817 Big battles occur between Creoles and Spanish dudes. They won and self-govern once more.

In 1818 Chileans declare official independence

Between 1823 and 1830, everything goes haywire and no one can hold office for more than a year or two. No one can agree on political ideology or unite under any philosophy.

But, to go into more detail...

Following Napoleon’s invasion of Spain, one of the first displays of independence was self-governance, led by Jose Miguel Carrera Verduga. He became the leader of the Chilean government in 1811. He sanctioned a republican constitution while also recognizing the Royal Crown’s sovereignty. His arch rival, Bernardo O’Higgins, kicked him out of office for a short period but Carrera quickly gained power again, and took back his original title. O’Higgins did not give up, though. Elite Creoles like O’Higgins argued that Chile was in need of full independence, not just autonomy.

Born in Chillán, Chile was close to O’Higgins heart. During his education O'Higgins bounced around, traveling between Peru, Spain, and England. He developed a strong sense of nationalism and pride for Chile because of his frequent contact with political activists and leaders. When O’Higgins father (the Viceroy of Peru) died in 1800, he left him a large estate in Chillán, which O'Higgins returned to. When Chile created their own form of government congressman O'Higgins was right in the
middle of all of it. He served for the next two years in congress and played a big role in Chile’s push for independence.

O’Higgins led the independence movement against Carrera, but his fellow Chilean elites couldn’t agree on philosophy, debating which French ideologies would be incorporated into the movement. Spanish troops from Peru took advantage of the conflict and reconquered Chile in 1814. The viceroyalty of Peru sent Spanish royalist troops to Chile, where they defeated both Carrera and O’Higgins in the Battle of Rancagua. The battle marked the beginning of the La Reconquista. Between 1815-1817, Spanish loyalists forced suspected Chilean rebels into insurrectionary camps. This convinced Chilean elites that full independence was a necessity.

When O’Higgins lost the battle of Rancagua, he fled to Argentina to help organize revolts against the government. There, he coupled up with San Jose de Martín, another Spanish American leader. They led an army through the Andes mountains to surprise the Spanish forces.

The Army of the Andes, comprised of 3500 soldiers, was able to use the rough terrain and high elevation of the Andes to their advantage when facing royal forces. Forces were split into four divisions and each took their own paths through the Andes on their month long journey from Argentina to Chile.

In February of 1817, O’Higgins and San Jose de Martín won the battle of Chacabuco in order to take back Chile. The next year they wrote their Declaration of Independence, stating that they would forevermore be separate from the Spanish monarchy. In April of 1818 they ensured independence in the Battle of Maipu against the remaining Spanish royalists.

And, after winning independence, Bernardo O’Higgins was elected as supreme leader of Chile.

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<th>Political/intellectual/military contributions of leaders Standard</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Jose Miguel Carrera</td>
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<td>- Involved in early Chilean independence movements as a leader. Becomes the leader of the Chilean government in 1811, only for a short time until he was kicked out in 1813 by his arch rival Bernardo O’Higgins. Carrera quickly gained power again in 1814, taking back his original title. It wouldn’t last long however, as both Carrera and O’Higgins were defeated by invading Spanish troops from Peru in October 1814 (Rancagua). Carrera fled to Argentina and the United States in search of aid against his opponents. This search wasn’t fruitful, and he remained in Argentina and helped organize revolts against the government. He was eventually betrayed by his own men, and shot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Bernardo O’Higgins</td>
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<td>- Born in the Chilean town of Chillán, Chile was close to O’Higgins heart. During his education O’Higgins bounced around going from Peru, Spain, and England. He developed a strong sense of nationalism and pride for his country (colony) of Chile because of his large amounts of contact with</td>
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political activists and leaders. When O'Higgins father (Viceroy of Peru) died in 1801 he left him a large estate in Chillán, which O'Higgins returned to. Chile created their own form of government after Napoleon invaded Spain in 1808, and congressman O'Higgins is right in the middle of all of it. He served for the next two years in congress and played a big role in Chile’s stark push for independence. In early 1813 Chile had a constitution and a junta. Peru goes through some back and forth between royalists and patriots, and O'Higgins leads forces at the battle of Rancagua against the royalists. O'Higgins took a big loss at Rancagua, and lost control of the country. O'Higgins spends the next three years planning for the reconquest of Chile. He and San Jose de Martín lead an army through the Andes mountains into Chile to surprise the Spanish forces from Peru. O'Higgins and San Jose de Martín won at Chacabuco, and took back Chile. Bernardo O'Higgins was then elected as supreme leader of Chile. He does well for the first six or so years as the supreme leader, but by 1820 he starts to lose favour with the citizens. O'Higgins had antagonized and alienated certain groups of people whilst trying to push his agenda, his support had diminished and he was forced out of office. Exiled in 1823, he spent the rest of his life in Peru at his hacienda in Lima.

- San Jose de Martín
  - Martín came from a militaristic background and got his education in Spain. After a few years of fighting for freedom from Napoleon, he decided to go to Lima Peru. He went by way of Buenos Aires, which at the time was the center of the rebellion against Spain. Martín from there was given the job of organizing corps of grenadiers against the center of Spanish royalists in Peru, as they were threatening the revolutionary government in Argentina. Martín says that the reason he betrayed his country is that he “responded to the call of his native land” (which he had spent the first 5 years of his life in). From those moments on Martín was dedicated to the revolutionary Argentine government. He trained troops, commanded armies in battle, and constructed a plan to help rid Peru of the Spanish royalists. He commanded an army with Bernardo O'Higgins that crossed the Andes and defeated Spanish troops in 1817. Martín was an integral part of the revolution, as he was a commanding officer in many battles such as the Battle of Maipu, and was dedicated to freeing Lima as his ultimate goal. His military skill was Martín’s biggest contribution to the revolution, as he had many great ideas that wouldn’t have come to fruition without him.

**Characteristics of the independence processes standard**

**Military Campaigns/Battles**

1814 - In the Battle of Rancagua, Spain regained control of Chile. On October 1, 1814, Royalist forces under the lead of Osario defeated forces led by Bernardo O'Higgins outside the town of Rancagua. The royalists employed an elite group of soldiers, the Talaveros, who were veterans of the Napoleonic war in Europe. They set fire to the town of Rancagua and forced the rebels to disperse. The royalist's success ended Patria Vieja, the period of self-governance in Chile, and began the Spanish Military’s Reconquest. They would occupy Chile for the next three years.
1817 - Patriots defeat Spanish troops Feb. 12th on the hill of Chacabuco. O'Higgins is named supreme leader of Chile and Spanish royalists flee Chile.  

1818 - Battle of Cancha Rayada → patriots face heavy losses after being defeated by the royal forces of Mariano Osorio, the Spanish general and Chilean governor at the time. False rumors of O'Higgins and Martin’s death spread amongst Chilean rebels. However, while they lost a significant number of soldiers and were forced to retreat from Santiago, Royalist forces lost more than half the soldiers in battle due to death, capture, or desertment.  

1818 - Chilean rebels fought Spanish royalists in the The Battle of Maipu, the final battle to decide the outcome of the war. It lasted for six hours, left 2000 royalists dead and 3000 captured, and ended the decade long drive for independence. Chilean rebels won, and became independent with Bernardo O'Higgins and Jose De San Martin as leaders.

**New detail/depth on the Battle of Chacabuco and its impact**

San Martin wanted to expel Spanish loyalists from South America completely, and settled on expelling them from Chile first. In 1817, after two years of work, he had put together an army of 6,000 men and 1,200 horses, and began to cross the Andes. The Army of the Andes was the formal name for the military force created by San Martin to free Chile from Spanish rule. O'Higgins acted as its main general. Las Heras and Soler also commanded parts of the force.  

Royalist forces were posted in a valley near Santiago, the capital, called Chacabuco. Rafael Maroto, the head of the royalist forces, refused to retreat in the face of San Martin and decided to stay in the valley despite his minimal forces. He figured he only needed to fend off San Martin’s army for a little while before reinforcements would arrive.  

However, San Martin took advantage of this information and decided to launch a surprise attack. His advantage in numbers and the element of surprise resulted in successfully driving the Spaniards out. The royalists fled to Peru, and O'Higgins assumed the title of Supreme Director of Chile, and the Chilean rebels celebrated their capture of the capital.

**Effects**

The immediate effect of Chilean independence was the establishment of Caudillo rule with O'Higgins as ruler. As a ruler, he was largely opposed by both spectrums of the Chilean political sphere. He upset Chilean liberals with his authoritarianism and the conservatives with his anticlericalism. He failed to form an effective constitution, angered the prominent Roman Catholic church by encouraging religious tolerance, and angered aristocrats in his efforts to eliminate noble titles. He was finally pushed out of office in 1823 and left for Peru.

**Side note:** At this point in Chile’s history, it's important to note the influence of outside countries on the Spanish American states. The US remained neutral to the wars in Latin America, but maintained their policy to continuously investigate the conditions. They wanted to watch for any developments that might allow them to take advantageous measures. In 1822, against Spain's wishes, the US acknowledged their declaration of independence and officially saw them as independent nations. For commercial motives, Europeans also advocated to recognize the independence of Latin American countries.
Specifically speaking, the US policy was called the Monroe Doctrine. It outlined four basic goals or principles:
1) To not interfere in affairs between European powers
2) To recognize but not interfere with existing colonies
3) To end of colonization in the Western Hemisphere
4) To perceive any European effort to suppress or control any Western Hemisphere nation as an act of hostility towards the U.S.

The policy was put forth by President James Monroe in 1823 and enforced by the U.S. and British navy. Essentially, the U.S. wanted to protect their sphere of influence and solidify their political and economic domination over the Latin American region. Consequently, the lack of foreign intervention from Europe allowed new independent nations to form some self-reliance.

However...newfound independence and the acknowledgement of foreign nations did not ensure political stability. From 1823-1830, a civil war between the conservatives and the liberals ravished Chile. Two liberals, Ramón Freire Serrano and Francisco Antonio Pinto Díaz, came in and out of the presidency, but neither of them could maintain their authority. Over 30 successive governments came into power during this period of intense instability. In 1829, authoritarians were finally able to establish a junta with José Tomás de Ovalle as its leader. Chilean politician Diego Portales, however, was the true source of power in Chile, and his efforts would lead to economic and political progression in Chile’s future.

Economically speaking...
After independence, the cost of war required Chile to take a one million pound loan from England. The trade of wheat, silver, and copper boomed between Chile and the US, England, and France. And, the Chilean peso became the country’s first currency in 1817.

Socially speaking...
Nothing drastic changed in the caste system. Yes, slavery was abolished in 1823, before almost any other South American country due to the liberal ideologies. And yes, they also abolished estates being inherited by primogeniture mayorazgo (the first born son). But, Creoles still agreed that lower caste members would be kept out of political life, and should be prevented from uniting under any collective philosophy. They ensured that labor systems would stay the same - in which mestizos continued to do poor-paying, manual labor jobs. Creoles had every intention of maintaining the caste system and rising to the top of the
More Info/Revision/Other standards

Latin America: challenges to the establishment of political systems/the policies and impact of caudillo rule

- Caudillo Rulers sought to legitimize their role by naming themselves with a title of power. They side-stepped the rules of the constitution as if they didn’t apply to them. This was an effort to remain in power called “continuismo.”
- However, many leaders were uninterested in continuing the monarchical political systems from Spain. They attempted to mimic the structure of Northern Europe and the US and formed Republics. Unalienable rights, and other liberal structures and ideals of republics were new to Spanish politics.
- Political structures, forms of governance, or systems of rule
  - O’Higgins ruled Chile from 1817-1823. He was praised for defeating the royalists, but civil strife continued due to his dictatorial rule.
  - O’Higgins issued social reforms/policies
    - Reopened the National Institute, an education center
    - Improved elementary schools
    - Promoted organization of Police system in cities and rural areas
    - Tried to suppress brigandage by establishing special tribunals for justice
    - Abolished titles of nobility that were given by Spanish Monarchy
  - O’Higgins attempted to form a new constitution that would grant more power to the oligarchy. By no means did this increase his support, in fact, unrest forced him to abdicate in 1823.
- Liberals wanted to break up hierarchical social structure from the colonial period. They wanted a federal government, individual rights, control of education, and the abolition of special legal status for clergy and military people. Conservatives wanted a strong centralized government, for the Roman Catholic church to hold a monopoly over religion and education, and special status for people of the clergy and military.

“The achievement of independence movements was beneficial to the indigenous people who lived there.” To what extent is the statement valid?

- This statement is not valid. Even though Chileans were able to gain political independence, the social hierarchy was largely maintained. Most Creole leaders wished to keep their higher social status, so the indigenous people remained under subjugation at the bottom of the social hierarchy.
  - Loss of land for indigenous peoples
  - Increase of European settlement in south central region of Chile called “La Frontera”
  - Indigenous population, called the Araucanians (Mapuche), were
pacified and pushed out of their land
- Native peoples forced to the countryside
- Famine and disease hit the Mapuche people hard as the new nation of Chile expanded into Mapuche lands (resulted in population loss)
- Indigenous peoples forced to adapt to a new society

- **Women**
  - This was an unfinished revolution. Chile is a very socially conservative country, so the wave of feminism and the push for increased women’s rights did not begin until the 20th century. Many of the political and social rights exercised by Chilean women today have been gained in the modern era, including the right to vote in 1931 and the right to divorce in 2004.

- **Africans**
  - A specific group of Africans were part of the 8th Regiment of the Army of the Andes and fought for Chilean independence in Chacabuco
    - San Martin demanded that landowners provide slaves for the army, who would fight in the infantry under O’Higgins
    - These slaves received their freedom after fighting the Spaniards
  - African minority population in Chile mixed with Europeans and gypsies to form new ethnic and cultural practices/identities
  - After official ban of slavery in 1823, slavery continued along the Pacific coast in the mining and guano industries
  - Integration of the city of Arica into Chile in 1929 brought more people of African descent under Chilean authority
    - These people promoted African culture and tradition