

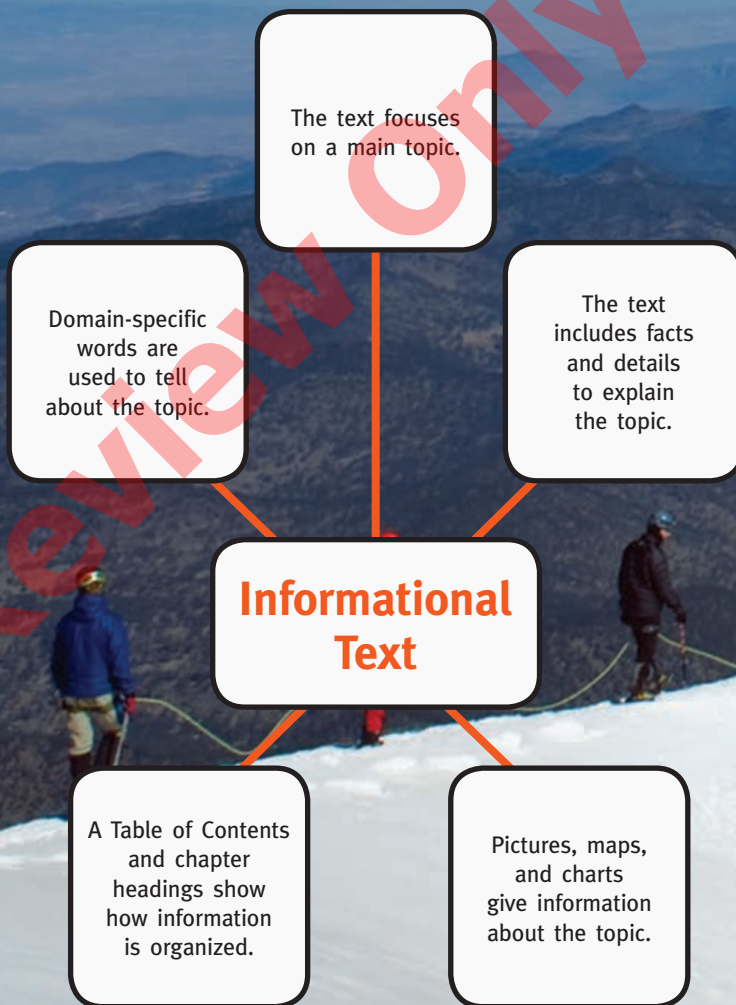
Pico de Orizaba



Level **K/20**
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What Is Pico de Orizaba?

Pico de Orizaba is a mountain that is southeast of Mexico City. Its peak overlooks the valley and city of Orizaba, from which it gets its name.

Pico de Orizaba is the highest mountain in Mexico. It is 5,564 meters (18,250 feet) high. It is also the third highest mountain in North America.

Pico de Orizaba's snowcap is pleasing to look at all year long. Because the mountain is so high and cold, there is always snow at the top of the mountain.

The valley that surrounds Pico de Orizaba is very green and beautiful.



▲ Even in summer there is snow on Pico de Orizaba.

There are nine different **glaciers** at the highest parts of Pico de Orizaba. A glacier is a **mass** of ice. It can contain snow, rocks, and soil. **Glaciers** are found at the highest part of some mountains.



▲ The Great Northern Glacier on Pico de Orizaba is the largest glacier in Mexico.

In some places at Pico de Orizaba, the ice in the glaciers is 50 meters (164 feet) thick.



Pico de Orizaba has a crater at the top.

Pico de Orizaba is a **volcano**. It has the shape of a **cone**. However, it is a dormant volcano. An active volcano can **erupt** at any time.

Pico de Orizaba is a ▶
dormant volcano and
still can erupt.



Fortunately, Pico de Orizaba hasn't erupted in more than one hundred years.

