

The Aztecs and the Spanish Conquest

Origins of the Aztec Empire

Comprehension Questions

Watch the video carefully and complete the comprehension questions and activities.

1. Name four occupations that existed in Aztec society.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

2. In which modern-day country was the capital of the Aztec Empire, Tenochtitlán, located?

3. Historians know that the Aztecs were not native inhabitants of the Valley of Mexico because:

- a) Aztec maps showing migration routes have been found.
- b) Aztec pyramids are located near Florida, USA.
- c) the Aztec language Nahuatl is similar to languages of the American Southwest.
- d) Aztec myths describe landforms found in modern-day Canada.

4. The Aztecs worked for the Culhuacán city-state as _____, and in 1323, they asked to make King Achicometl's daughter their _____.

5. Name the two animals seen by the Aztecs at Lake Texcoco.

- _____
- _____

6. What name is given to the alliance between Mexica, Texcoco and Tlacopan?

7. By the early 16th century, the Aztec Empire was the smallest but most powerful empire in Mesoamerica.

True

False

8. City-states in the _____ Empire were left to govern their own people, as long as they paid _____ to the Mexica in the form of feathers, animal skins, precious stones, and captives for _____ sacrifice.
9. In the early 1500s, Tenochtitlán had a larger population than London.
True False
10. How did the Spanish describe Tenochtitlán upon seeing it for the first time?
 - a) The Paris of Mesoamerica
 - b) The Venice of the New World
 - c) The Rome of the West
 - d) The London of the East