

The Aztecs and the Spanish Conquest

Origins of the Aztec Empire

Suggested Responses


Comprehension Questions

1. Artist; poet; warrior; builder
2. The capital of the Aztec Empire, Tenochtitlán, is located in the modern-day country of Mexico.
3. c) the Aztec language Nahuatl is similar to languages of the American Southwest.
4. The Aztecs worked for the Culhuacán city-state as **mercenaries**, and in 1323, they asked to make King Achicometl's daughter their **goddess**.
5. Eagle; snake
6. The name is given to the alliance between Mexica, Texcoco and Tlacopan is the Triple Alliance.
7. False
8. City-states in the **Aztec** Empire were left to govern their own people, as long as they paid **tribute** to the Mexica in the form of feathers, animal skins, precious stones, and captives for **human** sacrifice.
9. True
10. b) The Venice of the New World

The extension activities that accompany this video are designed to both consolidate and assess learners' understanding of the content. In addition to this, they contain unique opportunities for teachers to measure learners' capabilities in the following areas:

 Critical & Creative Thinking

The Eagle, the Snake and the Cactus

-  Student responses will vary, however they should reflect a consideration of a range of strategies to represent their ideas about the Eagle, Snake and Cactus vision in an image. They should also adequately explain and justify their thinking and creative processes in the label for their image. The following is a sample response:

1.



2. "Eagle-Snake-Cactus"

Student name*Month, year*

This artwork shows the mythical Aztec vision of the Eagle and the Snake on the Cactus, as the Aztec priest described in his vision and shared as a sign from the gods. I have chosen to show the Eagle biting the Snake to death. This is connected to the Aztecs who made sacrifices to their gods. Below the animals, I have included water and land in order to show where Tenochtitlán will be built in the future. The blue of the water contrasts with the darker colors of brown for the eagle, but connects to the green of the cactus and the snake. This shows it as both an ending to the Aztecs' old life as mercenaries, but also showing a new beginning at Lake Texcoco.

Transcript – For student and teacher use.