



Chapter 1: Pizarro and Atahualpa

Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Pizarro go to Peru?
 - a. To help the Incas build an army.
 - b. To find a new route from Europe to North America.
 - c. *To find gold and conquer new lands for Spain.*
 - d. To bring Atahualpa a new golden throne from the King of Spain.

2. What did the Incas believe about their emperor, Atahualpa?
 - a. *That Atahualpa was related to the god of the sun.*
 - b. That Atahualpa was friends with Christopher Columbus.
 - c. That Atahualpa had been a runner in the Olympics.
 - d. That Atahualpa was planning an expedition to Spain.

3. How did Pizarro take over the Inca Empire?
 - a. By promising to give Atahualpa's soldiers enough gold to fill a room.
 - b. *By using guns and swords to capture Atahualpa, then taking him prisoner, and killing him.*
 - c. By marching 10,000 miles and setting up Spanish settlements all over Peru.
 - d. By surrounding Atahualpa's army with an army of over 30,000 Spanish soldiers.

The Conquistadors

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Chapter 1: Pizarro and Atahualpa

Vocabulary Questions

1. Men who came from Spain to the New World to take land and gold for Spain were called _____.
 - a. native people
 - b. athletes
 - c. Atahualpa
 - d. *conquistadors*

2. _____ is a group of lands or countries that are controlled by one powerful group or country.
 - a. The Americas
 - b. *An empire*
 - c. The New World
 - d. An expedition

3. An _____ is a group of people making a trip for a special purpose.
 - a. *expedition*
 - b. emperor
 - c. Olympic
 - d. empire

4. _____ is the name that the Europeans used for North America, South America, and the Caribbean Islands.
 - a. Atahualpa
 - b. Peru
 - c. Europe
 - d. *New World*



Chapter 2: Cortés and Montezuma

Comprehension Questions

1. What big risk did Cortés take in Mexico?
 - a. He killed one of his best soldiers because the soldier tried to run away.
 - b. He traded all of his guns and swords for gold.
 - c. He told the native people that he was related to the god of the sun.
 - d. *He sank his own ships so that his men could not leave Mexico.*

2. What difficult decision did the Aztec emperor Montezuma face?
 - a. Should he trade all of his gold for the new kind of weapons that Cortés had brought?
 - b. *Should he welcome Cortés and his men or make war against them?*
 - c. Should he sink the Spanish ships?
 - d. Should he go with Cortés back to Spain or stay in Tenochtitlán?

3. Why did Montezuma welcome the Spanish?
 - a. Because Montezuma wanted to trick Cortés and his men, and then kill them as a sacrifice to the sun god.
 - b. *Because a legend said that an Aztec god would return as a white-skinned man with a beard in the year 1519.*
 - c. Because Montezuma had promised the King of Spain that he would welcome the king's men in Tenochtitlán.
 - d. Because Montezuma knew that his soldiers could never win a war against men with guns.

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Chapter 2: Cortés and Montezuma

Vocabulary Questions

1. Killing people as an offering to the gods is called _____.
 - a. a legend
 - b. a ransom
 - c. a festival
 - d. *human sacrifice*

2. A _____ is a story that has been told for many years. The story may not be true.
 - a. *legend*
 - b. triumph
 - c. gamble
 - d. decision

3. A _____ is a long strip of high ground.
 - a. *ridge*
 - b. tunnel
 - c. valley
 - d. ransom

4. To make sure the sun would continue to rise, the Aztecs thought they had to offer the sun god a regular supply of fresh _____.
 - a. clothes
 - b. Incas
 - c. *human hearts*
 - d. corn



Chapter 3: Coronado's Search for the Cities of Gold

Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Coronado plan a great expedition?
 - a. To capture Montezuma, the leader of the Aztecs.
 - b. To find the Seven Cities of Gold.
 - c. To claim North America for Spain.
 - d. To build new churches in lands to the north of Mexico.

2. Coronado expected to find a city of gold in the desert. What did he find instead?
 - a. A small village with houses made of mud-brick and stone.
 - b. Father Marcos and the Spanish governor.
 - c. The royal palace of the Aztec emperor.
 - d. Pyramids with temples on top of them.

3. What two natural wonders did Coronado discover?
 - a. The golden cities of Cíbola.
 - b. The Andes Mountains and the Caribbean Islands.
 - c. The New World and the island of Cuba.
 - d. The Grand Canyon and the Great Plains.

The Conquistadors

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Chapter 3: Coronado's Search for the Cities of Gold

Vocabulary Questions

1. _____ is a village of the native people of Arizona or New Mexico.
 - a. An empire
 - b. An expedition
 - c. *A pueblo*
 - d. Cíbola

2. A _____ is someone who leads others in the right direction.
 - a. conquistador
 - b. *guide*
 - c. neighbor
 - d. guard

3. A _____ is a long, narrow valley with steep sides.
 - a. *canyon*
 - b. ridge
 - c. pueblo
 - d. pyramid

4. The American _____ is a wild animal like a cow. Native American people hunted this animal for food and clothing.
 - a. horse
 - b. Atahualpa
 - c. goat
 - d. *buffalo*



Chapter 4: How the Conquistadors Changed the World

Comprehension Questions

1. What did the Spanish gain by coming to the Americas?
 - a. Riches like gold and silver, food like corn and potatoes, and new lands.
 - b. Nearly 1,000 new churches for 5,000 new missionaries.
 - c. The right to claim all of North America and South America for Mexico.
 - d. Guns from the Incas, iron swords from the Aztecs, and a large room full of gold.

2. Why did millions of native people die after the Spanish arrived in the New World?
 - a. Because native people used human sacrifice to pray to their gods.
 - b. Because the conquistadors conquered native people and sent them into the desert to die.
 - c. Because the conquistadors killed the buffalo, and native people starved.
 - d. Because the Europeans brought new diseases that killed millions of native people.

3. Why did the Spanish take statues, masks, and jewelry from the Aztec and Inca empires?
 - a. To bury these objects in Europe.
 - b. To trade with other native people in the Americas.
 - c. To melt these objects down into bars of gold.
 - d. To use these objects in Christian churches.

The Conquistadors

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Chapter 4: How the Conquistadors Changed the World

Vocabulary Questions

1. _____ are people who are sent out by a church to spread its ideas.
 - a. Incas
 - b. Missionaries
 - c. Athletes
 - d. Soldiers

2. _____ are plants that people grow in large amounts to eat, such as corn and potatoes.
 - a. Andes
 - b. Cloaks
 - c. Gardens
 - d. Crops

3. Smallpox and measles are two kinds of _____.
 - a. diseases
 - b. crops
 - c. sacrifices
 - d. treasures

4. Spanish missionaries convinced thousands of natives to become _____.
 - a. Christian
 - b. conquistadors
 - c. pueblos
 - d. Spanish