

SS6H1: The Student will describe the impact of European contact on Latin America

A. Describe the encounter and consequences of the conflict between the Spanish and Aztec and Incas and the roles of Cortes, Montezuma, Pizarro, and Atahualpa



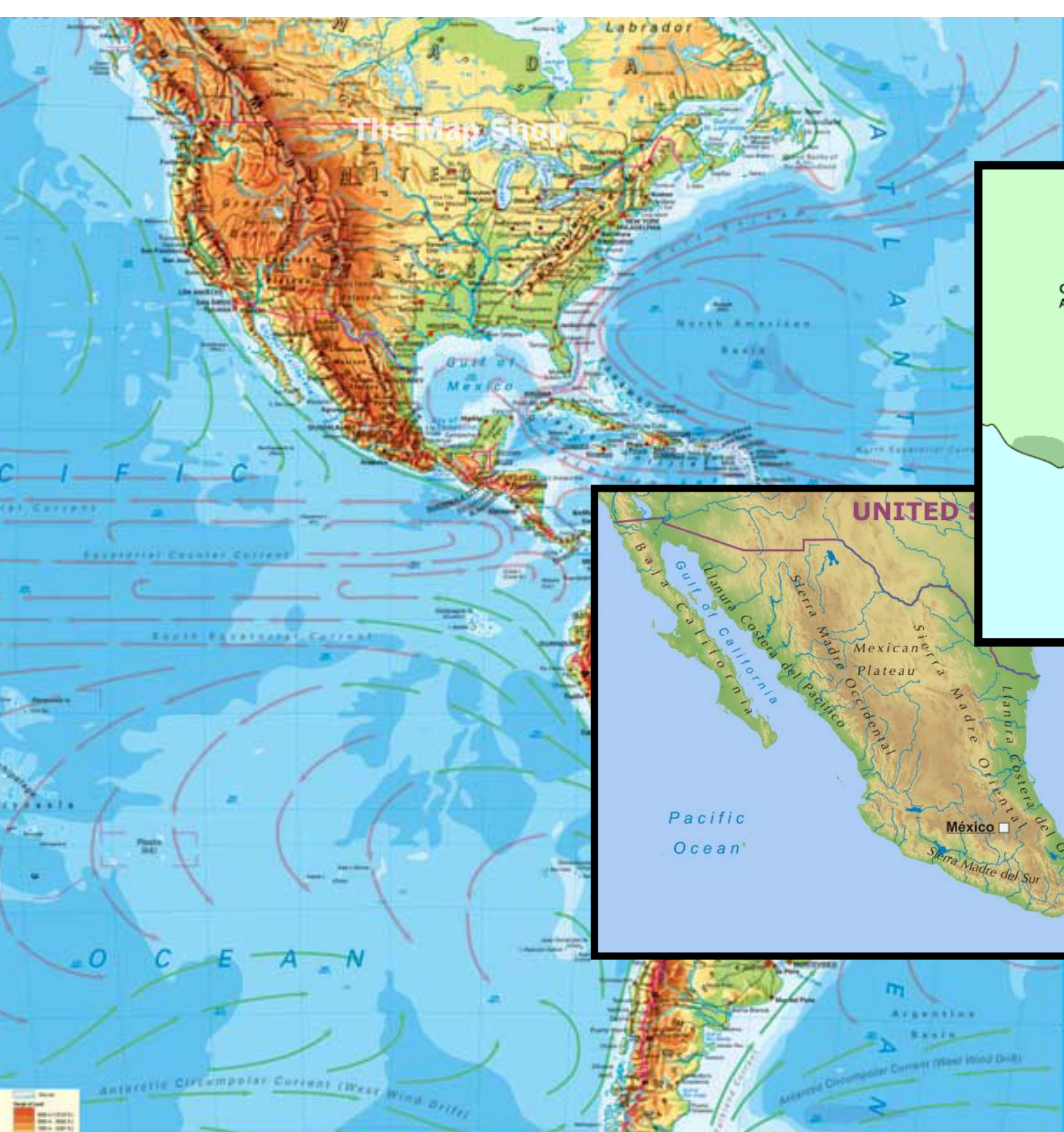
The Aztec

- At the time of European exploration, the **Aztec** civilization was the most powerful of all civilizations in central and southern **Mexico**.



- The Aztec controlled the area around their capital city of **Tenochtitlan**, now **Mexico** City.
- Their borders stretched from the **Gulf of Mexico** to the **Pacific** Ocean
- They controlled lands as far south as present-day **Guatemala**





- The Aztec were known for their artwork and architecture
- They constructed a beautiful capital city on islands in a large **lake**
- A pyramid temple was at the center of this great city



- An important part of the **culture** of the Aztec was the **sacrifice** of animals and **humans**
- People who were conquered by the Aztec were required to pay large **taxes**
- They also had to provide **people** to offer as sacrifice to the Aztec gods



- The Aztec had a complex and rich society
- They had a mathematical system to keep up with their empire
- They had two different calendar systems to organize their empire



- The Aztec had a farming system that was very efficient
- They used irrigation to keep their crops growing even during dry periods
- They also developed a way to farm in the lake and marshy area surrounding their capital city by creating **chinampas**, or floating gardens



- The Aztec civilization ended in **1521** when it was conquered by the **Spanish**
- The Spanish destroyed much of the Aztec buildings and artwork
- They destroyed the city of **Tenochtitlan** and built **Mexico** City in its place



Hernan Cortes

- Hernan Cortes was a Spanish **conquistador**
- He is famous for conquering the **Aztec Empire** in Mexico in 1519-1521



- After his victory, the Spanish began to settle in Mexico
- The Spanish would retain control of Mexico for the next 300 years



- Cortes was born in Spain in 1485
 - As a young man, he heard stories of the expeditions of Columbus and the riches that were to be found in the 'Indies'
 - When he was 19, he sailed to the New World and got a job as a clerk





- He learned how colonies were run
- He also made many contacts with Spanish explorers
- After Cuba was conquered, Cortes was made mayor of one of the towns

- In 1518, Cortes was told to take a group of ships to **Mexico**
- He was ordered to **conquer** the powerful Aztec



- He landed in Mexico in **1519** with eleven ships, **five hundred** soldiers, and one hundred sailors





- Cortes was concerned that some of his men would be frightened by the Aztec
- To make sure that no one tried to **escape** back to Cuba, Cortes had all the ships **destroyed**
 - Success or Death were their only options

- Cortes trained his men for several months
- He made friends with nearby **Indians** who did not like the Aztec
- By the time he marched on the Aztec capital city of **Tenochtitlan**, he had over 1,500 fighters. Over **1,000** were native people who wanted to fight the Aztec





- The ruler of the Aztec was **Montezuma II**
- Due to the fact that Montezuma believed that Cortes might be the returning Aztec god **Quetecoatl**, he welcomed Cortes into the city

- Once inside the city, Cortes and his men quickly took **Montezuma** captive
 - Cortes believed that he could **control** the Aztec by keeping their leader hostage
 - Cortes was able to **rule** the lands of central Mexico for several months this way before problems began



- A fight had broken out between Cortes' men and the Aztec while Cortes was away
- When Cortes returned, battles had to be fought to win back Tenochtitlan



- In 1521, Cortes led a military **victory** over the Aztec
- From this time forward, the **Spanish** sent more troops and settlers to Mexico



- They tore down the buildings of the Aztec and destroyed Tenochtitlan
- In its place, they built **Mexico** City
- For the next **300 years**, Mexico was under Spanish control



Montezuma II

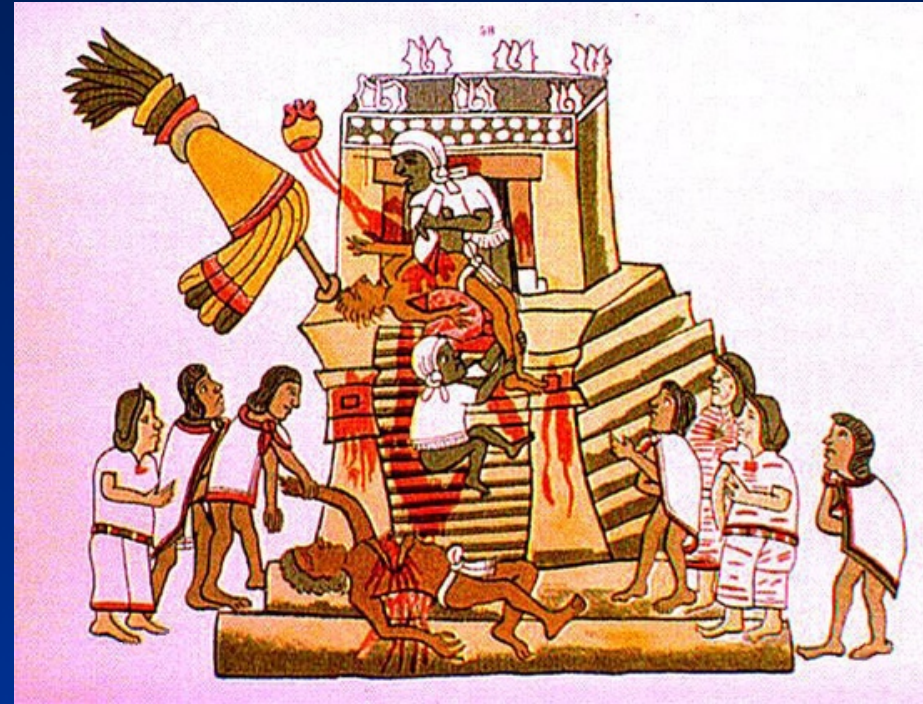
- Montezuma II was an **Aztec** ruler from about 1500 to 1520
- He is most famous for ruling the Aztec when their land was invaded by the Spanish conquistador **Hernan Cortes**



- Montezuma had spread the Aztec empire over a large part of central and southern Mexico
- The Native Americans conquered by Montezuma had to pay him high taxes and had to send him humans for sacrifice in the temples of the Aztec



- Because of the taxes and sacrifices, **Montezuma** was unpopular with those he conquered
- Montezuma was popular with his own people, however, and was considered a **great ruler**



- When Cortes and his army came to Tenochtitlan, **Montezuma** was alarmed
- Many people, including Montezuma, believed Cortes to be the returning god **Queztcoatl**



- Montezuma ordered that Cortes and his men be **welcomed** into the city
- They were given **grand gifts** and **gold**
 - Some believe that Montezuma acted this way in the hopes that Cortes would take the gifts and leave



- Instead, Cortes took Montezuma **hostage** and ruled for some time while Montezuma was a prisoner in his own palace



- In 1520, a fight broke out between Spanish troops and Aztec warriors
- The battle grew and **Montezuma** was killed and the Spanish conquest was complete



Inca Civilization

- The Inca lived along the western coast of **South America**
- Their lands stretched over 2,000 miles from present-day **Colombia** south to **Chile**





- Their empire was centered at their capital in **Cuzco**, Peru.
- They also controlled lands in present-day **Argentina, Bolivia,** and **Ecuador**

- The Inca were known for many great achievements
 - They made beautiful **gold**, **silver**, and **bronze** pieces
 - Their leader even had **rooms** of gold and silver in his palace



- They were also known for skillfully made textiles
- They also built a network of **roads** allowing them to quickly move around their empire



- The Inca also managed to farm in difficult areas by building **terraces** on the mountainsides of the Andes mountains where they lived



- Historians believe that the Inca empire began in the early **1400s**
- They were in a time of **expansion** when the Spanish arrived
- The Inca leader had been killed and, without a clear leader, the Inca people were unable to push back to invading Spanish



- The Spanish settlers wiped out much of the Inca **culture** and ruled for nearly **300 years**
- Today, however, there is still evidence of the Inca
- Their language, **Quechua**, is still spoken and their terraces are still used for farming, and **textiles** made today are very similar to those made 500 years ago.



Francisco Pizarro & Atahualpa

- Francisco Pizarro was a Spanish **conquistador**
- He is famous for conquering the **Inca** Empire in South America between 1531 and 1533





- Pizarro was born in Spain in 1475
- He was a pig farmer as a boy
- As a young man he joined a ship traveling for the New World

- In 1502, at the age of 27, he landed on the island of Hispaniola
- He learned a lot about exploration and conquering the native people



- He traveled with Vasco Nunez de Balboa on his famous exploration of **Central America** in which Europeans first sighted the **Pacific Ocean**



- In 1523, he led a voyage to explore the west coast of South America, south of Panama
- He came across some Indian traders who told of a rich country to the south



- He learned that these people were the Inca and that they lived in the area of what is now Peru
- Over the next few years, Pizarro went back to Spain to get permission to invade and conquer the Inca



- The Spanish king gave Pizarro permission to take the Inca land and claim it as part of **Spain**
- He made Pizarro viceroy (**governor**) over the lands stretching six hundred miles south from Panama



- He also gave him three ships, about two hundred men, and three dozen horses to make his plan work
- Pizarro began his mission in **1531**





- **Atahualpa** was the last ruler of the Inca empire
- Inca land stretched 2,000 miles along the **Pacific** Coast of South America

- Atahualpa was the son of the Inca emperor Huayna Capac
- After his father's death, Atahualpa fought against his brother for control of the empire



- Atahualpa won the battle and became the **Sapa** Inca
- The Sapa Inca was thought to be a living descendant of the **sun god**





- The Sapa Inca was very wealthy
- He was carried by servants from place to place on a special chair called a litter
- He wore gold jewelry and ate from gold plates and cups

- He was considered to be almost a god
- Each day, he was given new clothes to wear, never wearing the same clothes more than once
- Even the walls of his palace were gold and silver



- Pizarro learned the location of Atahualpa
- In November 1532 a meeting between the two men was arranged at **Cajamarca**
- The small group of Spanish men hid in buildings around the town
 - They hid their **guns, cannons, and horses**





- Atahualpa arrived with thousands of men
- But, Atahualpa walked into a **trap**
- When Pizarro came out, the Spanish began shooting their cannons and guns, which were **unknown** to the Inca

- This startled and frightened the Inca warriors, and the guards around Atahualpa were killed
- Pizarro captured Atahualpa and demanded a ransom



- The Inca brought 24 tons of **gold** and **silver** in exchange for the life of Atahualpa
- The gold and silver were melted into bars, and most were sent back to **Spain** for the king
- However, Atahualpa was not **released**



- Atahualpa was **executed** on August 29, 1533 by Pizarro and his men
- Atahualpa's death **ended** the empire of the Inca
- Even though some warriors still fought, the empire was gone because it had no recognized leader



- The Spanish settlements in Peru began to grow
- Gold and silver continued to be taken from the Inca and shipped back to Spain
- Pizarro grew wealthy



- He founded the city of **Lima** and built a palace there
- Some of the other Spanish leaders were jealous of Pizarro's **wealth**
 - They tried to take over his palace in **1541**
 - Pizarro was **killed** in the attack
 - For nearly **300 years**, the Spanish ruled the lands once held by the Inca

