

What do you think occurred when the Spanish encountered the indigenous (native) people of Latin America?



Essential Question:
How did the
encounter with
the Spanish impact
the Aztecs and
Incas?





Standard:

SS6H1a. Describe the encounter and consequences of the conflict between the Spanish and the Aztecs and Incas and the roles of Cortes, Montezuma, Pizarro, and Atahualpa.



Use your Graphic Organizer to take Notes when instructed.

Spanish Encounter with the Aztec and Incas

<p><u>Aztec Empire</u> </p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Ruler/Leader:</p>	<p><u>What happened?</u></p>	<p><u>Spanish</u></p> <p>Leader:</p> <p>What did they want?</p>
<p><u>Inca Empire</u> </p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Ruler/Leader:</p>	<p><u>What happened?</u></p>	<p><u>Spanish</u></p> <p>Leader:</p> <p>What did they want?</p>

In one sentence, describe how a small group of conquistadors defeated such large and well established empires such as the Aztec and Incas.

Aztecs

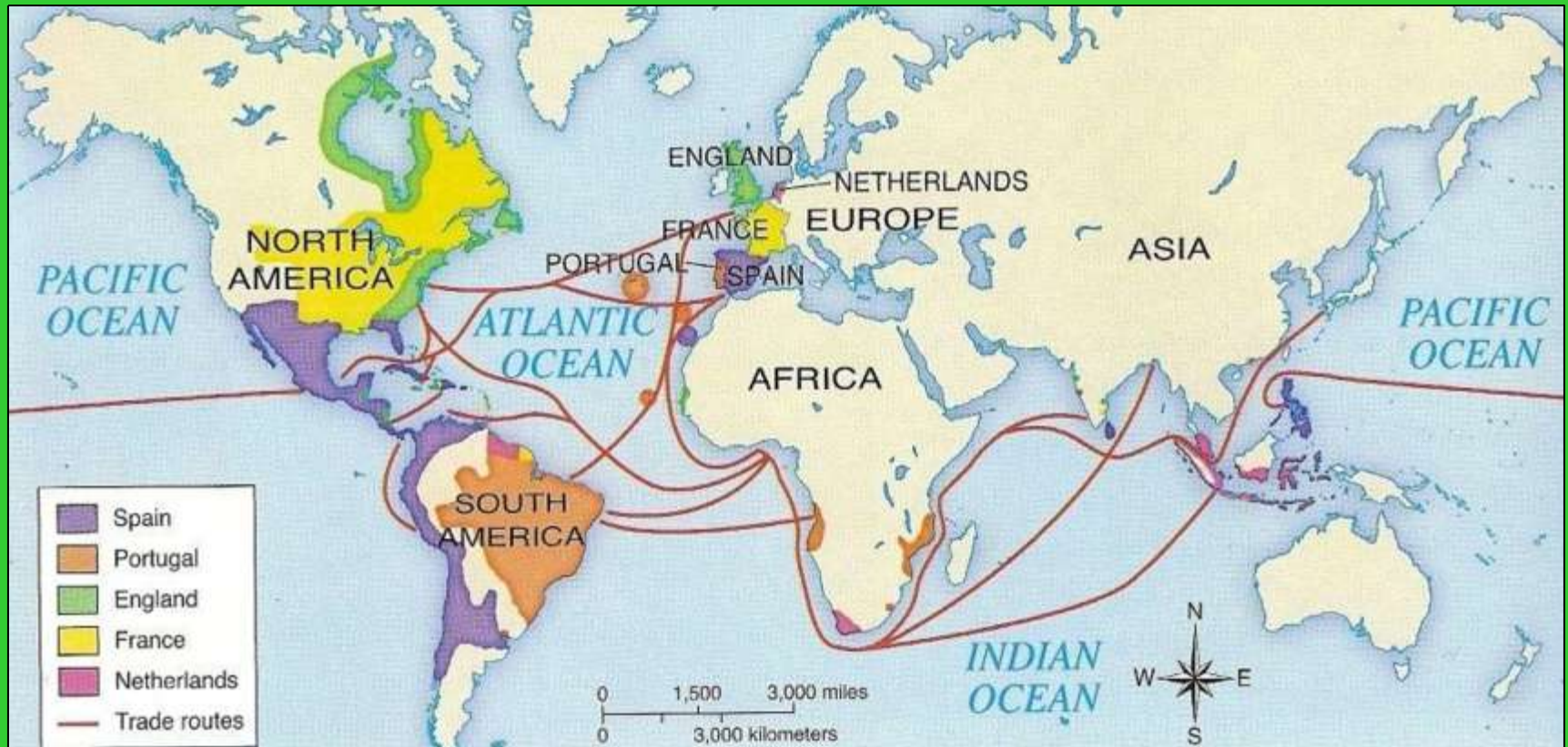
The Aztecs were indigenous (native) people who lived in central Mexico.



Aztec Empire



In the 1500s, Spanish explorers arrived in Central and South America in search of riches and new land.



A Spanish leader name Hernán Cortés entered Mexico with an army of about 600 soldiers.



At this time, the Aztec empire was vast under the rule of Montezuma II. Its capital city was Tenochtitlán.



Watch “The Aztecs” video clip for an overview of the Aztec civilization [see resources to download]

At first, Montezuma thought Cortés was a god and welcomed the Spanish into the city of Tenochtitlán.



The Spanish brought horses, guns, and other weaponry with them which frightened the Aztecs.



The Spanish also brought the disease smallpox.



Since the Aztec people had never been exposed to the disease, thousands died as it spread throughout Mexico.

Montezuma soon realized that the Spanish were after gold and fighting began.



Montezuma was killed and Cortés eventually conquered the Aztecs with the help of other Native Americans who were enemies of the Aztecs.

Turn to a seat partner and discuss the following: What do you think caused the downfall of the Aztecs?

The Spanish had advanced weapons which helped them defeat the Aztecs. Also, the Spanish persuaded enemies of the Aztecs to fight. In addition, many Aztecs died from smallpox.



Aztecs

[select one or two of the videos below]

- <http://www.history.com/topics/aztecs> [2:26]
- <http://www.history.com/videos/the-aztecs#the-aztecs> [1:20]
- <http://www.history.com/topics/aztecs/videos/aztec-encounter> [2:00]
- **The Rise and Fall of the Aztec**
[6:04 download from resources]
- **Tenochtitlan Aztec City**
[5:27 download from resources]
- **Cortes Meets the Aztecs**
[3:55 download from resources]

Incas

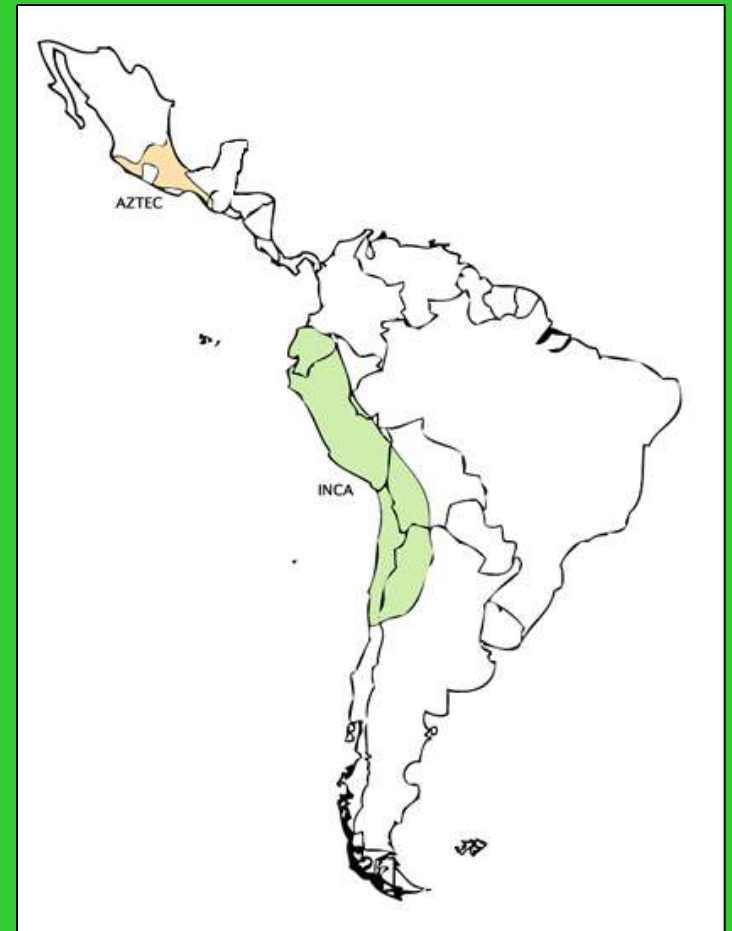
The Incas were indigenous (native) people who lived in South America.



Inca Empire

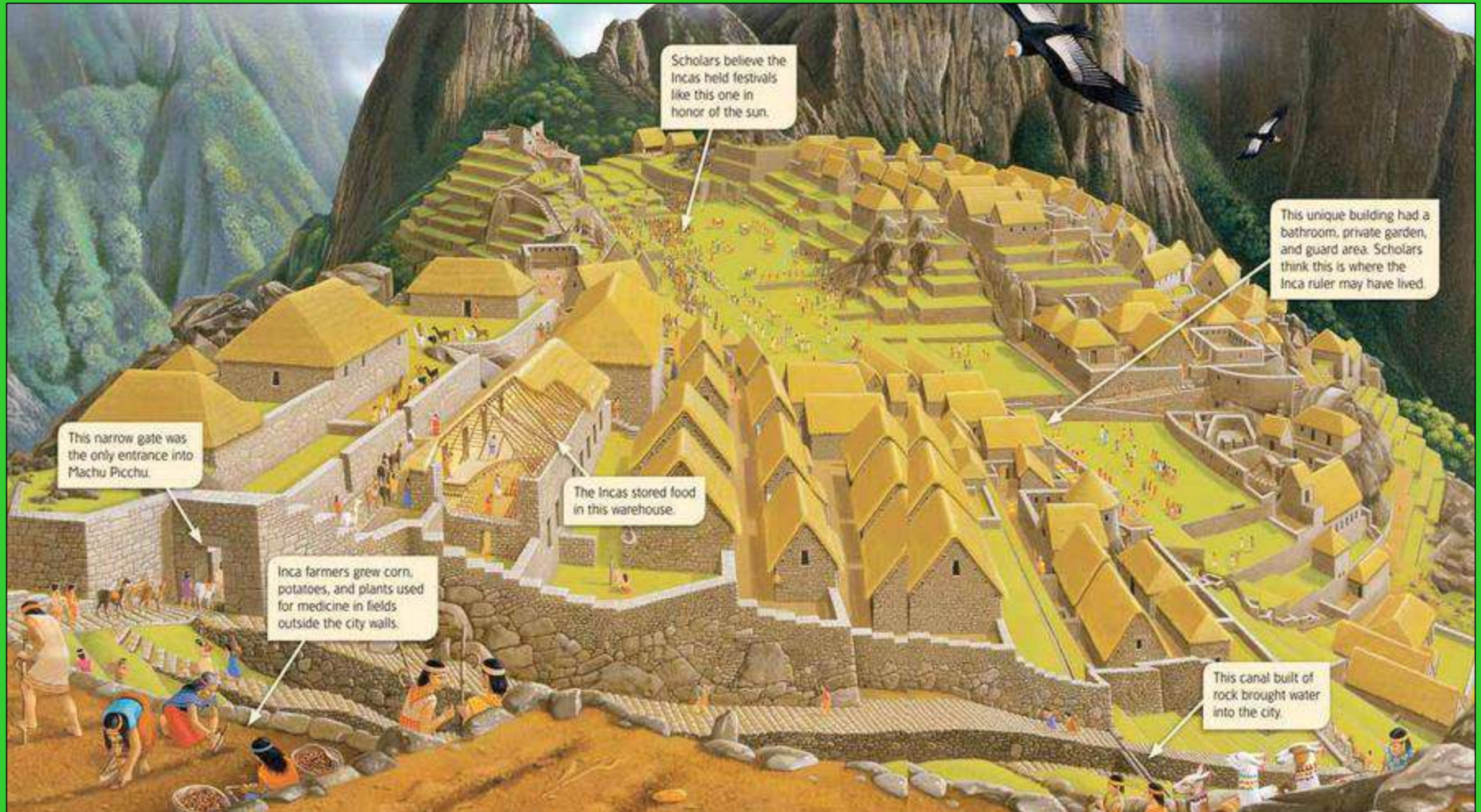


Based on what you know about Latin America's physical features, how would the life of an Inca be different from that of an Aztec?



The Aztec civilization lived in the plateaus of Mexico. The Incas lived along the mountainsides of the Andes.

Life as an Inca



Life as an Inca



At this time, the Inca empire was great in size and number. Atahualpa was the Inca emperor. The capital city was Cuzco.



Around 1532, the Spanish explorer Francisco Pizarro arrived in South America with about 180 men.



Aiming to conquer the land and sail home with gold and silver, Pizarro captured the Inca emperor Atahualpa.



Atahualpa offered Pizarro gold and silver for his release.



Pizarro agreed, but then changed his mind and killed Atahualpa.

After Atahualpa's death, Pizarro captured the Inca capital city and then moved to other Inca lands.



As in Mexico, the Inca army outnumbered the Spanish invaders. How were the Spanish able to overtake them?

Again, smallpox and weapons brought by the Spanish played an important role in Pizarro's conquest.

In addition, Pizarro convinced other tribes under Inca rule to join them in defeating the Inca Empire.

Incas

[select one of the videos below]

- <http://www.discovery.com/tv-shows/other-shows/videos/assignment-discovery-incas/>
- **The Explorers: Francisco Pizarro and the Incas** [18:21 entire video] or show three of the segments below. Download videos from resources
 - The Incas [3:21]
 - The Inca Empire [2:55]
 - Conquest of the Inca [4:42]
- <http://www.history.com/topics/machu-picchu>

Cortés and Pizarro are often called Spanish Conquistadors. What do you think Conquistador means?



Conquistador means conqueror.

Spanish Encounter

