

Document Analysis Instructions - The Capture of Moctezuma II

Meso

Introduction

Your team represents an indigenous group who is present at Hernan Cortes' arrival in Tenochtitlan. The times have grown dark, as the Spanish visitor has taken your King, Moctezuma II, captive.

The various groups gathered in the city are holding a War Council to decide the best path forward.

As you read the information included in your packet, take notes on the provided worksheets to collect interesting ideas that will help you defend your group's interests.

You will need to use that evidence to build an argument worthy of presenting to the War Council. You will have to provide a "YES" or "NO" answer to this question: "Should the mesoamericans unite against the Spanish?" You will have to provide three reasons, which must be based on evidence you find in your packet.

Your goal is to reach a beneficial agreement for all groups in the War Council, but you must prioritize your own interest group before all others.

Should the mesoamericans unite against the Spanish?

Roles

You will need to decide which role you would like to take within your group. It will determine how you are graded, and your diligence will impact your group's presentation to the group.

Everyone must have at least one role, and depending on how many people are in your group, you might need to take on two.

- Speaker- This student will prepare and present an argument to the War Council.
- Scribe- This student will support the Speaker by taking notes during discussion, during argument construction, during the War Council presentations and Q&A, and recording group votes.
- Graphic designer- This student will create the Google Slide for preparation during the War Council. They should build the slide with the Scribe and PR's help. They will have to explain their graphic to the class.
- Public Relations (Optional/2nd) - This student will help the Speaker write the argument to deliver to the class. This student will also help the Graphic Designer compose a meaningful visual presentation.
- Researcher (Optional/2nd)- This student will compare the arguments and presentation to the packet materials, and make sure documents and perspectives are referenced.

Instructions

1. As a team, discuss the five possible roles listed above. Do not be afraid to speak up if you know that you have a personal talent that connects to one of the roles, but also do not be afraid to try something new! Each member of your team must have at least one role.
2. Someone must read your "Perspective Letter" out loud. This document will give you an introduction to your group's priorities and concerns. You can either appoint 1-2 readers, or you can alternate paragraphs between all members.
3. While you read the "Perspective Letter", complete your "Perspective Letter T-Chart". This chart requires you to list benefits (PRO) and negatives (CON) of the decision to unite against the Spaniards. You can stop the reading and discuss, but you will be on a time limit.
4. Pass around the additional documents in your packet. Complete the Document Analysis DRC as you read, and pay attention to the document labels as you take notes. The boxes on your DRC match with the document labels.