

TEXTBOOK PASSAGE - ATAHUALPA AND THE BIBLE

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Please read the document below and answer the questions that follow.

Biographies

Atahualpa

1502-1533

Atahualpa was the last Inca king. He was brave and popular with the Inca army, but he didn't rule for long. A Spanish friar offered Atahualpa a religious book to convince him he should accept Christianity. Atahualpa held the book to his ear and listened to it. When the book didn't speak, he threw it on the ground. The Spaniards used this as a reason to attack.

Source: A 2006 history textbook titled World History: Medieval to Early Modern Times.

QUESTIONS

(1) According to the textbook, what did Atahualpa do to the Bible?

(2) Is this account reliable? Why or why not?

(3) How could we find out if this account is accurate or not?

DOCUMENT A - FRANCISCO DE XERES'S ACCOUNT (MODIFIED)

Francisco de Xeres was a Spanish explorer who became a historian and the personal secretary of conquistador Francisco Pizarro. He participated in the conquest of Peru from 1531-1533. He wrote Reports on the Discovery of Peru in 1534.

Father Friar Vicente advanced, with a cross in one hand and the Bible in the other, to where Atahualpa was, and addressed him through an interpreter: "I am a priest of God, and I teach Christians the things of God, and in like manner I come to teach you. I teach what God says to us in this Book."

Atahualpa asked for the Book, that he might look at it, and the priest gave it to him closed. Atahualpa did not know how to open it, and the priest was extending his arm to do so, when Atahualpa, in great anger, gave him a blow on the arm, not wishing that it should be opened. Then he opened it himself, and, without any astonishment at the letters and paper, he threw it away from him five or six steps, and, to the words which the priest had spoken to him through the interpreter, he answered with much **scorn**, saying: "I know well how you have behaved on the road, how you have treated my Chiefs, and taken the cloth from my **storehouses**."

The priest told Francisco Pizarro what had passed between him and Atahualpa, and that he had thrown the Scriptures to the ground. Pizarro took his sword and dagger, and, with the Spaniards who were with him, entered amongst the Indians most **valiantly** and seized Atahualpa. Then the guns were fired off, the trumpets were sounded, and the Spanish troops, both horse and foot, attacked.

Source: From Reports on the Discovery of Peru, written by Francisco de Xeres in 1534.

GLOSSARY

scorn
belief that something is worthless

storehouses
building for storing goods

valiantly
bravely

DOCUMENT B - PEDRO PIZARRO'S ACCOUNT (MODIFIED)

Pedro Pizarro was a Spanish conquistador and cousin of Francisco Pizarro. He took part in most events of the Spanish conquest of Peru and wrote an extensive chronicle of them called Relation of the Discovery and Conquest of the Kingdoms of Peru, which he finished in 1571.

Don Francisco Pizarro sent Father Friar Vicente and an interpreter, with orders to go and speak to Atahualpa and require that he subject himself to the law of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the service of His Majesty and to say that Pizarro would regard him as a brother, and would not allow any injury be done to him nor any damage be done to his land. When the priest arrived, he spoke to Atahualpa and told him the things he had come to say, and he preached unto him the matters pertaining to our holy faith. The priest carried in his hands a Bible from which he read what he preached. Atahualpa asked for it and the priest closed it and handed it to him. When he had it in his hands he did not know how to open it, and he threw it upon the ground.

The priest returned and related all to Pizarro, who made a signal, and the Spanish began to fire and at the same time caused the trumpets to sound. It all happened in such a way that, with the noise of the firing, and the blowing of the trumpets and the bells on the horses, the Indians were thrown into confusion and were cut to pieces.

Source: From Relation of the Discovery and Conquest of the Kingdoms of Peru, written by Pedro Pizarro in 1571.

ATAHUALPA AND THE BIBLE - GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

DIRECTIONS

Please complete the Graphic Organizer below and answer the questions that follow.

Document	Who wrote the document? What is the author's perspective?	According to this account, what does Atahualpa do to the Bible?
A		
B		



QUESTIONS

(1) Do Documents A and B give the same account about what Atahualpa did to the Bible?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Explain:

(2) Does the textbook give the same account as Documents A and B?

(a) Yes

(b) No

Explain:



