

MOCTEZUMA & CORTÉS - GUIDING QUESTIONS**Document A**

- (1) Who wrote Document A? _____ When? _____
- (2) Who was the recipient of Document A? _____
How might this influence the content of Document A?
- (3) According to Document A, what did Moctezuma say to Cortés?
- (4) What is one reason why Document A would be a reliable source to understand what happened when Moctezuma met Cortés?
- (5) What is one reason why Document A would NOT be a reliable source to understand what happened when Moctezuma met Cortés?

Document B

- (1) Who wrote Document B? _____ When? _____
- (2) Who supervised the writing of Document B? _____
How might this influence the content of Document B?
- (3) According to Document B, what did Moctezuma say to Cortés?
- (4) What is one reason why Document B would be a reliable source to understand what happened when Moctezuma met Cortés?
- (5) What is one reason why Document B would NOT be a reliable source to understand what happened when Moctezuma met Cortés?



Document C

- (1) Who wrote Document C? _____ When? _____
- (2) Based on this information, do you think this is a reliable account of what happened when Moctezuma met Cortés? Why or why not?
- (3) According to Document C, why did Moctezuma tell Cortés that the Aztecs had been expecting him?
- (4) According to Document C, why did Spanish missionaries claim that Moctezuma believe that Cortés was Quetzacoatl?
- (5) How does Document C's account of what happened when Moctezuma met Cortés compare to Document A and Document B?

Conclusion Questions

- (1) What is one reason why you might believe that Moctezuma welcomed Cortés into the Aztec capital?
- (2) What is one reason why you might NOT believe that Moctezuma welcomed Cortés?
- (3) Based on these three documents, how confident are you in knowing what happened during their first meeting? Explain.