

Opening Statements

- **Aztecs:** They say that they have suffered and were stripped of their identity and that their privacy was invaded. They said that they treated them properly and showered them in gifts. They are playing the victim.
- **System:** Just gives an overview of what happened. As if it was a storyteller. The system promotes itself, yet discusses how power is necessary to keep control. It's a bit contradicting. Plus they say wanting a larger empire is mandatory but the aztecs had no interest in expanding their empire past their own land.
- **Cortés:** Trying to pull blame to his accomplices. They are also using a pity party. They are driving blame to the king (us). Could've been easily overthrown.
- **Cortés's Men:**

Cross Examination

- **Aztecs**
 - Aztecs had human sacrifice. Their custom is to kill people in human sacrifice and they said that they didn't care about what Cortés thought. They actually did hear about the other massacre in Mexico. They thought it was a rumor. Apparently they were thought to be nice. They sacrifice children to their God. They also felt a bad omen so was it an omen or a rumor? Now they say they believe it was a rumor, now they say that they weren't sure that Cortés was the threat. The people thought it was an omen but the ruler thought it was a rumor. They didn't give gold to fool or bribe they did it as friends. They thought the Spaniards were God because of the savage acts, their clothes and their weapons, they found them intriguing. They said that they didn't become violent till Cortés started to become violent. They can't question their own king. They said that they didn't have the power to address him. Sacrificing people isn't violent but killing an empire is. Their logic is flawed. They're a unit and a family so they couldn't really disown Malinche. They say Spaniards as God but once they realized that they weren't God they decided to fight against. Asked if the king would have let them be slaughtered and they said no.
- **Cortés**
 - Definition of Leadership
 - No enemies, take charge
 - Had the will to keep fighting, doesn't fear enemies
 - Steals for money, can't provide for men ?
 - Stole from others to provide for himself
 - Thinks stealing is right, Social Darwinism ?
 - Very greedy, doesn't care if take from others if they need it
 - Doing bad things is fine because King is by their side
 - Seems really straightforward and highly cocky, thinks everything they do is right, even though it's clearly morally wrong
 - Doesn't keep their word, doesn't know/recollect what they said before

- Everything relates back to the King, shifting blame onto higher power
 - Taking initiative ?
 - Will do anything for the king, but won't listen to the King
 - Very confused about King's orders, keeps retracting previous statements
 - Because King sent them letters, think that everything they did was approved by him
 - King wasn't saying yes, but was replying and wasn't saying no
- **System**
 - What's success in the system of empire ?
 - Amount of wealth
 - Development of wealth
 - Thinks Cortes was successful, but he did it out of his own free will
 - Didn't have to steal and kill to take land
 - Doesn't support Cortés
 - Cortes interpreted definition differently than System wanted to
 - Wanted to better society
 - Cortes didn't follow
 - Only an idea, can't physically do something about Cortes
 - Cortes bettered the SYSTEM OF EMPIRE, still morally wrong to kill others
 - Doesn't forcefully put religion on others, charges say "In order to get more wealth, Cortes and his men committed horrible acts against the Indians. They justified this by telling themselves that the Indians weren't Christian, so "we" can control "their" land and labor. The European system saw only white Christians as full human beings."
 - Placing blame on others because they are an idea
 - Integrates religion, not force it ?
 - To spread empire around the world
 - Only here to better
 - Only here to provide a system, doesn't choose how people go about it
 - Everyone interprets it in a different way
- **Cortez's Men**
 - Afraid to attack Cortez because he had power
 - Had less men after killing for running away
 - Basically terrified
 - Didn't assist in sinking ships
 - Knew what the mission/expedition was
 - Rumors
 - They stole gold, got to get it back
 - Convert Aztecs to Christianity
 - Obtain a home/housing in Mexico for families
 - Don't think they had rights
 - Big job, not very simple, needed planning, but Cortez had strong grip/manipulative

- Couldn't talk/communicate to Aztecs because Aztecs were scared of them along with Cortes
 - Men were scared of Aztecs because of number
 - Still had modern technology
- 500 soldiers, 10 people giving direct orders
 - Couldn't overthrow ?
 - Had sections, still couldn't rise up
 - Didn't have enough weapons and such to overthrow higher power
- Since Cortez raped and killed, they followed him
 - Monkey see, monkey do
- Christianity
 - Needed to stop rituals, makes killing right ?
 - Wanted to spread the religion
- Some people lost vision of mission
- Disguised as Aztecs

Cortes:

- Points: 35

Cortes's Men:

- Points: 15
 - 500 soldiers, 10 people giving direct orders
 - Couldn't overthrow ?
 - Had sections, still couldn't rise up
 - Didn't have enough weapons and such to overthrow higher power
 - Since Cortez raped and killed, they followed him
 - Monkey see, monkey do
 - Christianity
 - Needed to stop rituals, makes killing right ?
 - Wanted to spread the religion

King Charles:

- Points: 30

Aztecs:

- Points: 15

System of Empire:

- Points: 5
 - Cortes interpreted definition differently than System wanted to
 - Only here to provide a system, doesn't choose how people go about it
 - Everyone interprets it in a different way