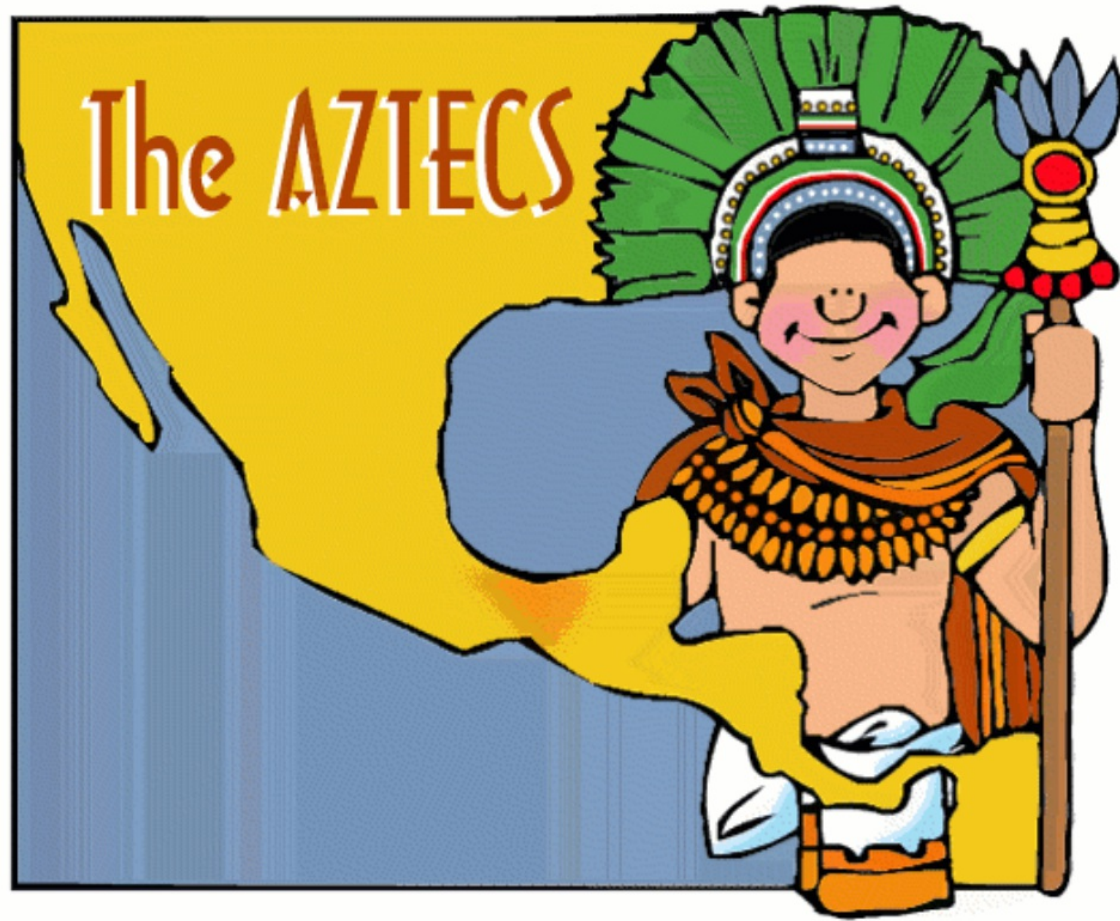


# The AZTECS



Located.....the Valley of Mexico (present day Mexico City)

Capital.....Tenochtitlan



Ruler.....Montezuma II

1100s-1500s



# RELIGION

**100; of god; and goddesses...**

**Believed in human sacrifice...**

**Most important god was the sun god**





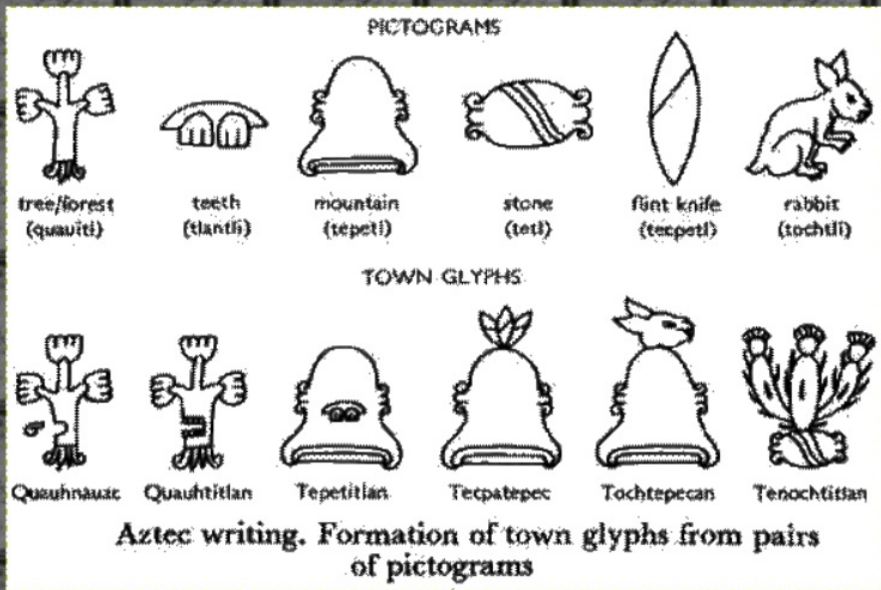
The Aztecs were fierce warriors. They conquered many people.

Let's see how they did it...



Eagle and Jaguar warriors were the highest. If you fought well, you could receive this honor.





**Tenochtitlan....city on a lake**



**Hieroglyphic writing system**

**Farming**

**Astronomy.....**

**Medicines....**

**Used a calendar similar the the Mayans**

l  
n  
y  
e  
n  
f  
i  
o  
n  
s

# Aztec Rules Of War

- Aztec rulers had many reasons for warfare. Sometimes a local had insulted them.
- Tribute had not been paid or Aztec traders had been attacked.
- The Aztecs did not use surprise attacks. First they sent nobles from Tenochtitlan the city they planned to attack.
- The nobles would ask the city leaders to join the Triple Alliance by paying tribute, trading with the Aztecs, and putting up a statue of their God Huitzilopociti in their temple. They had 20 days to decide
- The nobles from Tiacopan would arrive with gifts of weapons, more threats and warnings. If the city would not agree within 20 days, then the Aztec ruler would send messenger with gifts of clubs, shields, or feathers. This meant that war had been declared.

- Through all of these negotiations, the Aztecs had time to gain information and plan how to best attack the city.
- Warriors from all three cities of the Triple Alliance were then brought together.
- Priests decided on a lucky day to start the battle.
- The battles began. Usually the Aztecs won quickly. They took as many prisoners as possible for sacrifice. They destroyed the local temples and decided on the tribute to be paid.
- They made the local people worship Huitziopochtli and respect the Aztec emperor.
- Tribute was paid regularly or else another battle would occur!

## What happened to the Aztecs???

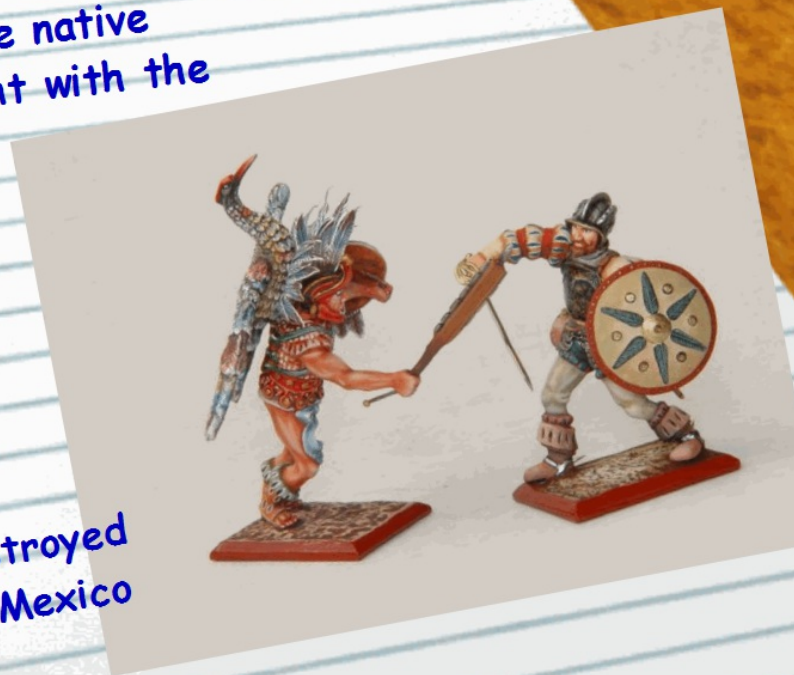
When Hernan Cortez (a Spanish explorer) arrived, the Aztecs thought he was a god.

He made friends with some of the native tribes and convinced them to fight with the Spanish against the Aztecs.

The Aztecs could not win with the Spanish advantage of weapons and horses.

The leader Montezuma II thought Cortez was friendly.

Tenochtitlan was destroyed by the Spanish and Mexico City was built.



The empire ended in 1521