

Zinn Assignments 1_2

STUDY QUESTIONS

ZINN CHAPTER 1, pp. 2-22

1. What was the significance of Quetzalcoatl?
2. Compare the strategies and motives underlying the conquest of the Aztecs by Cortez and the conquest of the Incas by Pizzaro.
3. What were the major causes of war between the Powhatans and the English settlers?
4. Discuss the significance of Powhatan's statement, "Why will you take by force what you may have quietly by love?"
5. Explain Governor John Winthrop's legal and biblical justification for seizing Indian land.
6. Explain the main tactic of warfare used by the English against the Indians.
7. According to Roger Williams, how did the English usually justify their attacks on the Indians?
8. What ultimately happened to the estimated 10 million Indians living in North America at the time of Columbus's arrival?
9. Evaluate the statement: "If there are sacrifices to be made for human progress, is it not essential to hold to the principle that those to be sacrificed must make the decision themselves?"
10. How does Zinn attempt to prove that the Indians were not inferior? Provide examples.