DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

Remember, when analyzing documents be sure to:

**1. Check the date it was made and the source**

a. Is it from the time period of study/a first hand account (Primary or secondary?)

b. Who is the source? Are they *biased*?

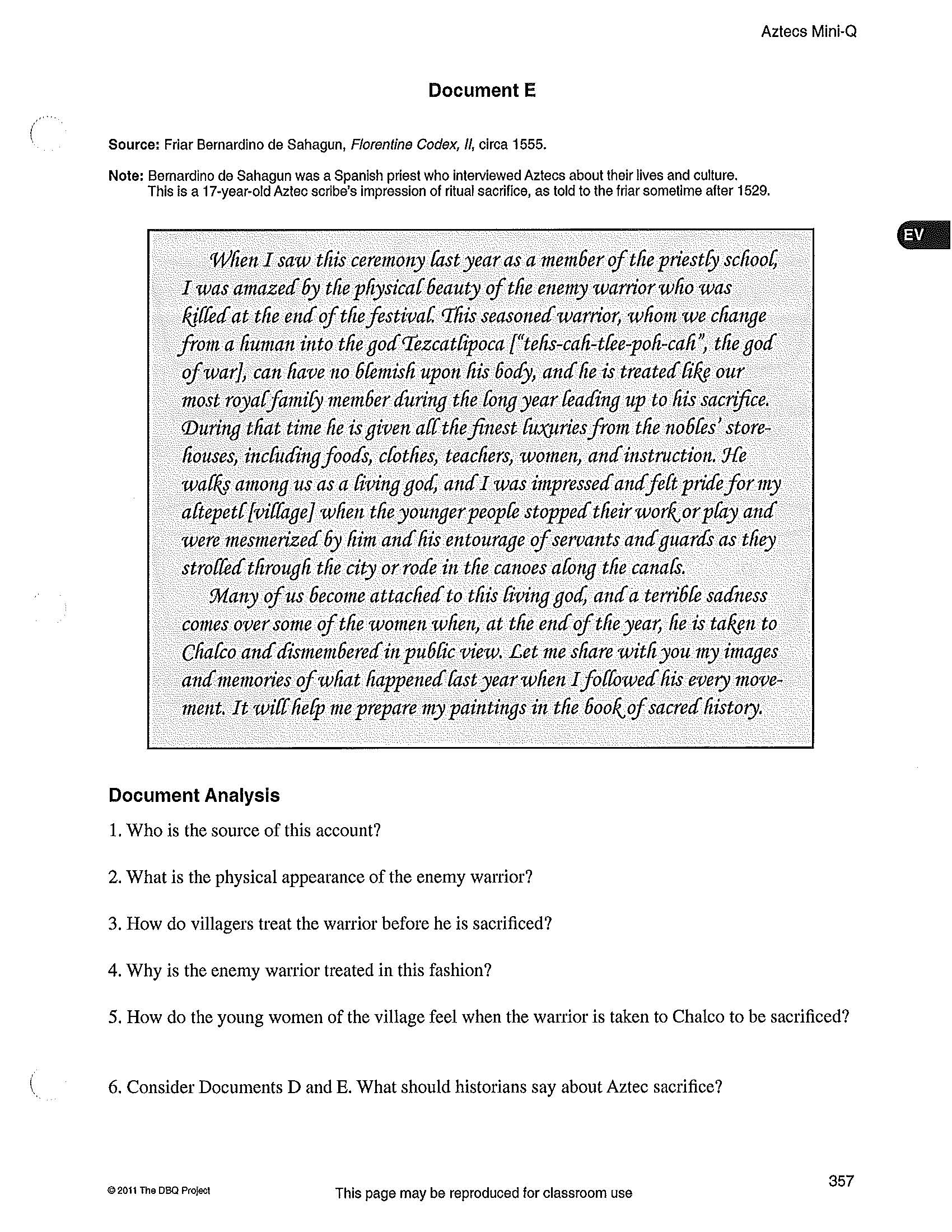
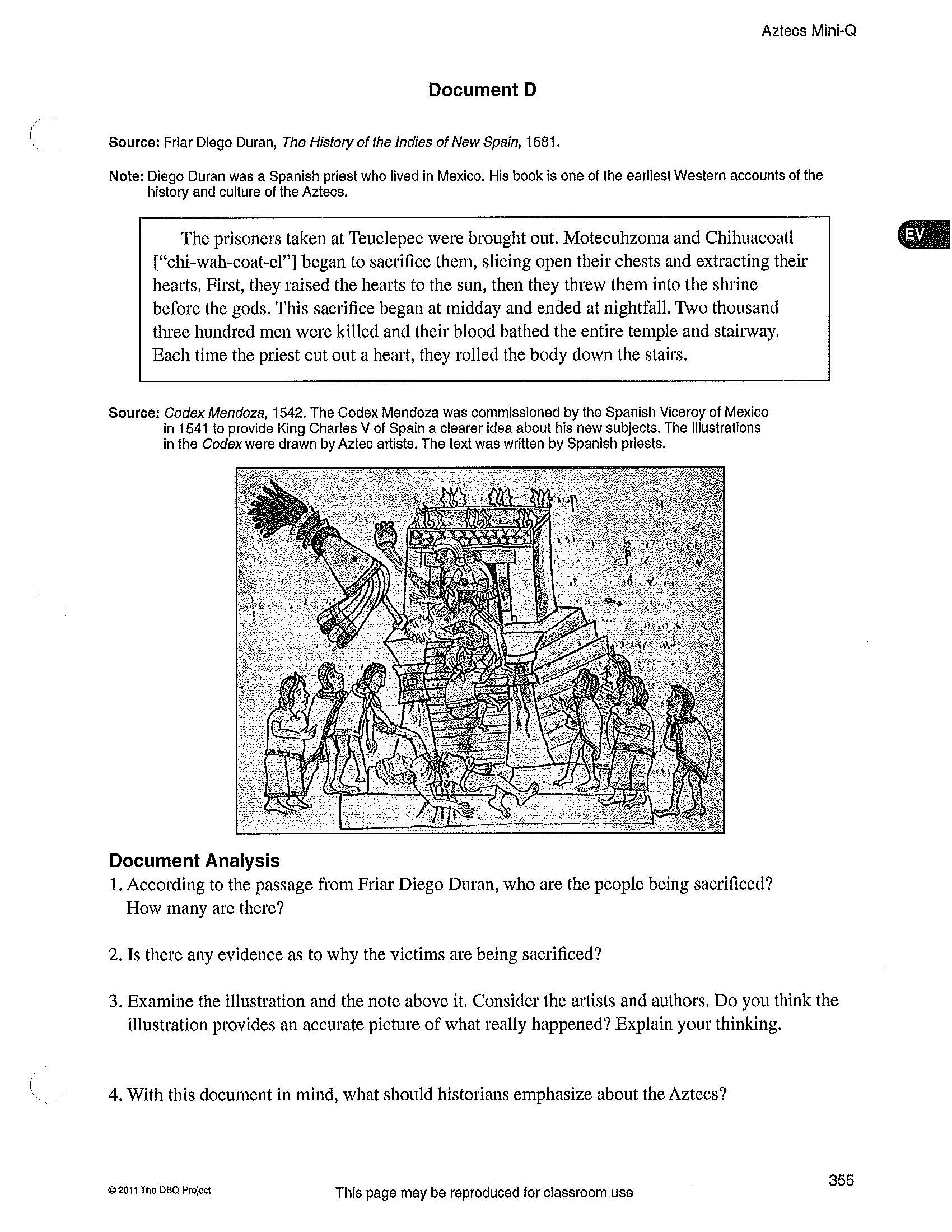
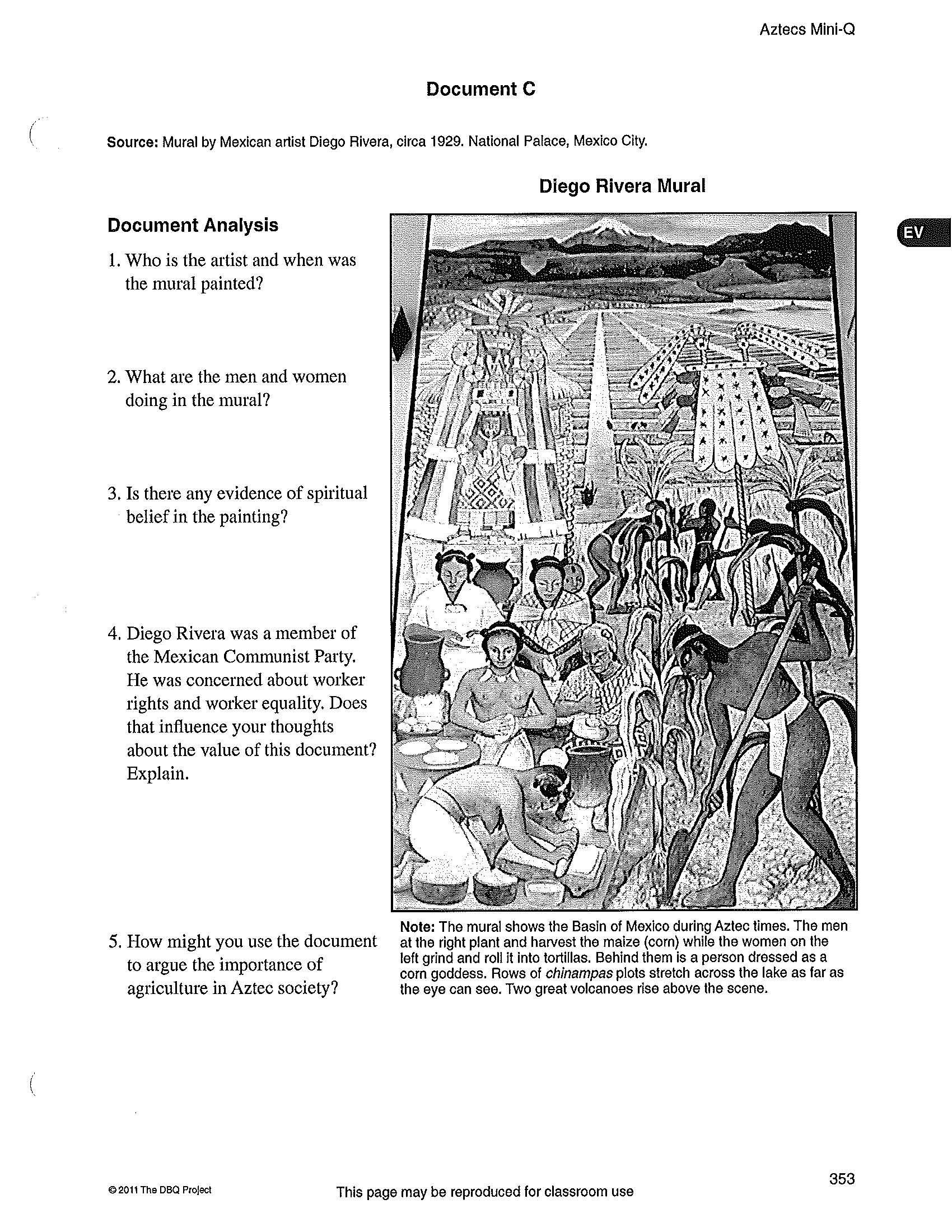
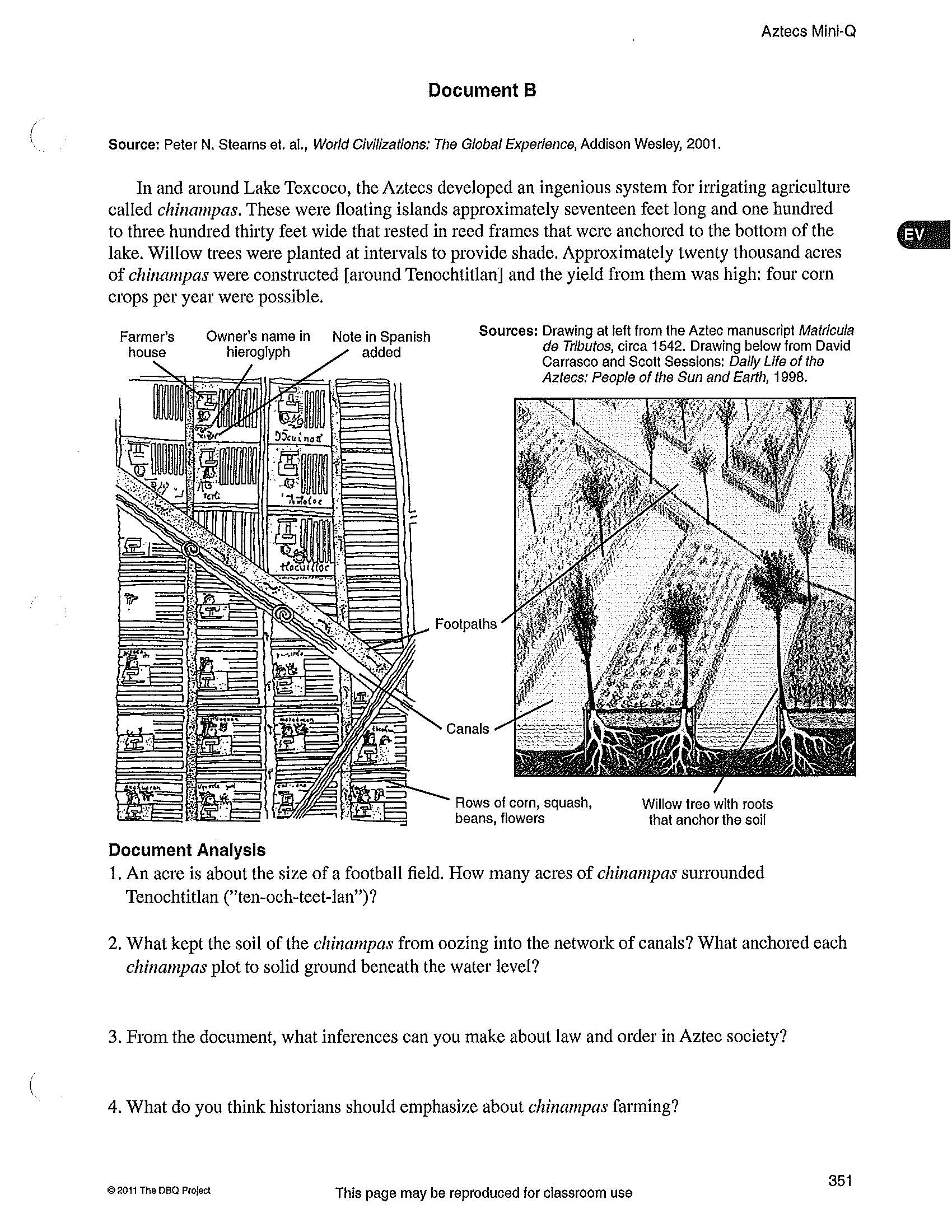
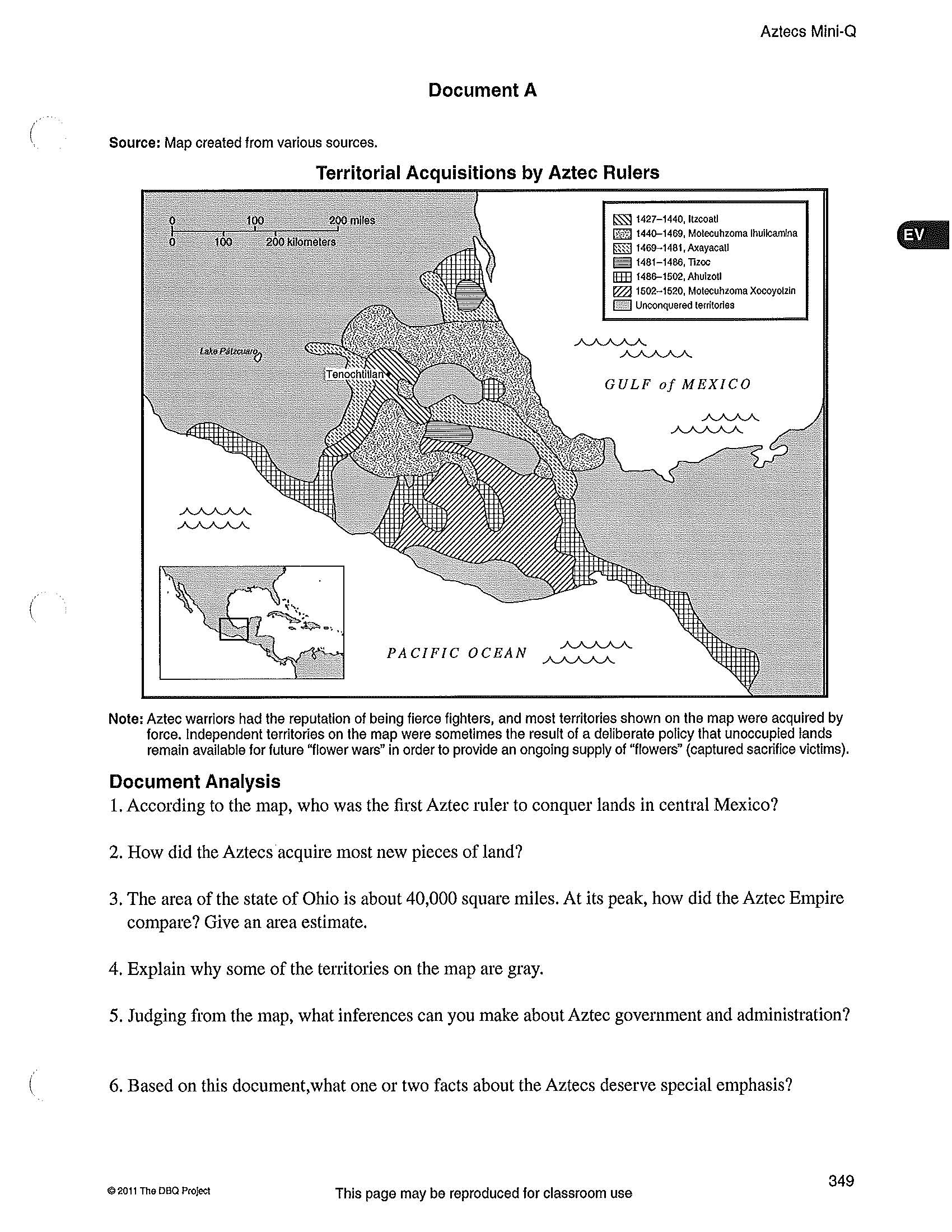
**2. What type of document is it? - Letter, photograph, essay, painting, etc.**

**3. Description of the document**

a. What does the document show?

b. What purpose does the document serve?

c. Is there anything interesting about this document or something unusual?



**Directions**: Using the primary and secondary sources in addition to your own outside knowledge about the Aztecs, respond to the question: “*Should historians emphasize agriculture or human sacrifice?”* To adequately answer this question, your paper should be around 1-2 pages.

Be sure to use textual evidence from the documents when you write your paper and to **cite them specifically/explicitly** in your writing! You paper should be typed (and printed out), or **neatly** handwritten.

In addition to the content, make sure that your paper:

1. DMS Heading

2. Is double-spaced

3. Is Times New Roman

4. Is 12-point font

5. Has 1 inch margins

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| **Thesis**  Addresses the prompt and maps out the argument to be made. | Contains a clearly stated thesis that identifies the major reasons used to answer the question. | Contains a general stated thesis that identifies/maps out the major reasons used to answer the question. | Contains a thesis that begins to identify the major reasons used to answer the question. | Contains a thesis that only repeats or rephrases the question | Contains no thesis |
| **Use of Documents**: Effectively uses documents to support arguments | Skillfully uses all documents/artifacts and:   * Contains no significant factual errors or misrepresentation of documents. * Recognizes point of view where applicable. * Draws inferences and conclusion | Skillfully uses most of the documents/artifacts and:   * Contains a few factual errors or misrepresentations of documents * Recognizes point of view where applicable. * Formulates generally accurate conclusions | Uses some of the documents/artifacts and:     * Contains little supplementary information * Attempts to formulate some conclusions: may contain some factual errors. * Does not recognize point of view | Uses little information from the documents and:   * Merely quotes or briefly cites documents, or misunderstands documents. * Draws vague conclusions * Does not recognize point of view | No use of documents  in essay. |
| **Analysis:**  Makes plausible inferences and a rational argument | Incorporates accurate and relevant background knowledge. Presents analysis which reflects understanding of complex issues. | Incorporates accurate and relevant background knowledge. Presents analysis which reflects some understanding/analysis of complex issues. | Attempts rational argument and attempts to connect outside knowledge and/or evidence from documents to the thesis. | Uses minimal information from documents or copies from documents and uses minimal outside information. Analysis, although attempted is not accurate. | Uses unclear or inaccurate information for documents. Includes no outside information .Fails to provide analysis. |
| **Organization and Clarity:**  A coherent essay with thesis, topic sentence, analysis, and conclusion | Writes a well developed essay consistently demonstrating clear and logical organization including a strong introductory paragraph that includes a clear thesis and a conclusion that effectively summarizes the argument. | Introductory paragraph includes a clear thesis. Body paragraphs contain topic sentences and substantial supporting evidence. Fluid writing and organization move the argument forward. Student provides basic conclusion. | Unevenly developed with a general plan of organization. Introductory paragraph contains a weak thesis or thesis is misplaced. Some body paragraphs lack cohesion. Describes documents more often than draws conclusion. | Essay is poorly organized. Vague or missing introduction and/ or a conclusion. | Organization is not evident. Does not include an introduction or conclusion |
| Total Score \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Comments: | | | | | |