

Grade 9 Answer

Narrative Account Question

8
Marks

Question:

Write a narrative account analysing the key events in the Spanish conquest of Peru in the years 1532 and 1537.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Battle of Cajamarca
- The Siege of Cuzco

You must also use information of your own.

(8 marks)

Answer:

The Spanish conquest of Peru involved several key events between 1532 and 1537. Firstly, in November 1532, the Battle of Cajamarca occurred. Pizarro and his troops ambushed the Incas by provoking Atahualpa, their leader, with a Christian Bible, which he rejected. This led to the Spanish attacking and killing thousands of Incas, as well as capturing Atahualpa, taking him as a prisoner. Because of the Civil War, Spain had imprisoned the only leader in an already volatile situation in Peru, so they could use him as a puppet emperor to act in Spanish interests.

Following his capture, the Spanish ransomed Atahualpa for a room filled with gold treasure, then twice again with silver. Upon receiving this, Pizarro accused him of treason and executed him anyway in 1533. Pizarro marched to Cuzco and was welcomed by the people, who had despised Atahualpa. He established a new capital, crowning Manco, Huayna Capac's son and Atahualpa's brother, as puppet-emperor. However, Manco escaped and led an Inca revolt against the Spanish in Cuzco in 1536.

This Inca Revolt then led to the Siege of Cuzco from 1536 to 1537, where the Incan army besieged the city. They broke through and set fire to the city, though the Spanish put these out and used their cavalry to drive the Incas back. They took the Sacsahuaman Fortress, which the Incas then started to besiege. Fighting carried on until Spanish reinforcements from Chile arrived, driving back Manco, who established his own separate Neo Inca State. Although the Incas initially had some success, setting fire to parts of the city, Spanish reinforcements arrived from Chile, which helped drive back Manco's forces and ended the siege.

Feedback:

This answer would get 8/8 marks because the pupil has identified 3 key events in the Spanish conquest of Peru (Battle of Cajamarca, death of Atahualpa and Siege of Cuzco). They have explained each point in depth using historical information, and written the events in chronological order, using links between the points.

