

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgYZ6gfqslQ>

World History

**Guns, Germs, and Steel: Episode 2: Conquest**

Overview of Episode 2: "Conquest" explores the impact of weapons and disease in shaping the New World. The development of steel for use in weaponry provided certain civilizations with a distinct advantage over those they set out to conquer. This episode chronicles the success of the Spanish Conquistadors and how their use of steel weapons gave them the advantage they needed to overthrow a much larger Inca army.

---

Directions: Before viewing the film, read each question below so you know what information and ideas you should be looking for as you watch Episode 2. Then answer the questions below.

1. At the time that the Spanish conquistador's invaded the Inca Empire, they were armed with state of the art weaponry. Describe their weaponry.
2. What is Diamond's explanation for why the Spanish had advanced to steel swords while the Incas were still making tools and weapons from bronze?
3. How did the battle tactics used by the Spanish conquistadors help the small army defeat the Inca army that outnumbered them by the thousands?
4. According to Diamond, what made the Europeans "accidental conquerors?"

5. How did the development of steel help civilizations gain power?

6. One of the most important technological advances, according to Diamond, was steel. Another was writing. What role did writing have in the Spanish conquest over the Inca empire? (Think especially about how the battle tactics of Hernan Cortes. How were they passed on and used by the Spanish to defeat the Incas?)