

parcere subiectis et debellare superbos—“to spare the humble and war down the proud”

Quetzalcoatl 9

Parcere subiectis superans ratione furorem.

Cabrera says that Quetzalcoatl wanted to overcome rage, rather than haughty people.

- In line 9, *parcere subiectis superans furorem* has a present participle following a purpose infinitive. Add “in order to” before the infinitive *parcere* and translate the phrase.
 “Overcoming rage in order to spare the conquered.”

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- What is the theme of this epic?

The rise of the Mexica, or Aztec, race and the greatness of Quetzalcoatl.

- What kind of ruler was Quetzalcoatl? How long did he rule?
He was honorable and overcame rage with reason; he was also industrious. He ruled almost twenty-five years.
- What task did he give the people as soon as he was on the throne?
To begin planting and raising crops.
- What are three of the plants grown by the Mexica?
Cocoa plants, cotton, and grain.

POETRY QUESTIONS

- Review and read aloud the scanned *Aeneid* 6.847–853 given in Appendix 4 and referenced above.
- Copy on paper and scan the first four lines of the lesson above. Remember the mute-liquid rule and the consonant *i* rule. Read the lines aloud.

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 Mexī/ cae long/ aeva ca/nō pri/mordia /gentis
 Ēgredi /ā quae / stir pe flu/ ēns Tol/tēca su/ perbit,