

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.

4. 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

1. What is the theme of this epic?
The rise of the Mexica, or Aztec, race and the greatness of Quetzalcoatl.
2. 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.
3. What task did he give the people as soon as he was on the throne?
To begin planting and raising crops.
4. What are three of the plants grown by the Mexica?
Cocoa plants, cotton, and grain.

POETRY QUESTIONS

1. Review and read aloud the scanned *Aeneid* 6.847–853 given in Appendix 4 and referenced above.
2. 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
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 Ègredi /ā quae / stir pe flu/ èns Tol/tēca su/ perbit,