

# TECÚN UMÁN BY REBECCA HINSON

(HISTORY/NONFICTION)

## Questions for *Tecún Umán* by Rebecca Hinson

### LEVEL 1: What does it say?

#### General Understanding

- What are two main ideas in *Tecún Umán* and what specific details from the text help support those ideas?

#### Key Details

- Did Tecún Umán live in North America, Central America, or South America? Where is that information located?
- Tecún Umán was a real person. Quetzals are real birds. As stories are told and retold, they sometimes get embellished. Citing evidence from the text, what legendary transformation did the Quetzal experience?
- What information in the text explains the connections between Tecún Umán, King Charles V of Spain, and Don Pedro de Alvarado?

### LEVEL 2: How does it work?

#### Vocabulary

- What adjective does the author use to signal the demise of Tecún Umán?
- What is a *monument*?

#### Structure

- *Tecún Umán* and *Legend of Tenochtitlán* both give accounts of Spanish conquests of indigenous peoples. Explain how one text uses legends to lead up to the conquest. Explain how the other text leads from the conquest to descriptions of memorials.

#### Author's Craft

- Is the cadence and tone of *Tecún Umán* more like a folk tale or a history? What about *Legend of Tenochtitlán*?

### LEVEL 3: What does it mean?

#### Author's Purpose

- Which evidence does the author use to point out the motives of Tecún Umán and Alvarado?
- Love of country pervades this text. What visual reminder emphasizes the ultimate sacrifice made by *Tecún Umán* for his people?

## Intertextual Connections

- The Spanish conquistadors had many advantages over the brave, skilled Maya and Aztec warriors in *Tecún Umán* and *Legend of Tenochtitlán*. What text and images point that out?
- Identify the texts which define the purposes of the Quetzal in Tecún Umán and the Golden Eagle in *Legend of Tenochtitlán*.

## LEVEL 4: What does it inspire you to do?

### Opinion with Evidence or Argument

- Tecún Umán died in 1524. What important legacy did he create when he was alive? *Emancipation* explains the legacy of Abraham Lincoln. *Citadelle La Ferrière* explains the legacy of Henry Christophe. Integrate information from *Tecún Umán*, *Emancipation*, and *Citadelle La Ferrière* to write or speak about the legacies of these great men.

### Sources

Rebecca Hinson, *Citadelle La Ferrière*

Rebecca Hinson, *Emancipation*

Rebecca Hinson, *Legend of Tenochtitlán*