

The account as written by the Spaniards differs greatly from that of the indigenous author. The Spanish version of the meeting with the Aztecs was written from a modern perspective, with much emphasis placed on the possible financial gains that could be made off of the newly discovered lands. At one point the writer implies that the gifts of gold from the indigenous people were worth even more than the weight value, "because it showed us that there were gold mines there." The Aztec perspective focused much more on the excitement and gifts that were given to Cortés and his men. The writer emphasized how Montezuma viewed the Spaniards as gods perhaps because of the technology and equipment that was completely new and seemingly divine to the Aztecs. The indigenous people, Montezuma included, were surprised by the culture of the Spaniards, noting the difference in food, weaponry, and even the animals. Meanwhile the Spanish perspective was one of exploration, and the foreign culture of the Aztecs appeared to be much less of a culture shock to Cortés than the Spanish culture did to Montezuma. While it was fairly obvious as to Cortés' intentions when coming to Mexico in the Spaniards' writings, it did not seem as obvious in the Aztec account.