DIGITAL CONCEPT CHECK (DCC) SEMINAR 1 (SP14)

Name: Jenna de Vries

Instructor: Mr. Adrian Andrade

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1. Mal ojo or mal de ojo:
	* 1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evil_eye>
		2. <http://www.medicalspanish.com/cultural-topics/mal-de-ojo.html>
		3. <http://voxxi.com/2013/03/01/curanderos-mal-de-ojo/>

I know that Wikipedia is not the best of sources told to cite, yet I could not find much on this subject without it reading Spanish translation. However, I understand that this pertains to a superstition of a glare or certain look that could cause harm, someone to fall ill, and even bad luck.

What I did not know was that the famously well-known talismans were created in cultures like Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan to ward off this belief.

1. Compadre / Comadre:
	* 1. <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=compadre>
		2. <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=comadre>

I have always heard “compadre” used to describe a friend or close person one relates to…this is one of the rare moments in my life that I revisit this word meaning “side-parents” or godparents. Perhaps this was common in use for when a lot of wars were taking place when all the expeditions were in movement or invading.

1. Quetzalcoatl:
	* 1. <http://www.azteccalendar.com/god/Quetzalcoatl.html>

The Quetzalcoatl is known as the Feathered Serpent, one of the most important divinities of the Aztec, Toltecs, and Middle Americans. This god is known to have participated in both creation and destruction in various wars among the people. In contrast of his twin brother, Xolotl, he is now symbolized to be associated with death, resurrection and a patron of the priests.

1. Dia de Los Muertos:
	* 1. <http://www.inside-mexico.com/featuredead.htm>

I have known about this special holiday. It has always fascinated me. I know that this term means, “The Day of the Dead”. At first remembrance, I believe it is a Mexican holiday that those who have passed on into the next life are remembered and prayed for religiously, it is a very serious ritual among the Spanish/Mexicans. I did not know that at some extent, pets are sacrificed in order for the master of that pet to have a companion by their side in their new life. This holiday, though celebrates the dead, is more treated as a celebration with dance, preparation and enriching decorations specific to each environmental aspect.

1. Aztlan:
	* 1. <http://www.mexica.net/aztlan.php>
		2. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aztl%C3%A1n>

Aztlan is the ancestral homeland of the Mexican and Aztec citizens. The language used within these people and their basis land was known as Nahuatl. The location of this homeland to the people is not classified, yet are to believe to be along the coast of northwestern Mexico and the meaning of its name is indefinite. However, some legend translations might find it to mean, “Place of Herons” or “Place of Egrets”. Due to the Mexican-American War, these were sold to the United States and referred to when describing the lands of Northwestern Mexico.

1. Quinto Sol:
	* 1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quinto_Sol>
		2. <http://www.mexconnect.com/articles/199-mysteries-of-the-fifth-sun-the-aztec-calendar>

I am a bit confused about this term. I cannot tell if it refers to solely being attached to the Aztec Calender or that it is Spanish meaning the myth of creation and destruction of the Aztec. This is something I care to further understand about with more precise definition.

1. Tonantzin:
	* 1. <http://www.princeton.edu/~achaney/tmve/wiki100k/docs/Tonantzin.html>

The term Tonantzin is referred to any, if not all, the female holy beings. In other cases is defined as Mother Earth. When it comes to the Catholic faith, this title may refer to the Virgin Mary. The Tonantzin is offered worshipped among the pre-Columbian times.

1. La Pastorela:
	* 1. <http://www.inside-mexico.com/pastorelas.htm>

This term refers to the Spanish plays that depict on the Nativity drama around Christmas. However, back before this was transitioned into a new term, it meant that in the past times within the capital of Tenochtitlan, the Mexicans would amuse themselves with entertainment that included music, acting and dance. After the Spanish takeover, these people who performed the “Pastorelas” would have no means of pursuing further in these arts. However, later through historical changes, Pastorelas have become a deep tradition.

1. La Llorona:
	* 1. <http://www.inside-mexico.com/lallorona.htm>

La Llorona means the weeping woman and it is referring to a very famous Mexican legend. The legend has it that she a ghost and this scary tale is either shared to further a story about an insane woman who is the origin of the legend. Among the research, the woman ,who is ageless and has not face, represents a complex compilation of several signs and pre-Hispanic divinities. She is portrayed as a women under condemnation and yet carries a message that is ill-omened.

1. La Noche Triste:
	* 1. <http://web.calstatela.edu/orgs/mecha/nochepart7.htm>

This event happened during the Spanish invasion and translates, “The Night of Sorrows” or “The Sad Night”. Cortes was over powered and suffered at the hands of his opposing side in this war, the Aztecs. Cortes had lost so much that night, so many fellow comrades, treasure and his victory in escaping from Tenochtitlan.

1. La Virgin de Guadalupe
	* 1. <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/12/12/virgen-de-guadalupe_n_4434582.html>
		2. <http://www.mexconnect.com/articles/1404-la-virgen-de-guadalupe-mother-of-all-mexico>

La Virgin de Guadalupe refers to a very significant likeness to the Virgin Mary, Mother of all Mexico and the images mainly used are of Catholic inspiration. It is said that the Virgin Mary had approached a man known by the name of Juan Diego and instructed him to do certain things. This led to a Roman Catholic Church, known as Basilica de Guadalupe where it holds the title of the National Shrine of Mexico within the northern part of Mexico city. This shrine was constructed around Tepeyac where La Virgin de Guadalupe emerged in front of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, that many people have said happened.

1. Brujeria:
	* 1. <http://www.spanishcentral.com/translate/brujer%C3%ADa>

This term refers to witchcraft or sorcery. Perhaps within the confines or location within South America.

1. Las Curanderas:
	* 1. <http://www.motherearthliving.com/health-and-wellness/new-mexico-shealing-tradition.aspx>

A Curanderas is a woman who practices within folk herb medicine. She may even go as far as using witchcraft and prayers to heal her patients. This personally…is kind of scary. It is also researched that she of Mexican descent who practices healing techniques given to her by Mayan lineage.

1. La Raza Cosmica:
	* 1. <http://www.wvwnews.net/story.php?id=10102>

La raza Cosmica translate to meaning The Cosmic Race. This an essay circulated in 1925 by a Mexican Philosopher who has now passed on, known as Jose Vasconcelos. The ideology behind this essay was based on a “fifth race”. His idea was to refute certain scientific theories with an ideological attempt to develop a better and more improved cultural confidence of a "depressed race" by means of contrast with an offering his optimistic theory in the prospect evolvement of a progeny from within the cosmos.

1. Semana Santa
	* 1. <http://web.schc.sc.edu/Samantha_Ward_Senior_Thesis/SemanaSanta.html>

Semana Santa translates meaning “Holy week”. During this week, Spain celebrates within the week before Easter Sunday. These people take it quite seriously by stores rarely being open; preparations are taken place that pertain completely to Catholic regulations. Aside from internal attendees that could take up many roads and walkways, the travelers are well warned that they need to book in advance in order to partake in this massive celebration in regards to Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary. There is a similarity of the outfits between the mourners and those who know the KKK resemblance. As the pointed hats refer to a rising toward heaven, this particularly means in hopes of forgiveness and hiding one’s identity while they mourn over Jesus. I still think this is a very scary scenario.

1. 12-21-2012 Mayan Calender:
	* 1. <http://www.mayan-calendar.org/2012/end-of-the-world.html>

This was the date that the WHOLE world was in controversy about. This was the date to have been the end of the world or Doomsday, according to the Mayan Calendar. However, we are all still here. This was a major misinterpretation. This date actually meant the end of the 13th Baktun Cycle.

1. Pocho:
	* 1. <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Pocho>

Pocho refers to a Mexican who has forgotten or even gone astray from their roots attached to their heritage or connections to their traditions, ethnicity and customs.

1. The Incas:
	* 1. <http://www.latinamericanstudies.org/incas/collier.htm>

The Incas are an American Indian race from Peru. The Inca environmental realm incorporated the coastal and mountain regions of Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, the northern areas of Chile and northern areas of Argentina. Manco Capac is known as the first Inca and renowned founder of the race. Even though the official language of the Incas is known as Quechua today; there was another language spoken within the surrounding area of the lands was called Aymara. These people thrived on Agricultural means since the majority of their people were farmers and soldiers. However when it came to state matters and religious matters, they were treated as one. There is a rarity where their way of life is separated from religion. Eventually, the fall of the Incas had occurred. Because of many traumatic events, it was only a matter a time that the Spaniards could take over the transitioned timorous Incas and have victory.