Category 3: Multimodal presentation (Aztecs)

Criterion 1: Reflections

While evidence of reflection is found in a number of places in a student’s record of research, these extracts show some selections of key moments of reflection. These reflections demonstrate the match to Standard B for an aspect of Criterion 1: Planning and using a historical research process.

When reflecting during research, at Standard B a student:

- demonstrates reflection during research and revises the process where necessary.

Evidence of reflection may be located in various places in the records of research. There is no requirement to “journal” reflections. This is just one strategy to record student thinking on the direction of the inquiry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 August</td>
<td>A lot of detailed myths and narratives about religion. Written primary sources for the civilisation are hard to find. Most of the books have archaeological excavations and photos of artefacts and symbols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 August</td>
<td>I am having difficulty finding information on the power relationships and how it affected society. The Aztecs’ primary focus seems to be religion, but that alone does not completely justify how power was used. I have discovered that not only were they extremely religious, they were also very militaristic. The gods supposedly assisted them in battle as well as with daily occurrences. So this is more of a power link.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 August</td>
<td>The artefact chosen to represent the Aztec civilisation is very hard to make due to the lack of materials. The size of the artefact has to be relatively small to fit into the glass cabinets, so I’ll do some posters to help show the point too. I also need to remember my talk has to be like a guide, not an essay.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Initial hypothesis**
The Aztec civilisation and power structure was organised around religion.

**Final hypothesis**
Aztec civilisation was predominantly centralised around religious beliefs and ideologies that consequently influenced the power relationships developed within society socially and militarily.

**Planning**
Sketch shows revision of argument — display first explains the background to religious beliefs and main gods, then focuses on the practice of sacrifice, then outlines the connections between religion and social and military power.