When Pizarro landed in Peru in 1532, all he knew of the Incas was that, according to legend, they possessed fabulous wealth. His twin objectives were to loot the empire and to subjugate its people to not only Christianity but also to Spanish rule. The ________ had arrived at a most opportune time. Both Atahualpa and his half-brother Huascar had claimed the throne after their father died in 1525 without formally naming his successor. Although Capac's priest designated Huascar the ruler, a _______ war erupted between the two brothers and lasted until 1532, when Atahualpa's forces captured and imprisoned Huascar. Huascar was forced to witness the slaughter of the royal family; hundreds of women, men, and children were killed so Atahualpa could reign without further challenge. Atahualpa's bloody power play disrupted the ordered Inca society, and the natives hailed Pizarro as a son of their white-skinned god Viracocha, sent, they believed, to avenge Huascar and his family. The sound of his cannon added credence to this false identity, since Viracocha controlled the thunder. As the conquistadors _________ their way cross-country, they met with no resistance from the thoroughly intimidated and demoralized Incas.

However, when word of the Spaniards' conduct during their trek to Cajamarca reached Atahualpa, he demanded that the thieves return the goods they had stolen. Instead, they sent him a priest, Brother Vicente, who proceeded to instruct Atahualpa in ____________. The lesson ended abruptly when Atahualpa hurled a Bible on the ground. At this, the offended Spaniards attacked and slaughtered the unarmed natives. The Inca warriors stationed outside the city scattered before the onslaught of the Spanish ________. Atahualpa was taken captive and held for ________. When he learned that Huascar was promising the Spanish more gold for his own release, the ruthless Atahualpa secretly ordered his brother's death. During the next nine months, a roomful of gold and silver was delivered to Pizarro to secure Atahualpa's safe return to the throne. Pizarro received 13,420 pounds of gold and 26,000
pounds of silver. (If the value of gold was $450 an ounce, the gold bars would have been worth $96,624,000 and the silver bars, valued at $7.70 an ounce, would fetch $3, 203,200). The total value of the ransom was $101,759,680 - the largest in history.

Atahualpa had paid the ransom and was now entitled to his freedom. Pizarro pretended to agree, but he had many sound arguments as to why Atahualpa could not be released immediately. It is doubtful that Pizarro ever intended to release Atahualpa. Eventually Atahualpa was ___________ of treason and ordered to stand trial. At his trial Atahualpa was charged with ordering the execution of his brother, Huascar. After a mock trial at which Atahualpa was found guilty of the charges, Pizarro offered him a choice: He could elect to be burned alive as a ___________ or to be strangled as a Christian. When the Inca Ruler chose the latter, he was baptized Juan de Atahualpa in honor of St. John the Baptist. Then he was tied to a stake and strangled. When the Inca armies who were surrounding Cajamarca heard the news of Atahualpa's death, they ____________ and Pizarro was able to move toward the capital city of cuzco and occupy it without a struggle in November of 1533.

The conquerors destroyed not only the Inca Empire, but most of they’re heritage as well. For example, wen it was time to distribute the treasure Atahualpa paid to Pizarro, nine ____________ were built and Indian smiths were set to work melting the metal into bars of standard size and weight. Everything went into the furnaces except for a few exceptional items that were sent to Spain as examples of Peruvian art. These items included a golden ear of ________ encased in silver leaves, golden spiders and hummingbirds, and a life-size boy cast in solid Gold. King Charles, however, was uninterested in this type of art. After putting the items on display for a couple of weeks, he had them melted down and minted into coins. As a result, most of the items we have from this period come because of archeological discoveries made in recent years. Inca as well as aztec gold made the Spanish a world ____________ in the late 1500s.

Word Bank:
retreated  heathen  plundered  Christianity  superpower  ransom
accused  civil  maize  furnaces  conquistador  artillery