

The Ultimate Inca Mini Course Prep Checklist

Use this checklist to prepare all the materials and steps for your 7-lesson unit on the Inca Empire.

Pre-Unit Setup (The Big Picture)

- Review all 7 lesson plan objectives.
- Download and print the full set of printable worksheets (1 per student).
- Print 1 copy of the assessment rubric for yourself and 1 for student reference.
- Acquire materials for the Quipu activity (Lesson 3): colored yarn, dowels/pencils.
- Cue up the *National Geographic* documentary (Lesson 6).
- Prepare excerpts from the Reading List (MacQuarrie, Cieza de León).

Lesson-by-Lesson Prep

Lesson 1: Geography & Myths

- Print topographic maps of the Andes.
- Prepare the "Topographic Map Analysis" worksheet.
- Review the Manco Cápac origin myth.

Lesson 2: Government

- Prepare the "Imperial Structure Chart" worksheet.
- Set up the *curaca* simulation (assign roles or groups).

Lesson 3: The Quipu

- Distribute "Knot Your Data" worksheet.
- Prepare yarn and dowels for the hands-on activity.
- Prepare simple classroom data for students to encode (e.g., 5 boys, 7 girls, 2 pets).

Lesson 4: Mit'a & Engineering

- Prepare the "Engineering Marvels" worksheet.
- Gather high-resolution images of:
 - Qhapaq Ñan (road)
 - *q'eswachaka* (grass bridge)
 - *andenes* (terraces)
 - Sacsayhuamán (polygonal masonry)

Lesson 5: Daily Life

- Distribute the "Ayllu Life" perspective writing worksheet.
- Review key terms: *ayllu*, *chuño*, *accha*.

Lesson 6: Machu Picchu

- Distribute the "Site Analysis (Step-by-Step)" worksheet.
- Load the "Ghosts of Machu Picchu" documentary.
- Prepare the step-by-step analysis instructions.

Lesson 7: Conquest

- Prepare the "Primary Source" worksheet.
- Print excerpts from Pizarro's men and Inca (Titu Cusi) accounts.
- Review the key factors of the fall (civil war, smallpox, technology).

Final Assessment

- Schedule the final project or analysis day.
- Review the assessment rubric with students *before* the final task.