

06/07 September 2016



Cabeza de Vaca depicted as a healer on a mural in the town hall at Ojinaga, in Chihuahua, Mexico. It commemorates his stay at the junction of the rivers in the summer of 1535.

From *Conquistadors* by Michael Wood. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2000.

Image from http://www.library.txstate.edu/swvc/cdv/about/ojinaga_healer_mural.html

Greetings, AmLit Scholars—

I'm thinking that your travels through the wilderness of English 11 will prove to be even more thrilling than the travels of Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca throughout what we now call the American southwest, more or less.

As usual, read all the steps before beginning to follow any of them.

Here's what we'll do today:

1. WEDGE—We've just read a narrative, so let's practice a little narrative. Prompt: what's the strangest thing you've ever eaten? Spend roughly ten minutes freewriting an anecdote in which you decided to, or were convinced to, or were compelled to eat something you might not have eaten if the choice had been entirely your own. Try to provide sensory imagery as you draft.

2. Active Reading Check I— While you are WEDGE-ing, I will come around to check your active reading. I will check two documents:

A. Mortimer Adler's essay, "How to Mark a Book," and

B. the selection from Cabeza de Vaca.

Please place your packets where I can find them.

3. Planning for the Future, including its Tests, or, Why We Build Our Glossaries— We'll review one of our goals for the course and also preview part of the format of our tests by looking at a document called "English 11 Test Question Types." By the time we're done, we'll all have embraced our personal glossaries of key terms for English 11.

4. Feast—We'll work together to prepare a fest of prickly pear and dog! Did anyone bring a spare dog, or two? No? Well, I guess we may have to skip this step.

5. Practicing a Test Question Type—We'll review the reading selection from *La Relacion* by Mr Cowhead by practicing a type of test question. By previewing the type of test question, we'll be better able to anticipate which sections of a reading might *produce* a test question!

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!
Mr Leo

P.S.



The complete *La Relacion*, complete with a recipe for dog tartar
Image from <http://www.library.txstate.edu/swwc/cdv/book/1.html>

Homework:

1. Determine a system for keeping track of all the handouts distributed in this course. I will check your system during the next class meeting.
2. Actively read "The Revolutionary Period" and the de Crevecouer packets. I will check active reading at the start of our next class meeting.