NÁHUATL IN SPANISH

10-17-2016
Náhuatl in México

- Roots in many cultures/languages of Mexico
- The most important and widely diffused of the indigenous languages
Indigenous languages in Mexico
Most associated with the Aztecs because of the large area they occupied and because they are most recent

- Aztec culture existed 200 years before the arrival of the Spanish.
- Generally considered to have begun with the fall of Tula in 999 and the arrival of the Aztecs in 1145.
- Didn’t follow the normal cycle of civilizations, since it was completed destroyed by the Spaniards. For this reason, it’s difficult to study.
Cultural and technological advances

Náhuatl culture
- Architecture (Teotihuacán)
- Mathematics and astronomy
- Codexes
- Chinampas
Linguistic influence

- Náhuatl’s influence on Spanish comes from the need to describe new realities in the New World.
- Like Arabic’s influence on Spanish, náhuatl’s influence, and that of other indigenous languages, is mostly lexical (vocabulary).
- There are lexical families that are derived from náhuatl (chile, pulque, chocolate, jitomate)
Linguistic influence

- **Suffixes**
  - -eco

- **Spelling patterns (my observation)**
  - -ote
  - -ete
  - -ate
  - -ache
  - -cle
  - tla-
Vocabulary categories

- Flora and fauna
- Food
- Domestic tools
- Family
- Games
- Craftsmanship
- City
- Clothing
- Geography
- Medicine
La flora

- Cempasúchil
- Hule
- Zacate
La fauna

- Chapulín
- Coyote
- Guajalote
- Mapache
- Ocelote
- Quetzal
- Tecolote
- Tlacuache
- Zopilote
La comida

- Aguacate
- Atole
- Cacahuate
- Camote
- Chicle
- Chilaquiles
- Chile
- Chocolate
- Chuchuluco
La comida

- Ejote
- Elote
- Guacamole
- Jícama
- Jitomate/Tomate
- Mezcal
- Mezquite
- Mole
La comida

- Huitlacoche
- Nopal
La comida

- Pozole
- Pulque
- Tamal
- Tepache
- Tequila
- Totopo
Bibliography


