

## Questions:

1. What is the summary of this literary piece?
2. What lesson does the author want to convey?
3. What is the relationship of this story to the current time?

## Answers:

### 1. Summary

"Relacion de las Costumbres de Los Tagalos" is a historical document written by Spanish friar Juan de Plasencia in the late 16th century. The document is a compilation of observations and descriptions of the customs and traditions of the Tagalog people during that time.

The document covers various aspects of Tagalog culture, including their religion, beliefs, social customs, economic activities, and everyday life. Plasencia also provides insights into the Tagalog language and the writing system used at that time.

One of the main themes of the document is the description of the Tagalog people's pre-colonial way of life before the arrival of the Spanish colonizers. Plasencia's account highlights the richness and complexity of Tagalog culture and provides a valuable perspective on the customs and traditions of the people who inhabited the Philippines before the Spanish colonization.

Overall, "Relacion de las Costumbres de Los Tagalos" serves as an important historical reference that provides insights into the Tagalog culture and way of life during the late 16th century.

## **2. Lesson**

One of the lessons that can be learned from "Relacion de las Costumbres de Los Tagalos" by Juan de Plasencia is the importance of understanding and preserving one's cultural heritage. The document highlights the richness and complexity of Tagalog culture and serves as a reminder of the cultural practices and beliefs that were prevalent before the arrival of the Spanish colonizers.

Another lesson that can be gleaned from the document is the importance of cultural exchange and understanding between different peoples. The account provided by Plasencia reflects his attempt to understand and appreciate the culture and traditions of the Tagalog people, despite coming from a different background and culture.

Finally, the document also highlights the impact of colonization on native cultures and traditions. Plasencia's observations and descriptions provide insights into the changes and influences that occurred in Tagalog society as a result of Spanish colonization. This serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving cultural practices and traditions in the face of external influences and pressures.

## **3. Relationship of this story to the current time**

"Relacion de las Costumbres de Los Tagalos" by Juan de Plasencia remains relevant to the present time as it serves as a reminder of the importance of cultural preservation and understanding. In a rapidly changing world where globalization and modernization are causing the erosion of cultural practices

and traditions, it is crucial to recognize the value and richness of one's cultural heritage.

Moreover, the document highlights the importance of cultural exchange and understanding, which remains relevant in the present time where people from different cultures interact and engage with each other on a global scale. The lessons learned from Plasencia's account can help foster mutual respect and appreciation between different cultures, promoting understanding and cooperation.

Finally, the document also serves as a cautionary tale about the impact of colonization on native cultures and traditions, which is still relevant in many parts of the world today. The account of the changes and influences that occurred in Tagalog society due to Spanish colonization can help shed light on the ongoing struggles of indigenous communities and the importance of preserving their cultures and traditions.