And behold how began the life of the young boy. At first, while still a small boy, his hair was shorn. And when he was already ten years old, they then let a tuft of hair grown on the back of his head. And when he was fifteen years old, then the tuft of hair became long. [This was] when he had nowhere taken captives.

And if he took a captive with the help of others,—perchance doing so with the aid of two, or of three, or four, or of five, or of six, at which point came to an end [the reckoning] that a captive was taken with others’ help—then the lock of hair was removed. And this was the division of their captive: in six parts it came. The first, who was the real captor, took his body and one of his thighs—the one with the right foot. And the second who took part [in the capture] took the left thigh. And the third took the right upper arm. The fifth took the right forearm. And as for the sixth, he took the left forearm.

And when the tuft on the back of his head was removed, he was shorn so that he was left another lock: his hair dress kept, on the right side, the hair hanging low, reaching the bottom of his ear; to one side [only] was is lock of hair set. When this [was done], he assumed another face, he appeared otherwise, so that it might be seen that he had made a captive with the help of others [and that] the tuft of hair on the back of his head had been removed.

And then his grandfather, or his beloved uncle, addressed him. He said to him: “My beloved grandson, the sun the lord of the earth, hath washed your face. You hast taken another face; and you hast gone to throw yourself against the foe. Let them take you if, without profit, once more you take a captive with the aid of others’ help. What would you be? Would you have a young girl’s lock of hair? Take care lest you again take a captive with others’ help. Cast yourself against our foes.”

And he who took no captive with others’ help when, perchance, he had returned three or four times to the wars, they called “Big tuft of hair over the back of the head.” And if this was so said of him, he was much ashamed of it. Wherefore he cast himself [into the fray] in order to take a captive with others’ aid.

And if he made a captive with the help of others, then his head was pasted with feathers. And he who then did not take a captive with the aid of others might not remove his lock of hair; neither was his head pasted with feathers. Thus was his hair shorn: it was cut like a ring-shaped carrying pad; they shaved only the crown of his head.

And [whether] worldly goods and riches were his lot, or he was only poor, yet if his back tuft of hair had been removed, he never took, and never did they place upon him, an embroidered cape, [but] only another small, white, maguey fiber cape, and his small breech clout.

And he who had acted indeed alone and had taken captives, if he took one, was therefore named a leading youth and a captor. And when this came to pass, then they took him before Moctezuma, there at the palace. And by his command he was then stained with yellow ochre; his face was colored with red ochre. They applied it to all his face. And the majordomos of Moctezuma anointed his temples with yellow ochre.
And at that time Moctezuma granted him favors; he gave him an orange cape with a striped border and a scorpion design to bind on, and a carmine colored breech clout with long ends, and a breech clout of many colors. And then he began to wear capes with designs.

And when he had taken two, likewise they took him there before Moctezuma, at the palace, and likewise his gifts were provided as hath been told.

And when he captured three, likewise his gifts were provided, and he took [the office] of, and they established him as a master of the youths, a leading youth. He entered a place of dignity, the young men’s house, there to nurture and rear [them]. There he reared the young men, there where there was a song and dance at night, there in the song house.

And when he took four, Moctezuma then let his hair be cut like that of a seasoned warrior. And then also he assumed the titles of a seasoned warrior—perchance Mexicatl tequiua, or Ciuatecpancatl tequiua: all the titles of a seasoned warrior. And then in truth when they placed him on the mat and stool of the warriors’ house—there where were gathered the great, brave warriors, there where were the Tlacochcalactl, the Tlacateccatl, the Ticociauacatl, the Atempanecatl—those who were great captains, who had long labrets, who had leather ear plugs, who had head bands with [two] eagle-feather tassles, with which [their hair] was bound.

And if six, or seven, or ten Huaxtecs, or barbarians, were taken, he gained thereby no renown. For this his title was only seasoned warrior.

Then if he went to take captives at Atlixco, or Uexotzinco, or Uexotzinco, or Tliluhquitepec, for the fifth one whom he captured, then he gained great honor. For this his name was that of a great, brave warrior—a great captain. Then Moctezuma gave him a long, blue labret and a head band with [two] tufts of [eagle] feathers, perchance with silver flint knives [between the eagle feathers]. And leather ear plugs, and a bright red, rich, netting cape of two colors divided diagonally, and a leather cape.

And if he went to take two captives from Atlixco or Uexotzinco, then already he filled everyone with awe. Then they gave him a long, yellow labret; he required both the blue [and the yellow] long labrets.”