

## The Development of Instrumental Music

【Paragraph 1】 Until the sixteenth century, almost all music was written for the voice rather than for musical instruments. Even during the Renaissance (from the fourteenth to the sixteenth century), instrumental music was, for the most part, the result of substituting an instrument for a voice in music written for singing or dancing. The seventeenth century marked the rise of music that lacked extramusical meaning. Like a mathematical equation or geometric formula, the instrumental music of the early modern era carried no **explicit** narrative content—it was neither a vehicle of religious expression nor a means of supporting a secular (nonreligious) vocalized text. Such music was written without consideration for the associational content traditionally provided by a set of sung lyrics. The idea of music as an aesthetic exercise, composed for its own sake rather than to serve a religious or communal purpose, was a notable feature of the seventeenth century and one that has distinguished modern Western European music from the musical traditions of Asia and Africa.

【Paragraph 2】 Not surprisingly, the rise of instrumental music was accompanied by improvements in instruments and refinements in tuning. Indeed, instrumental music came to dominate musical composition at the very moment that Western musicians were perfecting such stringed instruments as the violin, viola, and cello and such keyboard instruments as the organ and harpsichord. By the early eighteenth century, musicians were adopting the system of tuning known as equal temperament, whereby the octave was divided into twelve half-steps of equal size. Johann Sebastian Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier* (1722) was an attempt to popularize this system to a **skeptical** musical public. The new attention paid to improving instruments and systematizing tuning mirrored the efforts of scientists and philosophers to bring precision and uniformity to the tools and methods for scientific inquiry.

【Paragraph 3】 In the seventeenth century, northern Italy was the world center for the manufacture of violins. The Amati, Guarneri, and Stradivari families of Cremona, Italy, established the techniques of making high-quality violins that were sought in all of the great courts of Europe. Transmitted from father to son, the construction techniques used to produce these instruments were guarded so secretly that modern violinmakers have never successfully imitated them. Elsewhere, around 1650, earlier instruments were standardized and **refined**. Also during this period amateur music making was widespread, and professional performance also took a great leap forward, as a new breed of virtuosi inspired the writing of treatises on performance techniques.

【Paragraph 4】 Three main types of composition—the sonata, the suite, and the concerto—dominated seventeenth-century instrumental music. All three reflect the baroque taste for dramatic contrasts in tempo and texture. The sonata (from the Italian word for “sounded,” that is, music played and not sung) is a piece written for a few instruments—often no more than one or two. It usually consisted of three movements of contrasting tempo—fast/slow/fast—each based on a song or dance form of the time. The suite, written for any combination of instruments, is a sequence or series of movements derived from various European court or folk dances—for example, the sarabande, the pavane, the minuet, and gigue, or jig. Henry Purcell (1659–1695) in England, François Couperin (1668–1733) in France, and Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) in Germany all contributed to the development of the suite as a musical genre. Finally, the concerto (from the same root as concertato, which describes opposing or contrasting bodies of sound) is a composition consisting of two groups of instruments, one small and the other large, playing in dialogue. The typical baroque concerto, the concerto grosso (“large concerto”) featured several movements whose number and kind varied considerably.

【Paragraph 5】 The leading Italian instrumental composer of the baroque era was Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741). Vivaldi wrote some 450 concertos. He systematized the concerto grosso into a three-movement form (fast/slow/fast) and increased the distinctions between solo and ensemble groups in each movement. Of the many exciting compositions Vivaldi wrote for solo violin and ensemble, the most glorious is *The Four Seasons*, a group of four violin concertos, each of which musically describes a single season.

1. According to paragraph 1, all of the following are true of European music written before the seventeenth century EXCEPT:
  - A. It was often in the form of song.
  - B. It was often used to express religious feeling.
  - C. It often featured instruments playing by themselves.
  - D. It often accompanied narrative or story-telling text.



2. The word "explicit" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. complex
  - B. obvious
  - C. practical
  - D. lengthy
3. According to paragraph 1, what is a notable feature of seventeenth-century music?
- A. Secular ideas replaced religion as the central resource for new musical ideas
  - B. Instrumental music was composed as an independent means of artistic expression
  - C. Music combined the musical traditions of Asia, Africa, and Europe
  - D. Instrumental music was written to serve the needs of the community
4. According to paragraph 2, the rise of instrumental music was accompanied by what other changes?
- A. Mixing of string and keyboard instruments in compositions
  - B. Improvements to instruments and systems of tuning
  - C. The invention of new stringed instruments
  - D. A reduced emphasis on the violin and harpsichord in musical composition
5. The word "adopting" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. relying on
  - B. holding on to
  - C. beginning to use
  - D. influenced by
6. The word "skeptical" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. doubting
  - B. ignorant
  - C. growing
  - D. serious



7. Why does the author mention the activities of “scientists and philosophers” in the passage?
- A. To indicate that the new emphasis on accuracy and systematization that was taking place in music was also taking place in other fields
  - B. To suggest that the study of music was no longer limited to musicians only
  - C. To argue that some of the changes in instrumental music originated outside of musical circles
  - D. To provide an example of professions that supported the new approaches in seventeenth-century instrumental music
8. According to paragraph 3, which of the following is true about the production of violins in the seventeenth century?
- A. Violins were made at large manufacturing centers in northern Italy
  - B. Standards of violin design were created and enforced by the great courts of Europe.
  - C. Several families shared design techniques to improve instrument quality.
  - D. Violins were carefully crafted according to specific family traditions
9. The word “refined” in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. Improved
  - B. tested
  - C. regulated
  - D. restored
10. According to paragraph 3, all of the following characterized the developments of seventeenth-century European instrumental music EXCEPT:
- A. Instruments of superior quality were produced
  - B. Manuals on performance techniques were written.
  - C. Individuals accomplished in playing certain instruments gained recognition
  - D. Amateur musical performances replaced professional performances
11. According to paragraph 4, what did sonatas and suites have in common?
- A. They developed as musical genres before the concerto did
  - B. Their movements did not allow for many combinations of instruments.
  - C. Their movements were based on dances



D. They were more popular in Italy than in any other European country.

12. According to paragraph 4, which of the following is a characteristic of a concerto?

A. It was generally performed by only one or two instruments.

B. It required more violins than any other type of composition.

C. It was invented by three famous composers: Purcell, Couperin, and Bach.

D. It consisted of movements that varied in number and kind

13. Look at the four squares 【】 that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage

**Some ancient instruments underwent development; for instance, the shawm became the oboe.**

Where would the sentence best fit? Click on a square 【】 to add the sentence to the passage.

【Paragraph 3】 In the seventeenth century, northern Italy was the world center for the manufacture of violins. The Amati, Guarneri, and Stradivari families of Cremona, Italy, established the techniques of making high-quality violins that were sought in all of the great courts of Europe. 【A】 Transmitted from father to son, the construction techniques used to produce these instruments were guarded so secretly that modern violinmakers have never successfully imitated them.

【B】 Elsewhere, around 1650, earlier instruments were standardized and refined. 【C】 Also during this period amateur music making was widespread, and professional performance also took a great leap forward, as a new breed of virtuosi inspired the writing of treatises on performance techniques. 【D】

**14. In the seventeenth century, instrumental music in western Europe developed in ways that distinguished it from earlier European music and the musical traditions of Asia and Africa.**

Answer Choices

A. Before the seventeenth century, instrumental music was based on mathematical and scientific principles

B. The development of instrumental music in the seventeenth century went along with the improvements in design, tuning, and playing of musical instruments.

C. The Baroque period was dominated by composers from a few aristocratic families from northern Italy.

D. The distinctive feature of seventeenth-century instrumental music was its independence of any text, narrative, or extramusical meaning

E. The instrumental music in sonatas, suites, and concertos was characterized by dramatic contrasts of tempo, texture, and instrumental group

F. After the seventeenth century, most baroque instrumental composers wrote concertos more than any other type of instrument



## Pinyon Pines and Pinyon Jays

【Paragraph 1】 Organisms of different species frequently evolve adaptations that make them utterly and specifically dependent on each other for resources. For example, many trees must have mycorrhizal fungi living in their root systems, fungi that are indispensable to the tree because they **facilitate** mineral uptake from the soil. In turn, the fungi rely on the trees to photosynthesize: they use some of the tree's chemical food as their only energy source. Such intimate relationships are examples of coevolution through which two species become so interdependent that they can thrive only in each other's presence.

【Paragraph 2】 At first glance, the relationship between pinyon pine trees and the pinyon jay does not appear to be one of coevolution. Pinyon pines produce cones and seeds that attract seed predators, especially the pinyon jay. A seed, of course, contains an embryonic plant for the next generation. Why sacrifice it to an animal? Some plants have poisonous seeds, an obvious adaptation to reduce loss to animals. Pinyons, however, have an array of characteristics that combine to encourage jays to visit the pines and help themselves to the seeds. Cones are positioned upward and outward on the tree, so the seeds inside are in plain sight of the jays, essentially inviting them to **partake**. Pinyon seeds are unusually large, and each seed is high in energy. The seed coat is thin, meaning that birds such as pinyon jays can not only ingest the seeds but also digest them. In many plants, an indigestible seed coat permits the seed to pass unharmed through the bird's alimentary system. Pinyon seed coats differ in color between edible and nonviable seeds, signaling the jays as to which they should select.

【Paragraph 3】 Attracting seed predators would not seem to be a successful survival strategy for pinyon pines. However, pinyon jays are behaviorally adapted to bury any seeds in excess of their immediate survival needs. This is a useful behavior for the jays, **providing** they can retrieve some of the buried seeds during winter, and good for the trees, as the unretrieved seeds are ready to germinate. Still, for the jays to bury any seeds, there must be an abundance of seeds far beyond the jays' immediate needs. One tree could never produce **so many seeds**, but if all the pinyons in a region produced heavy seed crops at once, they would indeed "flood the market" with vastly more pinyon seeds than the local population of jays could consume. In fact, that is exactly what the pinyon pines do.

【Paragraph 4】 It requires a great deal of energy to make so many seeds, so much energy that it is unlikely that a pinyon population could produce such a bumper seed crop every year. More important, however, it would be to the severe disadvantage of the trees to produce large seed crops annually, even if they could. Doing so would make the resource not only abundant but also predictable. Seed predators could, over the years, steadily build their populations, eventually increasing so much that they could, indeed, consume virtually all of the seeds. It is much more adaptive for the plants to produce seed cornucopias intermittently. Doing so has several major advantages. First, energy can be stored for some years and then devoted to cone and seed production, ensuring adequate energy to produce a large seed crop. Second, seed-predator populations will decline in years of low seed production, either through starvation, reduced reproduction, or emigration. Pinyons in most areas have a roughly six-year interval between heavy seed crops.

【Paragraph 5】 Pinyon jays have so completely adapted to the cycle of the pinyons that their reproduction is tied to it. Most species of birds mature sexually in response to changes in day length. In pinyon jays, however, day length is only one stimulus for reproduction. The other cue is availability of pinyon seeds. When seeds are abundant, jays can breed very early in spring, continue breeding through summer, and reenter breeding condition as early as the winter solstice. So the jay population temporarily enlarges in response to one of the intermittent large crops of pinyon seeds. But the increase in the population of jays is less than the increase in the size of the seed crop. Thus many of the seeds of a bumper crop are buried and subsequently germinate, many more than would germinate without planting by the jays.

1. The word utterly in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. Practically
- B. frequently
- C. increasingly
- D. completely



2. The word "facilitate" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. useful
  - B. necessary
  - C. available
  - D. adapted
3. According to paragraph 1, mycorrhizal fungi need to live in root systems of trees in order to
- A. absorb minerals
  - B. gain energy
  - C. help the trees photosynthesize
  - D. evolve
4. The word "partake" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. discover
  - B. see
  - C. remove
  - D. consume
5. Which of the following can be inferred about pinyon pines from paragraph 2 ?
- A. Seed predators other than pinyon jays feed on pinyon seeds
  - B. Pinyon jays must eat many pinyon seeds to obtain adequate nutrition
  - C. Seeds located in the interior regions of pinyon pines are particularly attractive to pinyon jays.
  - D. Pinyon pines signal jays to eat only those seeds that are unable to grow.
6. According to paragraph 2, all the following are characteristics of pinyon pine seeds that make them attractive to seed predators EXCEPT:
- A. The seeds are highly visible
  - B. The seeds contain a large amount of energy
  - C. The seeds pass unharmed through the predator's alimentary system
  - D. The seed coat is thin.



7. What purpose does paragraph 2 serve in the passage as a whole?
- A. It presents an exception to the ideas about coevolution provided in paragraph 1
  - B. It presents a puzzle about pinyon pines that later paragraphs will resolve.
  - C. It introduces for further discussion the fact that pinyon pines do not produce poisonous seeds.
  - D. It formulates a hypothesis that the rest of the passage will support about why pinyon pines attract seed predators.
8. The word "providing" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. Once
  - B. since
  - C. whenever
  - D. if
9. The phrase "so many seeds" in the passage refers to
- A. a number of seeds greater than jays can eat immediately
  - B. a number of seeds greater than jays can bury immediately
  - C. the number of seeds produced by one tree
  - D. the number of seeds that jays in a region need to eat
10. It can be inferred from paragraph 4 that the reason the pinyon jay population in an area declines for several years in succession is that
- A. after several years during which pinyon trees produce no seeds, there are not enough young pinyon trees producing seeds to feed the jays
  - B. for several years after a heavy seed crop, pinyon pines stop producing enough seeds to support a large population of jays
  - C. for several years in succession, pinyon jays spend most of their energy in collecting and burying seeds rather than in reproducing
  - D. over a period of several years, the pinyon jays in an area are displaced by other seed-predator species
11. According to paragraph 4, which of the following is a reason why pinyon pines do not produce a bumper seed crop every year?
- A. Pinyon jays would stop burying pinyon seeds if a bumper crop of the seeds was produced every year.
  - B. Pinyon pines are genetically programmed to produce annual seed crops of varying sizes.



- C. With any fixed level of seed production, populations of seed predators would eventually increase to consume the available crop of seeds
- D. The environment cannot support as many pinyon pines as a yearly bumper seed crop would produce.

12. What purpose does the discussion of paragraph 5 serve in the passage as a whole?

- A. It shows that the population size of pinyon jays depends on pinyon pines but that the population size of pinyon pines does not depend on pinyon jays
- B. It provides evidence that pinyon trees benefit more from pinyon jays than the jays benefit from the pines.
- C. It establishes that, fully understood, the relationship between pinyon pines and pinyon jays is one of coevolution
- D. It explains why in years of bumper seed crops, pinyon jays are unable to increase their population to match the increase in the number of available pinyon seeds

13. Look at the four squares **【】** that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

**As a result, less energy will be needed to produce a crop of seeds large enough to flood the reduced market for them.**

Where would the sentence best fit? Click on a square **【】** to add the sentence to the passage.

**【Paragraph 4】** It requires a great deal of energy to make so many seeds, so much energy that it is unlikely that a pinyon population could produce such a bumper seed crop every year. More important, however, it would be to the severe disadvantage of the trees to produce large seed crops annually, even if they could. Doing so would make the resource not only abundant but also predictable. Seed predators could, over the years, steadily build their populations, eventually increasing so much that they could, indeed, consume virtually all of the seeds. It is much more adaptive for the plants to produce seed cornucopias intermittently. **【A】** Doing so has several major advantages. First, energy can be stored for some years and then devoted to cone and seed production, ensuring adequate energy to produce a large seed crop. **【B】** Second, seed-predator populations will decline in years of low seed production, either through starvation, reduced reproduction, or emigration. **【C】** Pinyons in most areas have a roughly six-year interval between heavy seed crops. **【D】**

**14. Although many trees have evolved ways to protect their seeds from predators, pinyon pines attract the seed predators with which they have coevolved.**

Answer Choices

- A. The reproductive cycle of pinyon jays is controlled in part by the variable availability of pinyon seeds.
- B. Pinyon pines ensure a good germination rate for their seeds by producing every few years seeds in such abundance that pinyon jays bury many of them.
- C. Pinyon pines adjust their seed production to the size of the local pinyon jay population so as to assure that each year some pinyon seeds will be buried by jays.
- D. By a process of mutual adaptation, predators and the plants or animals they prey on always come to form a balanced and mutually advantageous relationship
- E. By using color coding prominent display, and high nutritional value, pinyon pines make their seeds worth eating and storing by pinyon jays







## The Rise of Classic Maya Civilization

【Paragraph 1】 Prior to the beginning of the Late Preclassic period in 300 B.c, Maya ceremonial centers of relatively substantial size had already appeared in Central America. The ceremonial center was a distinctive feature of Maya culture, acting as a focus for the community. Generally speaking, these centers were not what we would call cities Although they did consist of a number of large and varied buildings, they did not have a substantial resident population. Some scholars have even labeled these Maya centers “vacant towns” Their permanent population consisted mainly of rulers, priests, and their attendants plus a limited number of artisans. The elite lived in big houses or in palaces in and around the center. The bulk of the peasant population lived in much more modest wood and thatch homes in the areas surrounding the centers. At certain times of the year, on the occasion of major religious festivals such as the one at the time of the planting of their crops, scholars hypothesize, by analogy to historical and modern practices, that the peasants would flock to the centers to observe and participate in the ceremonies. At other times of the year, some of the peasants would be called into the centers to help in the construction of new temples and palaces dedicated to the glory of the gods and to the comforts of their earthly representatives, the priestly rulers. The peasants also would provide the food to help sustain the elite in the centers.

【Paragraph 2】 What the peasants received from the elite was certainly not as tangible as the services they provided. In return for food and labor, the peasants were offered a psychologically and spiritually secure and ordered world, as well as access to some trade goods. Apparently, this was enough. Agriculture in the tropical Maya lowlands was at best a **chancy** business even slight shifts in the onset of the rainy season or the dry season could mean disaster for that year's harvest. The religion of the ancient Maya helped the peasants cope with their **precarious** lives. If the gods were properly propitiated, the crops would be good-as would life in general.

【Paragraph 3】 One archaeologist, William Haviland, argues that it was the centralizing effects of Maya religion that led to the rise of Classic Maya civilization. He believes that the religious centers acted as magnets to peoples living in the surrounding areas. To support the growing populations around the centers, Haviland argues, the agricultural systems became intensified This led to the evolution of a complex state Haviland believes that as early as 200 B.c., the “vacant” ceremonial centers at Tikal had begun transformation toward urban centers. Moreover, by this time or even earlier, other centers with huge, labor-intensive buildings had begun to emerge Sites such as Nakbe, El Mirador, and Lamanai may have approached urban dimensions in the last few centuries of the first millennium B.c

【Paragraph 4】 Other scholars attribute the growth of the ceremonial centers to trade. William Rathje argues that the basic cause for the rise of Maya civilization was the necessity for the Maya, who lived in resource-poor lowlands, to trade with **adjacent** highlanders for materials such as obsidian (a rock used to make ornaments and cutting edges), salt, and hard stone for grinding implements. Rathje maintains that lowland sites such as Tikal, which were quite distant from the highland resource areas, were made bigger and architecturally magnificent to attract highland merchants and their trade. In order to undertake all the building, the elite had to attract more artisans and bring more laborers into the community to do the work. These population increases led in turn to even more building, population growth, greater population density, greater social differentiation, and occupational specialization. Critics have argued, however, that there were local substitutes for the external “necessities” and that foreign trade was present well before the rise of complex architecture.

【Paragraph 5】 Yet other factors beyond ideology and trade must have been important in the emerging Classic Maya civilization. Competition among the growing number of centers may also have played a key role in the growth of social, economic, and political complexity, as the organization of the centers grew to **meet** the pressures of other centers for new agricultural land and control of rising populations.

1. According to paragraph 1, what important feature of cities did Maya ceremonial centers lack?
  - A. Large, varied buildings
  - B. A large, permanent population
  - C. Distinctions between social classes
  - D. Religious temples



2. The word “modest” in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. distant
- B. unpleasant
- C. simple
- D. temporary

3. Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in the passage? Incorrect choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information

【 Paragraph 1 】 Prior to the beginning of the Late Preclassic period in 300 B.c, Maya ceremonial centers of relatively substantial size had already appeared in Central America. The ceremonial center was a distinctive feature of Maya culture, acting as a focus for the community. Generally speaking, these centers were not what we would call cities Although they did consist of a number of large and varied buildings, they did not have a substantial resident population. Some scholars have even labeled these Maya centers “vacant towns” Their permanent population consisted mainly of rulers, priests, and their attendants plus a limited number of artisans. The elite lived in big houses or in palaces in and around the center. The bulk of the peasant population lived in much more modest wood and thatch homes in the areas surrounding the centers. At certain times of the year, on the occasion of major religious festivals such as the one at the time of the planting of their crops, scholars hypothesize, by analogy to historical and modern practices, that the peasants would flock to the centers to observe and participate in the ceremonies. At other times of the year, some of the peasants would be called into the centers to help in the construction of new temples and palaces dedicated to the glory of the gods and to the comforts of their earthly representatives, the priestly rulers. The peasants also would provide the food to help sustain the elite in the centers.

- A. Scholars hypothesize that religious festivals have changed very little in history since the festivals that Mayans held at the times when they planted their crops.
- B. Through the study of historical and modern practices, scholars concluded that Mayans held religious festivals only at certain times of the year.
- C. Based on their knowledge of historical and modern practices, scholars suppose that peasants gathered in the centers at certain times of the year for religious festivals.
- D. Historical and modern evidence suggests that peasants were allowed to visit the centers only during the crop-planting period because of the religious ceremonies held at that time

4. According to paragraph 2, which of the following did the Maya elite provide for the peasants?

- A. Food for nourishment
- B. Homes to live in
- C. Security from the threats of other civilizations
- D. A stable system of beliefs



5. The word "chancy" in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. undeveloped
- B. repetitive
- C. risky
- D. complicated

6. The word "precarious" in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. Insecure
- B. difficult
- C. restricted
- D. unsatisfying

7. According to paragraph 3, which two developments did Haviland identify as leading to the evolution of a complex state? To receive credit, you must select **TWO answers**.

- A. Population growth in the areas surrounding ceremonial centers
- B. Increased agricultural activity
- C. The formation of political alliances among ceremonial centers
- D. A change in religious practice in Maya culture

7. The word "adjacent" in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. Wealthy
- B. neighboring
- C. friendly
- D. interested

8. According to paragraph 4, what is the dispute between William Rathje and his critics?

- A. Whether a need to import obsidian, salt, and grinding stone can explain the growth of ceremonial centers
- B. Whether people in the lowlands communities traded with people in the adjacent highlands.
- C. Whether obsidian was to be found in lowland areas such as Tikal that were distant from the highlands.
- D. Whether the development of ceremonial centers was characterized by complex architecture.



9. According to paragraph 4, all of the following are associated with the rise of Maya civilization EXCEPT

- A. building construction to support an increasing population
- B. increased division into distinct social classes
- C. an increased number of artisans and laborers in the centers
- D. the invention of new agricultural tools

10. Why does the author mention the arguments that "there were local substitutes for the external "necessities" and that foreign trade was present well before the rise of complex architecture"?

【Paragraph 4】 Other scholars attribute the growth of the ceremonial centers to trade. William Rathje argues that the basic cause for the rise of Maya civilization was the necessity for the Maya, who lived in resource-poor lowlands, to trade with adjacent highlanders for materials such as obsidian (a rock used to make ornaments and cutting edges), salt, and hard stone for grinding implements. Rathje maintains that lowland sites such as Tikal, which were quite distant from the highland resource areas, were made bigger and architecturally magnificent to attract highland merchants and their trade. In order to undertake all the building, the elite had to attract more artisans and bring more laborers into the community to do the work. These population increases led in turn to even more building, population growth, greater population density, greater social differentiation, and occupational specialization. Critics have argued, however, that there were local substitutes for the external "necessities" and that foreign trade was present well before the rise of complex architecture.

- A. To explain why complex architecture at Maya centers may have developed later than most people believe it did
- B. To suggest that foreign trade was a more significant factor than local trade in the rise of Maya civilization
- C. To indicate why some scholars reject the idea that the architectural growth of Maya ceremonial centers was due to trade
- D. To support the idea that minerals were not the main goods that the Mayas imported from highland areas

11. The word "meet" in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. deal with
- B. increase
- C. combine
- D. take advantage of

12. Look at the four squares 【】 that indicate where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

**The social status of the Mayans largely determined where they lived.**

Where would the sentence best fit? Click on a square 【】 to add the sentence to the passage



【 Paragraph 1 】 Prior to the beginning of the Late Preclassic period in 300 B.c, Maya ceremonial centers of relatively substantial size had already appeared in Central America. The ceremonial center was a distinctive feature of Maya culture, acting as a focus for the community. Generally speaking, these centers were not what we would call cities. 【A】 Although they did consist of a number of large and varied buildings, they did not have a substantial resident population. Some scholars have even labeled these Maya centers “vacant towns” . 【B】 Their permanent population consisted mainly of rulers, priests, and their attendants plus a limited number of artisans. 【C】 The elite lived in big houses or in palaces in and around the center. 【D】 The bulk of the peasant population lived in much more modest wood and thatch homes in the areas surrounding the centers. At certain times of the year, on the occasion of major religious festivals such as the one at the time of the planting of their crops, scholars hypothesize, by analogy to historical and modern practices, that the peasants would flock to the centers to observe and participate in the ceremonies. At other times of the year, some of the peasants would be called into the centers to help in the construction of new temples and palaces dedicated to the glory of the gods and to the comforts of their earthly representatives, the priestly rulers. The peasants also would provide the food to help sustain the elite in the centers.

13. During the Late Preclassic period, Maya ceremonial centers started to develop into populated cities.

#### Answer Choices

- A. As the number of ceremonial centers increased, competition over land and people may have led to greater cultural complexity.
- B. During the Late Preclassic period, Maya rulers and priests started to occupy areas closer to the ceremonial centers.
- C. Lowlanders’ needs for certain trade goods may have been critical for the development of densely populated, centralized areas.
- D. Sites such as Nakbe, El Mirador, and Lamanai may have approached urban dimensions at an earlier time than Tikal did
- E. The important religious function of Maya ceremonial centers is one possible explanation for their transformation into large, urban areas