

# Chapter 11 Organizer

Use with Student Text pages 290–316.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the codex organizer as you study the chapter. Follow the page numbers on the codex pages throughout the activity (pp. 159–62).

<p><b>1 Mesoamerica</b> (pp. 290–91)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ Scientists who study the origins of man are called <b>anthropologists</b>.</li><li>♦ The Yucatán Peninsula is a landmass that extends into the <b>Gulf of Mexico</b>.</li><li>♦ One of the largest, most famous Olmec cities was <b>La Venta</b>.</li><li>♦ The most famous Olmec findings are the <b>stone heads</b>.</li><li>♦ The Olmecs used a type of volcanic rock called <b>basalt</b> for carving.</li></ul>	<p><b>2 Mayan Land and Achievements</b> (pp. 296–98)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ The Olmecs were known as the “<b>rubber people</b>”.</li><li>♦ The Mayas got fresh water from deep sinkholes called <b>cenotes</b>.</li><li>♦ One of the largest Mayan city-states was <b>Tikal</b>.</li><li>♦ The Mayas developed the mathematical concept of <b>zero</b>.</li><li>♦ A Mayan book with accordion pages is called a <b>codex</b>.</li></ul>	<p>Glue to A.</p>  <p>3</p>	<p><b>3 Mayan Appearance and Social Classes</b> (pp. 299–303)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ The sloping forehead was considered a <b>true sign</b> of beauty.</li><li>♦ To achieve crossed eyes, parents hung a <b>bead</b> between the baby's eyes.</li><li>♦ The Mayas would often file their teeth into points and inlay them with <b>jade</b>.</li><li>♦ The top social class thought to have descended from the gods was the <b>kings</b>.</li><li>♦ The second social class included at least four classes of <b>priests</b> and the nobles.</li></ul>	<p>Glue to B.</p>  <p>4</p>
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Cut on solid lines.

15

- Aztecs did not use animals for transporting goods but instead used \_\_\_\_\_ ***dugout canoes***.

**Spanish Invasion** (pp. 315–16)

- When the Spanish conquistadors came, the Aztec emperor was \_\_\_\_\_ ***Montezuma***.
- Cortés and the conquistadors gained control of all Tenochtitlán and many surrounding ***territories***.
- Not only were the Mesoamerican peoples defeated in battle with Europeans, but they also lost their ***culture***.



13

**Mesoamerican Beliefs and the Bible** (p. 312)

- The gospel message is the power of God to bring people \_\_\_\_\_ ***salvation*** (Rom. 1:19–23).
- Mesoamericans believed in many \_\_\_\_\_ ***gods***, but the Bible teaches that there is only one true ***God***.

14

**Aztec Social Classes and Economy** (pp. 313–14)

- Aztec warriors were brave and \_\_\_\_\_ ***noble***.
- The social classes of the Aztecs were similar to those of other \_\_\_\_\_ ***Mesoamerican*** civilizations.



Cut on solid lines.

16

Glue this page to the front cover.

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**Spanish Invasion** (pp. 315–16)

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- Not only were the Mesoamerican peoples defeated in battle with Europeans, but they also lost their ***culture***.

- 13
- Mesoamericans worshiped \_\_\_\_\_ ***nature*** rather than the Creator of nature.
  - The Old Testament taught \_\_\_\_\_ ***animal sacrifice***, and the New Testament teaches the only sacrifice necessary is the ***Son of God***.
- 14
- Like the Mayas, the Aztecs used \_\_\_\_\_ ***hieroglyphs*** to represent their spoken language.
  - The Aztecs developed technology based on the knowledge they gained from the ***Mayas***.

A

# Chapter 11 Organizer

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the codex organizer as you study the chapter. Follow the page numbers on the codex pages throughout the activity (pp. 159–62).

<p>5      • At the bottom of society were the <u>slaves</u> and prisoners of war. • Important prisoners were <u>sacrificed</u> to the gods.</p> <p><b>Mayan Dress</b> (p. 302)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The men wore tunics, <u>loincloths</u>, and short capes.</li><li>• Women wore long blouses and wraparound skirts or <u>straight, plain dresses</u>.</li><li>• The Mayas considered the cacao bean very valuable and used it as their <u>money</u>.</li></ul>	<p>6      • <b>Mayan Homes and Daily Life</b> (pp. 304–5)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Large houses near the city centers belonged to the <u>nobles</u>.</li><li>◆ The walls of the houses were covered with a decorative plaster called <u>stucco</u>.</li><li>◆ Another term for corn is <u>maize</u>.</li><li>◆ In the dry season, farmers would travel into the <u>rainforest</u> and cut down trees.</li><li>◆ The farmers planted corn in the ashes of the burned stumps and the <u>underbrush</u>.</li></ul></p>	<p>7      • A favorite Mayan drink made from corn paste and water was <u>pozole</u>. • The blades of weapons and tools were made of a sharp glasslike volcanic rock called <u>obsidian</u>.</p>	<p>8      • Mayas thought that the gods must be satisfied with <u>human blood</u>. • Mayas were very fearful of <u>death</u>. • So that they would have money for the next life, <u>jade</u> was placed in the mouths of people who died.</p>
<p><b>Mayan Religion</b> (pp. 306–8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Religion dominated the whole Mayan <u>society</u>.</li><li>• The Mayas thought the world was a flat square atop a giant <u>crocodile</u> god.</li><li>• The Mayas believed that almost everything had its own <u>god</u>.</li></ul>	<p><b>Mayan Ball Game</b> (p. 307)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Every city had at least one ball <u>court</u>.</li><li>• The goal of the Mayan ball game was to hit a small <u>rubber ball</u> through a vertical hoop.</li></ul>	<p>Cut on solid lines. </p>  	

11

- Lake Texcoco was where the Aztecs built one of the **largest cities** of their time.
- The Aztecs bundled twigs, limbs, and sticks together and piled silt on top to make garden islands called **chinampas**.

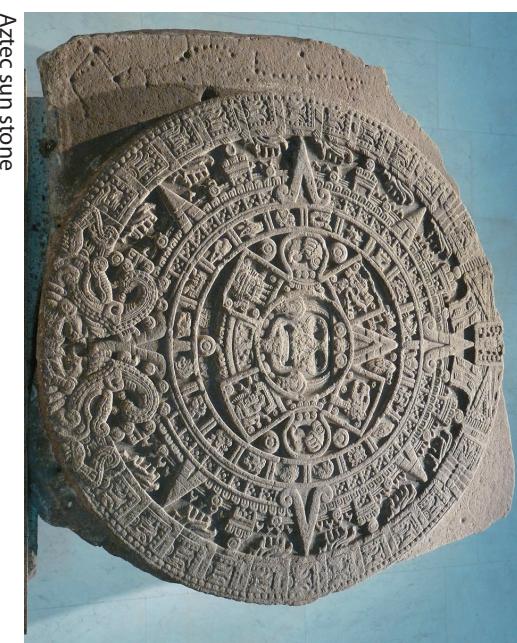
**Aztec Religion** (pp. 311–12)

- Most religious ceremonies and rituals took place at the **Templo Mayor**.
- The Aztecs believed their sun god had a tremendous appetite for blood and **human hearts**.
- The Spanish conquistador **Hernando Cortés** was horrified by the Aztecs' ritual sacrifices.



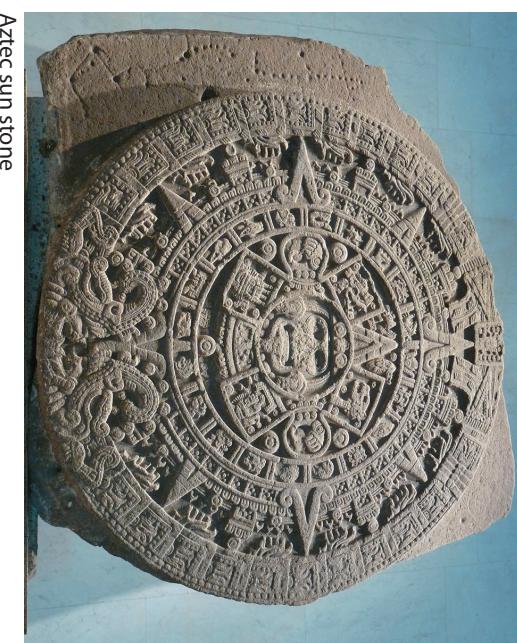
9

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B

12



B

X Cut on solid lines.

10

- The only social class allowed to play the game was the **nobles**.
- Scholars believe that at the end of the game, some of the **losers** were sacrificed to the gods.

**Aztecs** (pp. 310–11)

- The Aztec civilization developed a complete **language** and amazing **technology**.
- Tenochtitlán, built on two small islands, is the site where **Mexico City** stands today.

C



# Rubber People

Use with Student Text pages 290–94.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A. Fill in the blanks.

1. Scientists who study the origins of man are called

A N T H R O P O L O G I S T S.

2. As people migrated to what is now Alaska, they may have passed over the

B E R I N G S T R A I T.

3. The Yucatán Peninsula extends into the G U L F O F

M E X I C O.

4. Rich sources of lumber and good places to grow coffee, cotton, and rubber trees can be found in the R A I N F O R E S T  
and H I G H L A N D S.

5. One of the earliest civilizations in Mesoamerica was the O L M E C S.

6. The major center of the Olmec civilization included the cities of Potrero Nuevo,

S A N L O R E N Z O, and  
T E N O C H T I T L Á N.

7. The largest and most famous Olmec city was L A V E N T A.

8. A type of volcanic rock used by the Olmecs for carving was B A S A L T.

9. The name Olmec means “R U B B E R P E O P L E.”

## B. Unscramble the circled letters to complete the statement.

10. The lands from central Mexico to Costa Rica in Central America are known as

M E S O A M E R I C A.

## C. Color the map according to the key.

[Color Box]	Pacific Ocean
[Color Box]	Gulf of Mexico
[Color Box]	Yucatán Peninsula
[Color Box]	Mexico



# Drawing Conclusions

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Use with Student Text page 295.

- A. Examine each item in the paper bag and record your observations. Use the topics below to help guide your observations.**

buildings  
dress

languages  
material made of

numbers  
people

religion  
words

Item		Observations
1.	<i>Answers will vary.</i>	<i>Answers will vary.</i>
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

- B. Answer the questions. *Answers will vary.***

11. Is the person male or female? \_\_\_\_\_ What item or items tell this? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What item tells you how old the person is? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What item or items tell the hobbies or interests of the person? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Does the person like to learn or read? \_\_\_\_\_ How do you know? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Can you determine the person's heritage or nationality? \_\_\_\_\_ How? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What language does the person speak? \_\_\_\_\_ How did you determine it? \_\_\_\_\_

- C. Write the identity of the owner of the bag.**

17. \_\_\_\_\_

# Study Guide

Use with Student Text pages 290–99.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A. Complete each sentence.

1. Someone who studies the origins of man is called an anthropologist.
2. The most famous archaeological find from the Olmec civilization is the stone heads.
3. Two of the earliest civilizations found in Mesoamerica are the Olmecs and the Mayas.
4. A true sign of beauty to the Mayas was a sloping forehead.

## B. Write **T** if the statement is true. If the statement is false, draw a line through the incorrect part and write the correction in the blank.

cenote

5. A codex is a deep sinkhole filled with fresh water.

Yucatán Peninsula

6. The Valley of Mexico is a landmass that extends into the Gulf of Mexico.

T

7. The priest who tried to convert the Mayas to Roman Catholicism was Diego de Landa.

## C. Match the description to the correct term.

- F 8. major urban center of Olmec civilization  
A 9. volcanic rock used for carving  
C 10. largest and most famous Olmec city  
E 11. first people to use rubber  
G 12. largest Mayan city-state  
B 13. Mayan accordion-style book  
D 14. one of the first peoples to develop the concept of zero

- A. basalt  
B. codex  
C. La Venta  
D. Mayas  
E. Olmecs  
F. San Lorenzo Tenochtitlán  
G. Tikal

## D. Complete the section.

15. The three geographic areas where the Mayas built their homes were rainforests, high plateaus, and lowlands.
16. Name six Mayan advances in art, architecture, literature, math, and astronomy.  
*possible answers: books, sculptures, construction of palaces and temples, irrigation systems, music and songs, games, idea of zero, calendar based on the cycles of the moon and sun, discovery of the orbits of the planets, and prediction of an eclipse of the sun*

## E. First, plan the essays on your own paper. Then, write them on a new sheet of paper. Possible answers appear on page 165a.

17. Describe the Mayan writing and the making of a codex.
18. Describe the Mayan physical appearance and how it was achieved.

Answers to essay questions on page 165.

17. Describe the Mayan writing and the making of a codex.

*The student's essay should include the following information: Mayan writing was a combination of words and sound units. Anything that could be spoken could be written. The Mayas pulled bark off the fig trees and soaked it in water. Then they beat the bark with wooden hammers and stretched it. The material was then cut into strips. Each strip was coated with a thin layer of a gummy substance for strength. Then the strip was painted with lime. Scribes wrote and drew on the paper with paints made from vegetables and minerals. When the strips were dry, they were folded in an accordion fashion and bound between wooden covers.*

18. Describe the Mayan physical appearance and how it was achieved.

*The student's essay should include a reasonable amount of the following information: The Mayas were about five feet tall. They usually wore their thick, dark hair in braids. They appeared to have long noses and sloping foreheads. Some used clay to create this look. Parents bound newborns' heads between boards until the soft bones grew into a slanted, almost cone shape. Mayas also preferred crossed eyes. Parents hung a bead between the baby's eyes so that they grew permanently crossed. The men shaved the hair above the foreheads to show off their slanting foreheads. Mayas tattooed symbols on their arms, legs, and faces. They pierced their ears, and the men wore earplugs in holes sliced into their lobes. Both men and women would often file their teeth to points and inlay them with jade.*

Answers to essay questions on page 167.

8. Describe how the Mayas farmed during the dry season.

*The student's essay should include these points: In the dry seasons, farmers went into the rainforests and cut down trees. They burned the stumps and the underbrush. In the ashes they planted corn. This worked well for a year or two, but the soil wore out quickly. The farmers would then move to a new place and start again.*

9. Describe the Mayan ball game.

*The student's essay should these main points: The Mayan ball court was shaped like a capital letter I. The goal of the game was to hit a small rubber ball through a vertical hoop or onto a marker on the side of the wall. The players could only use their padded wrists, elbows, and hips. Only the nobles could play the ball game, but everyone could watch. The game also had serious religious meaning. Some scholars believe that some members of the losing team may have been sacrificed to the gods in a ceremony after the game.*

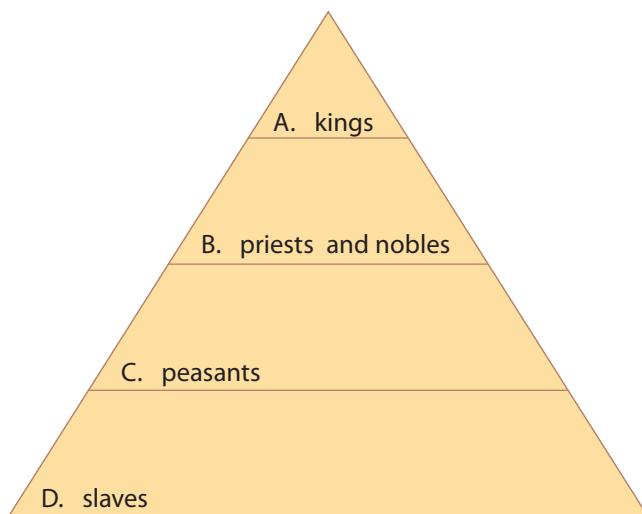
# Mayan Culture

Use with Student Text pages 301–4.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A. Match the description to the correct social class.

- B** 1. teachers
- C** 2. wooden houses with grass-thatched roofs
- B** 3. large houses near the city center
- A** 4. descendants of the gods
- D** 5. prisoners of war
- B** 6. doctors and fortunetellers
- D** 7. debtors and criminals
- C** 8. soldiers
- A** 9. palaces that covered many acres
- B** 10. governmental officials



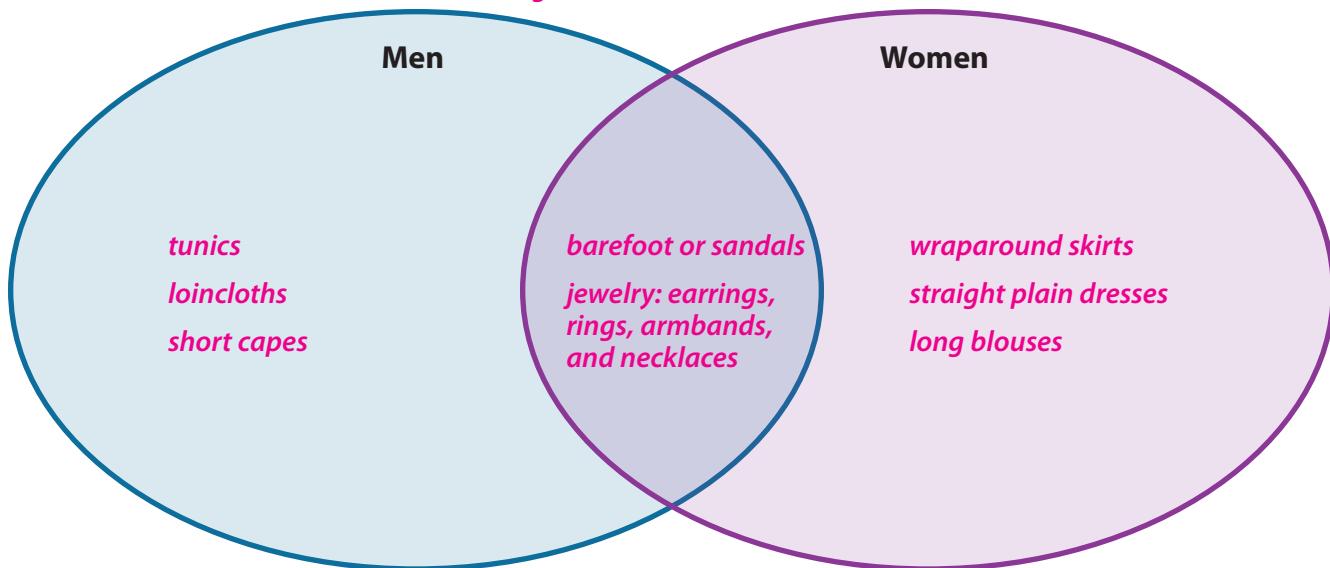
## B. Complete each sentence.

- money** 11. Cacao beans were used for \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- stucco** 12. Decorative plaster used in homes is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- maize** 13. Mayas raised corn, which is also called \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- hot chocolate** 14. Mayas invented a drink from powdered cacao beans called \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- sacrifices** 15. Important prisoners were sometimes used for \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## C. Number the steps in the order that the Mayas used when farming during the dry seasons.

- 2** 16. cut down the trees  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4** 18. planted corn in the ashes  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3** 17. burned stumps and underbrush  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1** 19. went into the rainforest  
\_\_\_\_\_

## D. Complete the Venn diagram to compare and contrast Mayan dress for men and women. *Possible answers are given.*



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# Study Guide

Use with Student Text pages 301–8.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A. Write the characteristics under the correct social class.

criminals descended from the gods educated men and women feathers woven in clothes large houses near city center	lived in palaces offered sacrifices prisoners of war scribes soldiers	wooden houses with thatched roofs wore jaguar skins wore plain tunics and dresses
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Kings	Priests and nobles	Peasants	Slaves
<i>descended from the gods lived in palaces wore jaguar skins</i>	<i>educated men and women feathers woven in clothes large houses near city center offered sacrifices scribes</i>	<i>soldiers wooden houses with thatched roofs wore plain tunics and dresses</i>	<i>criminals prisoners of war</i>

## B. Write *T* if the statement is true. If the statement is false, draw a line through the incorrect part and write the correction in the blank.

*Obsidian*

1. Jade is a glasslike volcanic rock that Mayas used to make the blades of tools and weapons.

*T*

2. The Mayas traded between the highlands and the lowlands to get what they needed.

*T*

3. The Mayas used cacao beans as money.

*corn*

4. Maize was a kind of wheat grown by the Mayas.

## C. Answer the questions.

5. What is stucco and where was it used by the Mayas? *Stucco is a decorative plaster that was used on the walls of Mayan homes.*

6. What does the word *appease* mean? *to satisfy*

7. Why did the Mayas fear death? *Because the only people sure of entering paradise were the priests, the warriors who had died in battle, and the people who had been sacrificed by the priests. All others had to hope that some god did not condemn them to the underworld.*

## D. First, plan the essays on your own paper. Then, write them on a new sheet of paper. Possible answers appear on page 165a.

8. Describe how the Mayas farmed during the dry season.

9. Describe the Mayan ball game.

What is the first thing you think of when you hear the word *pyramid*? Egypt? Pharaohs? Pyramids have been built in many types and sizes and can be found not only in Egypt but all over the world, including Mesoamerica.

## Purpose

Egyptian pyramids were built as tombs for pharaohs. They were designed to protect the pharaoh as he waited to pass into the afterlife. The Mesoamerican pyramids on occasion were used as tombs. Their main purpose, however, was for religious rituals and ceremonies, such as human sacrifice.

## Construction

The construction of the Egyptian pyramids occurred primarily during the Old Kingdom, which dates them around 2700–2100 BC. The Egyptians used only cut stone when building and decorating a pyramid. This enabled them to build a sturdy central core that lasted for centuries. This permanence was very important, since they believed that the pharaoh was a god.

Because the purpose of the Mesoamerican pyramid was different, its construction was also different. The core of the pyramid was assembled by piling up large stones of different sizes and was supported by an outer wall. These pyramids were probably not constructed until sometime between 100 BC and AD 300.

## Appearance

The pyramid's appearance in both civilizations is immediately recognizable. Most Egyptian pyramids had a square base with four triangular sides with a common point at the top. The stones were very polished and not decorated or covered with any other material. Mesoamerican pyramids were wider and smaller in size. They rose in a series of steps. Stucco that was sometimes painted red covered each



The Great Pyramid is the largest of the three Egyptian pyramids at Giza (top). This Mesoamerican pyramid is known as Chichén-Itzá (bottom).

pyramid. They had a flat top where the temple was built.

## Location

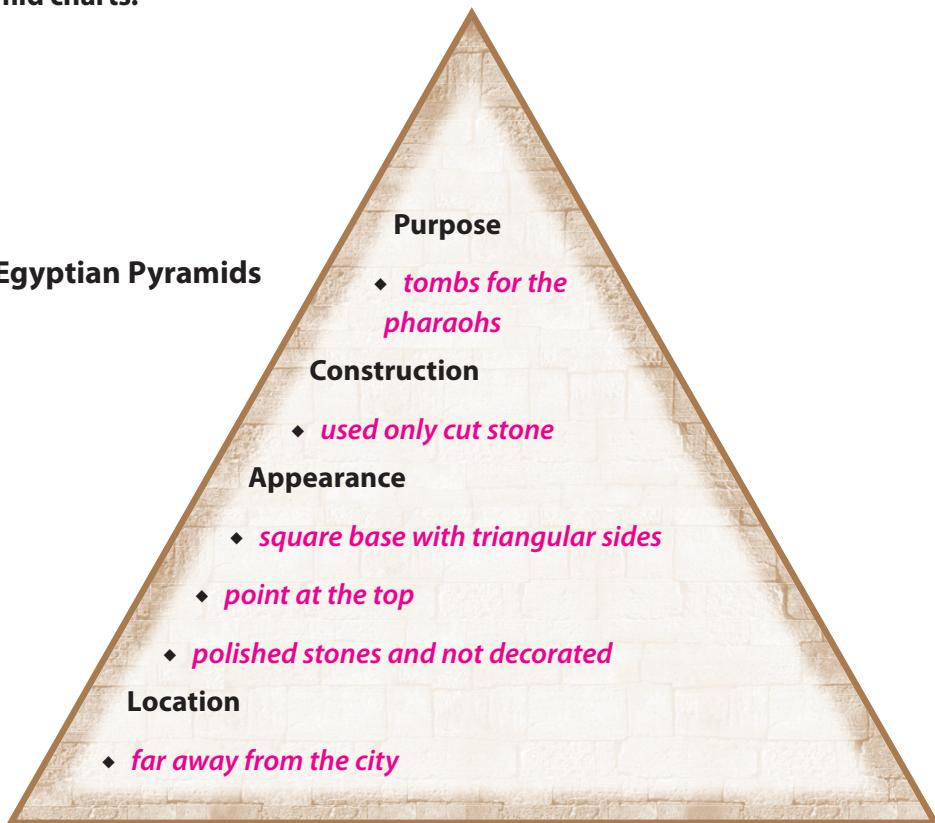
Since Mesoamerican pyramids were used for religious ceremonies and rituals, they were built in the center of the cities. Visible doors and staircases lead archaeologists to assume that the pyramids were built to be entered and ascended by people. The Egyptian pyramids were tombs, and no one entered once the dead pharaoh was buried. These pyramids were never built in the city but were built far away to symbolize the importance of the pharaoh as an Egyptian god.

# Contrasting Pyramids

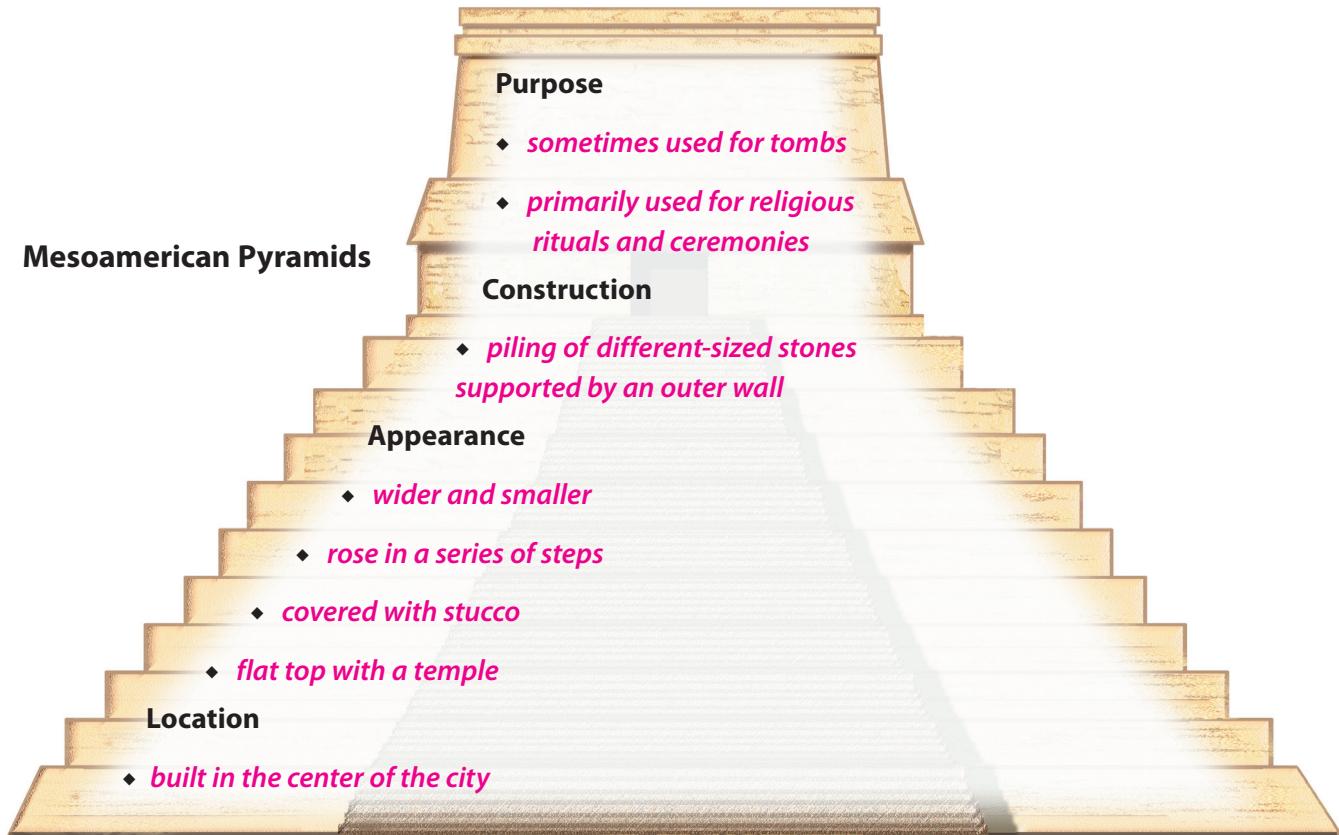
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the pyramid charts.

## Egyptian Pyramids



## Mesoamerican Pyramids



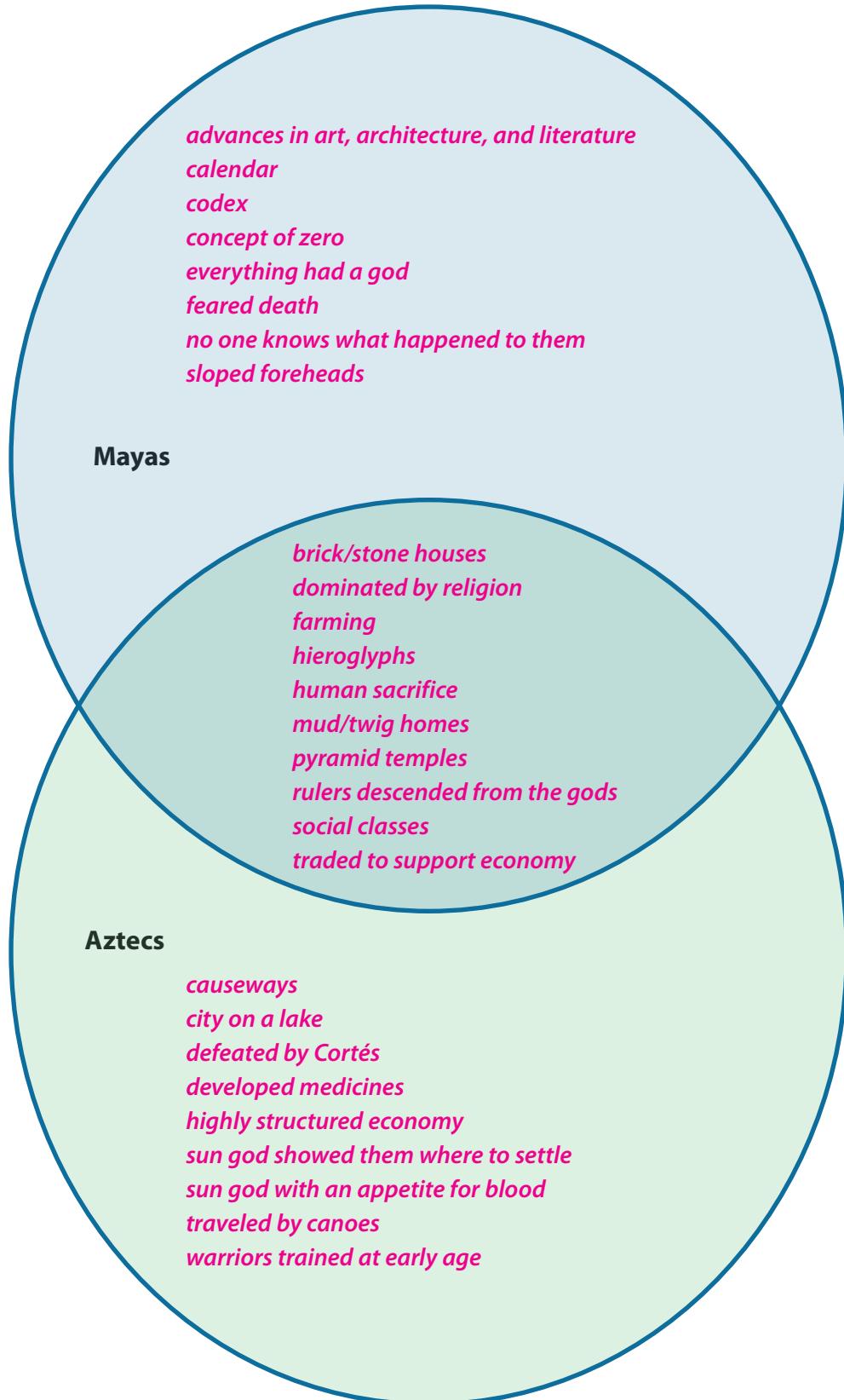
# Comparison Organizer

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Use with Student Text pages 296–316.

Complete the Venn diagram as you read about the Aztecs. Compare and contrast the Aztecs with the Mayas by writing the phrases in the correct section.

advances in art, architecture, and literature  
brick/stone houses  
calendar  
causeways  
city on a lake  
codex  
concept of zero  
defeated by Cortés  
developed medicines  
dominated by religion  
everything had a god  
farming  
feared death  
hieroglyphs  
highly structured economy  
human sacrifice  
mud/twig homes  
no one knows what happened to them  
pyramid temples  
rulers descended from the gods  
sloped foreheads  
social classes  
sun god showed them where to settle  
sun god with an appetite for blood  
traded to support economy  
traveled by canoes  
warriors trained at early age



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# Idols of the Heart

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ezekiel 14:3 tells about the Israelites worshiping idols of the heart. “These men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face.” The Israelites not only had material idols but also were so in love with their idols that they could not think of anything else. Their whole life was devoted to their idols.

The Mesoamerican culture had many idols or gods. Nearly everything had a god who had to be appeased by the shedding of human blood through sacrifices. One definition for the word *idol* is a

statue, a picture, or another object that is worshiped as a god. Another definition is a person or a thing that is admired or loved very much. Christians do not worship a carved image. A Christian worships the one true God, Who sent His Son, Jesus, as the one-time sacrifice for sin. However, Christians may be guilty of worshiping idols of the heart, such as entertainment, money, sports, and people.

Is there something other than the Lord Jesus Christ that is consuming your time and affections? What is taking first place in your heart and life?

## A. Complete the section.

Name something that may be an idol in your life, something that is taking the time and affections that should belong to Christ. *Answers will vary.*

## B. Read the Bible verse. Write the part of the verse that answers the question. *Answers may vary depending on which Bible translation the student uses.*

Bible verse	Question	Answer in the Bible verse
Exodus 20:3	Are Christians to worship any other gods?	<i>“no other gods before me”</i>
Exodus 20:5	What does God command Christians not to do?	<i>“Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them.”</i>
Deuteronomy 4:28	How does God describe idols?	<i>“the work of men’s hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell”</i>
Judges 3:7	What is worshiping other gods and idols described as?	<i>“evil in the sight of the Lord”</i>
2 Kings 17:12	What was God’s command concerning idols?	<i>“Ye shall not do this thing.”</i>
Psalm 37:4	Whom are Christians to take pleasure in?	<i>“Delight thyself also in the Lord.”</i>
Luke 4:8	Whom does God’s Word say that Christians should worship?	<i>“Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.”</i>

# Study Guide

Use with Student Text pages 310–16.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## A. Complete the section.

1. What is a chinampa? a garden island made by bunching twigs, limbs, and sticks together and piling silt on top
2. What was the primary location in Tenochtitlán for religious ceremonies? Templo Mayor
3. Why were the Aztecs feared by surrounding neighbors? They fought to capture prisoners to sacrifice to their gods.
4. Name two possible reasons for the downfall of the Aztecs. possible answers:
  - ◆ Some of their superstitions led the Aztecs to believe that the enemy was a tool of the gods. The Aztecs had been weakened by an unknown epidemic. The attack during harvest time put the Aztecs at a disadvantage. The Aztecs lost their will to survive since they had lost their culture and were unable to practice their religious beliefs.

## B. Match the description to the correct term. Not all answers are used.

- I 5. emperor of the Aztecs  
E 6. defeated the Aztec empire  
D 7. wall to prevent flooding  
C 8. conquistador  
B 9. land bridge  
A 10. developed a complete language and amazing technology  
F 11. site of one of the largest cities of the then-known world  
H 12. modern-day city on site of Tenochtitlán

- A. Aztecs  
B. causeway  
C. conqueror  
D. dike  
E. Hernando Cortés  
F. Lake Texcoco  
G. La Venta  
H. Mexico City  
I. Montezuma

## C. Fill in the blanks.

13–18. Contrast the Mesoamerican beliefs with biblical truth.

Mesoamerican beliefs	Biblical truth
Mesoamericans believed in many gods. They believed that the <u>sun god</u> was superior.	The Bible teaches that there is only one <u>true God</u> and no other gods.
Mesoamericans chose to worship <u>nature</u> rather than the Creator of <u>nature</u> .	God commands man to have dominion over <u>nature</u> and to be a good steward of it.
Mesoamericans believed a blood sacrifice was necessary and sacrificed <u>humans</u> .	The Old Testament taught animal <u>sacrifice</u> , and the New Testament teaches the only sacrifice necessary is the <u>Son of God</u> .

# Study Guide

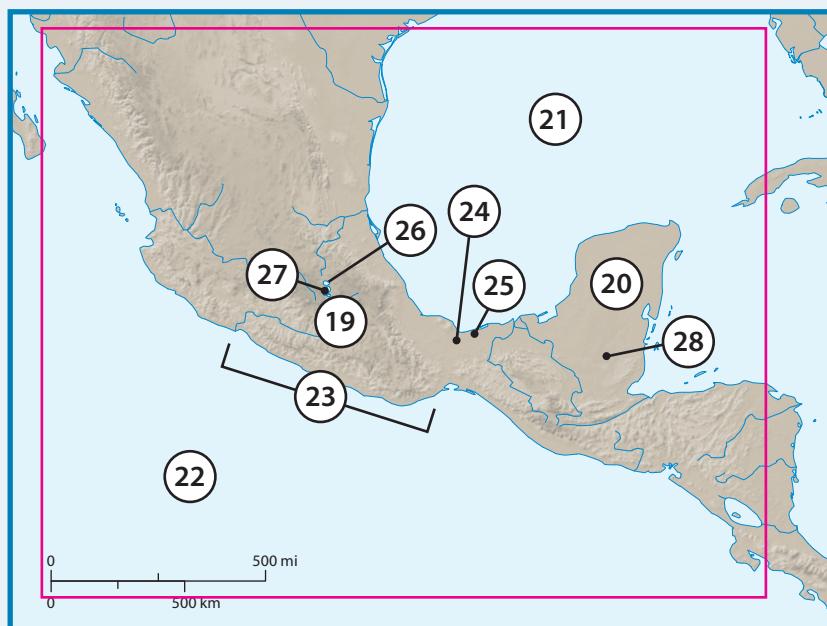
Use with Student Text pages 292, 310–16.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## D. Identify the places on the map.

19. \_\_\_\_\_ Valley of Mexico
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Yucatán Peninsula
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Gulf of Mexico
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific Ocean
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Sierra Madre del Sur
24. \_\_\_\_\_ San Lorenzo Tenochtitlán
25. \_\_\_\_\_ La Venta
26. \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Texcoco (water)
27. \_\_\_\_\_ Tenochtitlán (city)
28. \_\_\_\_\_ Tikal

29. Draw a box around the approximate area of Mesoamerica.



## E. First, plan the essay on your own paper. Then, write your essay in the space below.

30. Compare and contrast the Aztecs with the Mayas. Include at least two differences and three similarities.

*See the Venn diagram on page 170 for suggested differences and similarities that the student may include in his essay.*

# Chapter 11 Summary

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Define these terms

anthropologist	codex
appease	conquistador
basalt	dike
causeway	maize
cenote	obsidian
chinampa	stucco

## Locate these places

Gulf of Mexico	Sierra Madre del Sur
Lake Texcoco	Tenochtitlán
La Venta	Tikal
Mesoamerica	Valley of Mexico
Pacific Ocean	Yucatán Peninsula
San Lorenzo Tenochtitlán	



I-shaped ball court of the Mayas

## Tell about these people

Diego de Landa  
Hernando Cortés  
Montezuma

## Explain what happened

the building of Tenochtitlán (Mexico City)  
the overthrow of the Aztec Empire

## Be able to . . .

- Write an essay describing the Mayan physical appearance and how it was achieved
- Identify the two earliest civilizations in Mesoamerica
- Identify the most famous archaeological find of the Olmecs
- Identify the first people believed to have used rubber
- Identify the geographic areas where the Mayas built their homes
- Identify the Mayan achievements in arts, architecture, literature, math, and astronomy
- Describe Mayan writing and the making of a codex
- Identify the Mayan social classes
- Describe the Mayan dress and architecture for the different social classes
- Describe how Mayas farmed during the dry seasons
- Identify the Mayan money
- Describe how trade benefited the Mayan empire
- Describe the Mayan ball game
- Explain why the Mayas feared death
- Identify the religious building in Tenochtitlán
- Contrast the Mesoamerican beliefs with biblical truth
- Describe why the Aztecs were feared
- Compare and contrast the Aztecs with the Mayas