

ANCIENT AMERICANS: THE MAYAS AND AZTECS

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Multiple Choice

Directions: Identify which civilization was involved in the following practices by choosing either "A" or "B".

A. Maya B. Aztec

1. ____ Carved dates and the names of their rulers on stelae.
2. ____ Played a ball game with a rubber ball.
3. ____ Created an empire in Mexican highlands.
4. ____ Had many small kingdoms, or "city-states."
5. ____ Performed the most human sacrifices.
6. ____ Lived in eastern Mexico, Guatemala and western Honduras.
7. ____ Capital was Tenochtitlan.
8. ____ Created more farm land by making artificial islands called "chinampas."
9. ____ Their noble-priests gave blood offerings to their gods.
10. ____ Cortes attacked and conquered this civilization.

TRUE OR FALSE

Directions: Choose "T" for a true statement or an "F" for a false statement.

1. ____ Maya astronomers were able to predict eclipses of the moon.
2. ____ At first, Hernando Cortés was welcomed by the Aztec ruler.
3. ____ The Christian conquerors of Mexico liked the Aztec religion.
4. ____ Tikal was a large Aztec city at the time when Cortés invaded Mexico.
5. ____ The Mayas used a number system based on the number 20.
6. ____ Most people sacrificed at Tenochtitlan were captured in war.
7. ____ Waves of Olmecs migrated down from the north and moved into the Valley of Mexico.

FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

Directions: Fill in the blank with the word from the box below which best completes the statement

1. Agriculture, towns, social organization, and a high development of art and science are marks of _____.
2. Corn, the most important grain grown in Mesoamerica, is also called _____.
3. Aztec sacrifices usually involved cutting out the _____ of a living person.
4. Scientists believe that the first people in the New World came from _____ during the last ice age.
5. _____ was the leader of the Spanish invasion of Mexico in 1519.
6. Civilization developed in the New World after the ancient Americans shifted from hunting and gathering to _____.
7. An Aztec book, called a _____, was filled with illustrations and picture writing.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| A. Asia | A. Heart |
| B. Agriculture | B. Maize |
| C. Civilization | |
| D. Codex | |
| E. Cortes | |