

Chapter 6 Questions**Multiple Choice**

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question. The section number for the question is in the parentheses.

- _____ 1. According to their religion, the Maya believed that (1)
a. kings and priests could communicate with the gods.
b. their kings should be worshipped as living gods.
c. priests and nobles should not mix together.
d. human sacrifice was forbidden by the gods.
- _____ 2. The first Mesoamerican civilizations began (1)
a. right after people crossed the Bering Land Bridge.
b. once people learned to mine obsidian.
c. once people learned how to farm in poor rain forest soils.
d. once people learned to fish along the jungle coasts.
- _____ 3. A major breakthrough of the Maya was (1)
a. creating metal tools. c. inventing the wheel.
b. domesticating horses and oxen. d. developing the concept of zero.
- _____ 4. How did the Aztecs take control of the basin known as the Valley of Mexico? (2)
a. They were the first civilization to develop in the area.
b. They built a dike that cut off their enemies from Lake Texcoco.
c. They conquered their neighbors with a powerful army.
d. They produced trade goods that made them wealthy.
- _____ 5. At its peak, the Aztec Empire (2)
a. controlled all of present-day Mexico.
b. extended from central Mexico to Guatemala.
c. controlled only the Valley of Mexico.
d. had a population of one million people.
- _____ 6. The group that ruled the Aztec empire was known as (2)
a. the Supreme Council. c. the War Council.
b. the Triple Alliance. d. the absolute monarchy.
- _____ 7. Many feats of Aztec engineering were made necessary by Tenochtitlan's location (2)
a. in the middle of a harsh desert. c. on a small island in a shallow lake.
b. at a high altitude in the mountains. d. in the middle of a dense jungle.
- _____ 8. By studying the glyphs on Maya stela, scholars have learned about (1)
a. Maya sporting events. c. tribute collected by the Maya.
b. the deeds of Maya rulers. d. daily Maya life.
- _____ 9. Maya astronomers created three major types of (1)
a. star charts. c. mathematics.
b. observatories. d. calendars.

Name: _____

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- _____ 10. The Olmec civilization of Mesoamerica developed in (1)
- a. the Valley of Mexico.
 - b. the Yucatan Peninsula.
 - c. the tropical lowlands.
 - d. the highlands.
- _____ 11. Which of the following statements best describes Maya cities? (1)
- a. Maya cities were built on islands in lakes.
 - b. Maya cities were made mostly from tropical woods.
 - c. Maya cities had relatively few buildings.
 - d. Maya cities had pyramids and palaces in their centers.

Completion

Complete each statement.

1. The Aztecs built artificial islands called _____ to add farmland around their capital city of Tenochtitlan. (2)
2. Aztec kings ruled an _____ with total power over their people. (2)
3. The Aztecs built _____ to carry fresh water across Lake Texcoco. (2)
4. The Olmecs used _____ to farm the rain forest. (1)
5. The Maya developed an advanced writing system based on symbols called _____. (1)
6. Maya astronomers built _____ to follow the paths of objects in the sky. (1)

Short Answer

1. How were the religion and the government of the Maya connected? (1)
2. Why have Maya ruins been so important in learning about their culture? (1)
3. How did the first civilizations of Mesoamerica influence the Maya? (1)
4. How did the Aztecs apply their engineering skills to the challenges of living on an island? (2)
5. Why might Europeans have been impressed upon seeing the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan? (2)