THE MAYA

**The Big Idea**

The Maya developed an advanced civilization that thrived in Mesoamerica from about 250 until the 900s.

**Main Ideas**

* Geography helped shape the lives of the early Maya.
* During the Classic Age, the Maya built great cities linked by trade.
* Maya culture included a strict social structure, a religion with many gods, and achievements in science and the arts.

The decline of Maya civilization began in the 900s

**Main Idea 1**

* The Maya civilization established itself in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_from 1000 BC onward.
* They cleared forests to grow beans \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The Maya also hunted forest animals such as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The early Maya lived in small, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that grew in size as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ increased.
* By \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Maya had begun to build large cities.

**Main Idea 2**

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occurred between AD 250 and 900.
* During this age, Maya territory included over 40 large cities.
* Each city had its own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. There was no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ruler over the empire.

**CITY LIFE**

Trade

* People exchanged goods for products not available \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The highlands received \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the lowlands.
* The lowlands received valuable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the highlands.

Architecture

* The Maya had grand, decorated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* They built stone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* A temple in the city of **Palenque** honors the achievements of the king Pacal.
* The Maya built large \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Sports

* Every city had a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to play ball games.
* The winners of the games received \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The losers were often \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Main Idea 3**

**Social Structure**

* The king, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, held the highest position.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ included priests, rich merchants, and noble warriors.
* The lower class was made up of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who lived outside the city.
* These families had to “pay” rulers with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Men captured in battle became \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Religion**

* The Maya \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Each god controlled a different aspect of life.
* The Maya pleased their gods by offering blood\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Achievements**

* The Maya built large **observatories** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* They developed a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, more accurate than the European calendar, and a 260-day calendar for religious events.
* They were good mathematicians – among the first people to develop a symbol for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* They developed a writing system that included both sounds and objects.
* Their art and architecture were created without the use of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Main Idea 4**

* Around AD 900 the Maya moved out of cities to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Historians think a number of factors caused this decline including:
  + The common people, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, may have rebelled.
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ between the cities might have disrupted \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and caused people to flee the cities.
  + The Maya might have not been able to produce enough \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ might have decreased food supply.
* The Maya civilization did not disappear entirely and was later revived in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.