

Name:

Block:

## THE CULTURES OF MIDDLE AMERICA

Read pages 58 – 64 in your *Medieval Times to Today* textbook and then answer the following in complete sentences.

1. Locate a civilization – complete the following chart using the map on page 58.

	<b>1. NORTH AMERICA</b>	<b>2.</b>	<b>3. SOUTH AMERICA</b>
<b>a. Civilization</b>	a.	a. Aztecs A.D. 1200s-1521	a.
<b>b. Present-day countries/states</b>	b.	b. Mexico	b.
<b>a. Civilization</b>	a.	a.	
<b>b. Present-day countries/states</b>	b.	b.	
<b>a. Civilization</b>	a.		
<b>b. Present-day countries/states</b>	b.		

2. Using the chart, complete the attached map activity.

3. Why did the Aztecs build their new capital city on a swampy island? What was the name of this fine city?

4. What is a causeway? How were causeways used in the Aztec civilization?

## Map - Cultures of Middle America

1. Locate and label the following civilizations:

- Mayas (color area orange)
- Aztecs (color area purple)
- Incas (color area red)
- Mound Builders (color area green)
- Anasazi (color area yellow)
- Pueblo (mark area with red dots)

2. Make a key

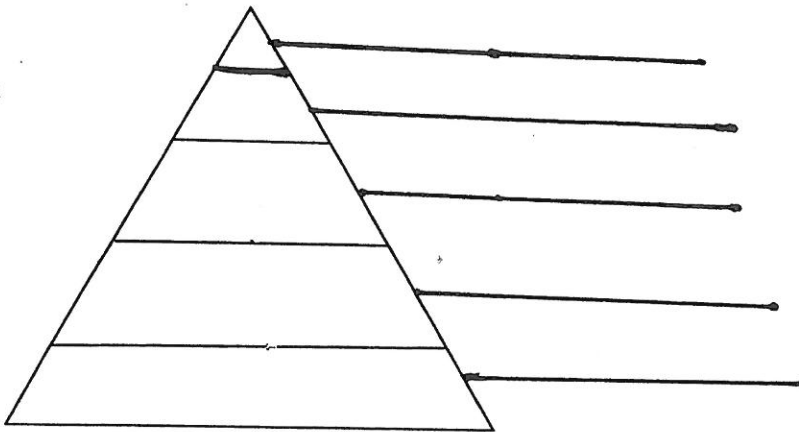
3. Use all capital letters



5. Why did the Aztecs build floating gardens?

6. How did the Aztecs treat people they defeated in war?

7. Complete the pyramid according to the classes of people in Aztec society.



8. If your job in Aztec society was to be an artisan, what does that mean and what would your job be?

9. What do you think made the Aztec empire strong?

10. In the space below, draw a floating garden. Be sure to include labels.

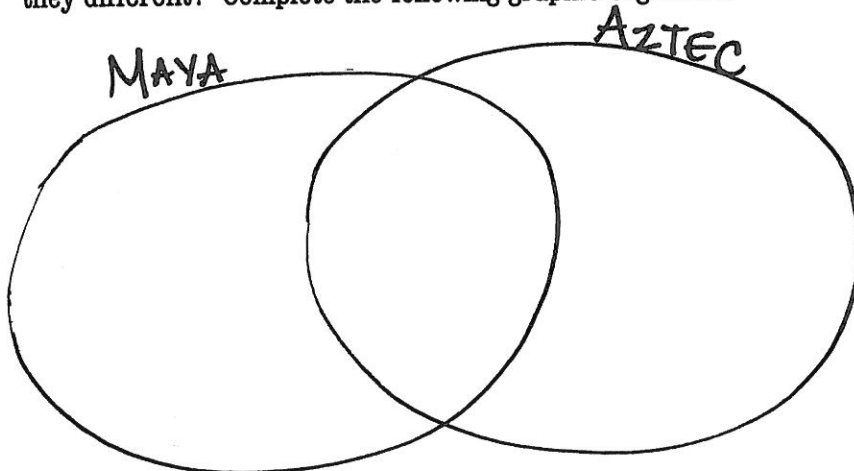
11. The Mayan way of life was based on \_\_\_\_\_. What was their most important crop?

12. How did the Mayas solve the problem of worn out soil?

13. What were some of the achievements of the Mayas?

14. What are some possible reasons that caused the Mayas to leave their cities?

15. **Making comparisons** In what ways were the Mayan and Aztec empires alike? How were they different? Complete the following graphic organizer.



16. Choose either the Mayas or the Aztecs (or both!). Using the information you have just learned, create either a comic strip, poem, short story, or a rap. You should use a sheet of lined paper for this activity.