

Mesoamerican Civilizations Study Guide

Studied with: _____

Directions: Fill in the chart below about each civilization. Give two INTERESTING facts. [Think about their contributions or accomplishments]

OLMEC	MAYA	INCA	AZTEC
Location:	Location:	Location:	Location:
2 Facts: • •	2 Facts: • •	2 Facts: • •	2 Facts: • •

- How did the Inca adapt to living in the Andes Mountains? _____
- Describe two different farming techniques that were used in Mesoamerica. Write the definition and draw a picture to illustrate what they look like.

Name:	Name:
Definition:	Definition:
Picture:	Picture:

- What is a conquistador?

- What are TWO major impacts of the arrival of the conquistadors on the natives living in Mesoamerica? Explain how this impacted their population and culture?
• _____
• _____
- Which Spanish conquistador defeated the Incas? _____
- The Olmec were considered a *cultural hearth*. What does that mean? Next, give an example of one thing the Olmec did first that influenced and was used by civilizations that came after them.

- What are the Olmec, the first Mesoamerican civilization, most well known for? _____

8. How did the Inca and Aztecs expand their territory and become a powerful empire?

- Aztecs: _____
- Inca: _____

9. Put the civilizations in order from earliest (1) to most recent (4).

Aztec: _____ Inca: _____ Olmec: _____ Maya: _____

10. Who was the leader of the Aztecs when a Spanish conquistador that conquered them? What was he known for? _____

11. Which ancient civilization lived on the Yucatan Peninsula? What are the disadvantages and advantages to settling here? _____

- Disadvantages: _____
- Advantages: _____

12. What is an isthmus? What does the Central American isthmus connect?

13. In ancient times, Mexico City was known as _____. This was the Aztec's capital city, which was built on a swamp and had a large population.

14. What type of religion was initially practiced in Mesoamerica and describe a common ritual used? _____

15. Why do you think these ancient civilizations all come to an end?

16. Compare the geography of Mesoamerica to another civilization we have studied this year.

Mesoamerica's Geography	_____ 's_ Geography

17. Short Answer: Must be in paragraph form and at least five sentences.

Why were Mesoamerican civilizations easily taken over by conquistadors?

