

Chapter Review

Visual Summary

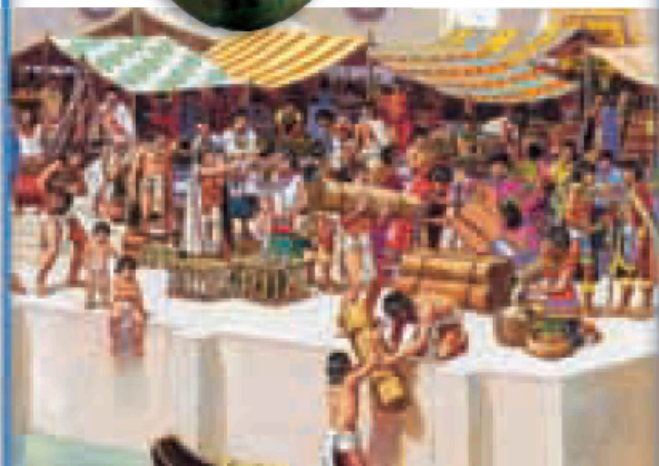
Use the visual summary below to help you review the main ideas of the chapter.

QUICK
FACTS



The Maya

The Maya traded valuable goods like jade along trade routes that linked their great cities.



The Aztecs

The Aztec capital, Tenochtitlán, was a huge, bustling city. People came to its marketplace from all over the empire.

The Incas

The Incas are known for their organized empire, impressive stonework, and crafts in gold and silver.



Reviewing Vocabulary, Terms, and Places

For each statement below, write T if it is true and F if it is false. If the statement is false, replace the underlined term with one that would make the sentence a true statement.

- The main crops of the Maya included maize and beans.
- The Quechua came to the Americas to find land, gold, and converts to Catholicism.
- Palenque, located on a swampy island, was the capital of the Aztec Empire.
- Maya priests studied the sun, moon, and stars from stone observatories.
- The official language of the Inca Empire was Cuzco.
- The Aztecs built raised roads called masonry to cross from Tenochtitlán to the mainland.
- Tenochtitlán was the Inca capital.
- Many people in Mesoamerica died at the hands of the conquistadors.

Comprehension and Critical Thinking

SECTION 1 (Pages 118–123)

- Recall** Where did the Maya live, and when was their Classic Age?
- Analyze** What was the connection between Maya religion and astronomy? How do you think this connection influenced Maya achievements?
- Elaborate** Why did Maya cities trade with each other? Why did they fight?

SECTION 2 (Pages 124–128)

- Describe** What was Tenochtitlán like? Where was it located?
- Make Inferences** Why do you think warriors had many privileges and were such respected members of Aztec society?

SECTION 2 (continued)

c. **Evaluate** What factor do you think played the biggest role in the Aztecs' defeat? Defend your answer.

SECTION 3 (Pages 129–133)

11. a. **Identify** Name two Inca leaders and explain their roles in Inca history.

b. **Draw Conclusions** What geographic and cultural problems did the Incas overcome to rule their empire?

c. **Elaborate** Do you think most people in the Inca Empire appreciated or resented the *mita* system? Explain your answer.

Using the Internet

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KEYWORD: SJ7 CH5

12. **Activity: Making Diagrams** In this chapter you learned about the rise and fall of the Maya, Aztecs, and Incas. What you may not know is that the rise and fall of empires is a pattern that occurs again and again throughout history. Enter the activity keyword. Then create a diagram that shows the factors that cause empires to form and the factors that cause empires to fall apart.

FOCUS ON READING AND WRITING

13. **Setting a Purpose** Look back over the information about the Maya in Section 1. For each blue heading, write down the purpose of reading that text. Then describe how reading the text below each heading achieves your purpose.

14. **Writing Your Article** Now that you have collected information about the Americas, you are ready to write a newspaper article. Your purpose is to inform readers in Europe about these fascinating civilizations. Write a headline or title and a two- or three-sentence introduction to the civilizations. Then write a short paragraph about one aspect of each civilization. Choose the most interesting topic to discuss. For example, you might discuss their religion, their social structure, or their scientific achievements.

Social Studies Skills

Analyzing Information In each numbered passage below, the first sentence expresses the main idea. One of the following sentences is irrelevant or nonessential to the main idea. Identify the irrelevant or nonessential sentence in each passage.

15. Cacao beans had great value to the Maya. Cacao trees are evergreens. They were the source of chocolate, known as a favorite food of rulers and the gods. The Maya also used cacao beans as money.

16. Tenochtitlán was surrounded by water, but the water was undrinkable. As a result, the Aztecs built a stone aqueduct, or channel, to bring fresh water to the city. In many parts of the world, access to clean water is still a problem.

Map Activity

Interactive

17. **Early History of the Americas** On a separate sheet of paper, match the letters on the map with their correct labels.

Palenque Tenochtitlán
Cuzco



DIRECTIONS: Read questions 1 through 6 and write the letter of the best response. Then read question 7 and write your own well-constructed response.

- 1** Maya, Aztec, and Inca societies were similar in many ways. Which of the following practices was common to all three civilizations?
 - A developing calendars
 - B keeping written historical records
 - C building stone temples
 - D practicing slavery
- 2** Farming was important to the Maya, the Aztecs, and the Incas. Which of the following statements about farming is false?
 - A The Maya grew crops on *chinampas*.
 - B Farmers in all three civilizations grew maize, but only the Incas raised llamas.
 - C Maya farmers might not have been able to produce enough food to feed the entire population.
 - D Maya and Aztec priests decided the best times to plant and harvest.
- 3** Which of the following factors helped the Spanish to conquer the Aztecs and the Incas?
 - A a greater number of soldiers
 - B superior weapons
 - C surprise attacks
 - D good knowledge of the land
- 4** Which of the following was a possible reason for the decline of Maya civilization?
 - A increased warfare and lack of good farmland
 - B the arrival of Spanish conquistadors and spread of disease
 - C the development and misuse of guns
 - D floods that destroyed crops and cities

Early Civilizations of the Americas



- 5** The Aztec and Inca empires are indicated on the map above by
 - A X for the Inca and Y for the Aztec.
 - B Y for the Aztec and Z for the Inca.
 - C Y for the Inca and Z for the Aztec.
 - D X for the Aztec and Z for the Inca.
- 6** Which statement *best* describes the social structure in Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations?
 - A The ruler held the highest position in society, and merchants held the lowest.
 - B The Aztecs had a simpler class structure than the Maya or the Incas.
 - C Social divisions were very important to the Maya and the Aztecs, but power and wealth were equally distributed in the Inca Empire.
 - D Social class helped shape daily life, with the upper class enjoying special privileges made possible by the labor of the common people.
- 7** **Extended Response** Use the map above and your knowledge of the Maya and Aztecs to write a brief essay comparing and contrasting the two civilizations. Be sure to discuss the physical geography, achievements, and decline of both civilizations.