

Bell Work

- You are a Maya farmer, growing corn in fields outside a city. Often you enter the city to join in religious ceremonies. You watch the king and his priests standing at the top of a tall pyramid. They wear capes of brightly colored feathers and gold ornaments that glitter in the sun. Far below them, thousands of worshippers crowd into the plaza with you to honor the gods.
- How do these ceremonies make you feel? Write a paragraph response. Cite TEXT evidence explaining your answer.

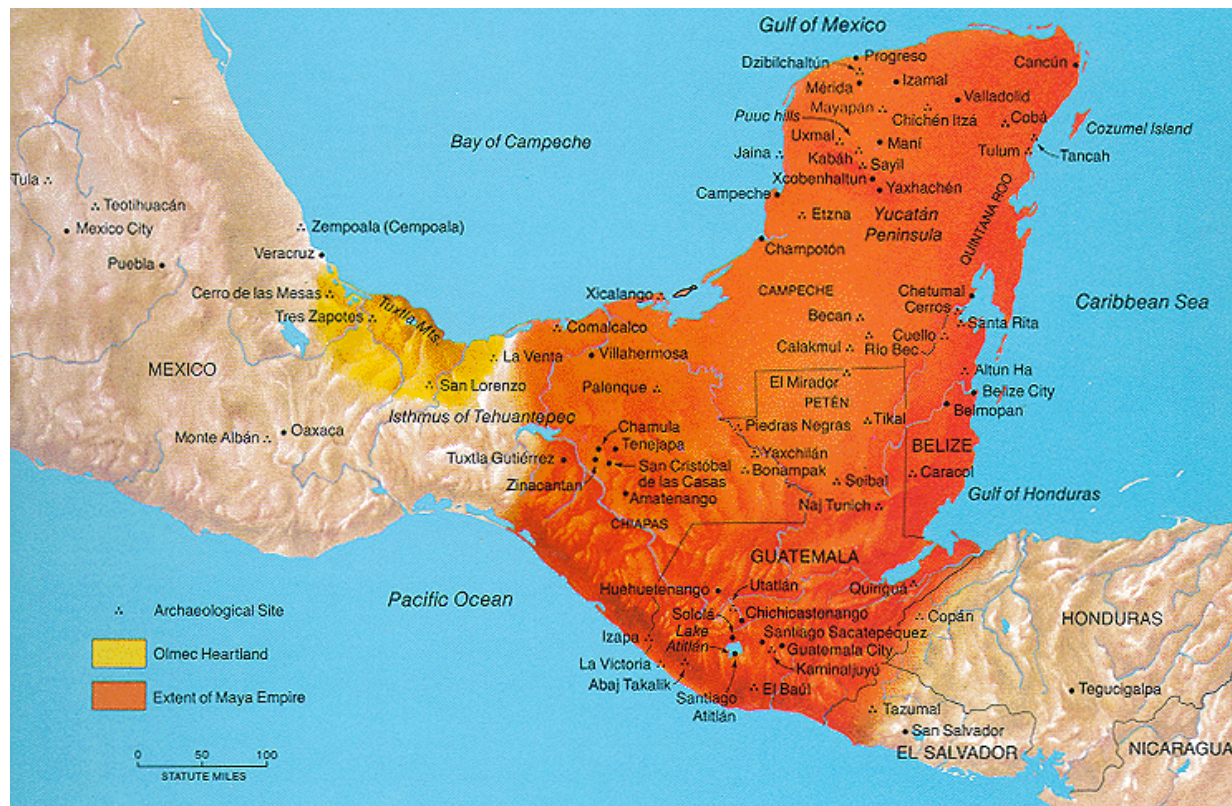


I can describe the social and political system of the Maya civilization.

7.65 Describe the highly structured social and political system of the Maya civilization, ruled by kings and consisting of agriculturally intensive centers around independent city-states.

The Big Idea

- The **Maya** developed an advanced civilization that **thrived in Mesoamerica** from **about 250 until the 900s**.
- <https://www.brainpop.com/socialstudies/worldhistory/mayacivilization/>



Main Ideas

- Geography helped shape the lives of the early Maya in Mesoamerica.
- During the Classic Age, the Maya built great cities linked by trade.
- Maya culture was influenced by social structure, religion, and achievements in science and the arts.
- The decline of Maya civilization began in the 900s, for reasons that are still unclear.

Main Idea #1

Geography helped shape the lives of the early Maya in Mesoamerica.

- The Maya civilization developed in Mesoamerica.
- Thick forests covered the area, so people had to clear the land for farming.
 - The Maya grew a variety of crops, including **beans, squash, and maize, or corn.**
 - The forests also brought valuable **resources**, such as **animals to use for food and trees for building materials.**
- The Maya lived in small villages that traded with each other.
- As **trade grew, villages grew.**



Main Idea 2:

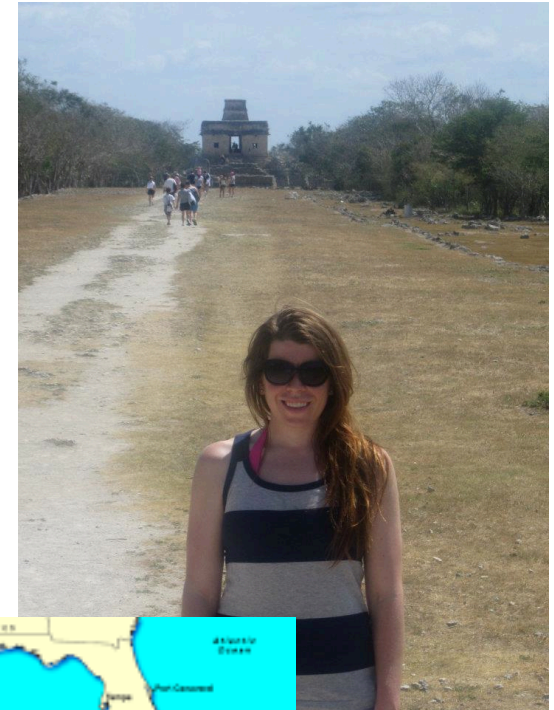
During the Classic Age, the Maya built great cities linked by trade.

- The Maya civilization **reached its height** in a period called the **Classic Age**.
- During this period, the **civilization spread to the Yucatan Peninsula**. It included more than 40 cities of 5,000 to 50,000 people each.
- Cities were really **city-states**, each with its own government and king.
- No single ruler ever united the many cities into one empire.



Mayan Ruins

Dzibilchaltún (pronounced Ts'íibil Cháaltun) is a comparatively small Maya archaeological site in the Mexican state of Yucatán, approximately 10 miles north of the state capital Mérida. It is in the extreme north of the Maya Region, not far from the Gulf of Mexico. The site has been continuously occupied for about 3,000 years up until the arrival of the Spanish, and is known to be the longest functioning city of the Mayan world.



Maya Classic Age

Trade

Cities

- The Maya cities in the highlands traded with those in the lowlands.
- People could get things they did not have nearby.
- People traded items like cacao beans, obsidian, jade, bird feathers, and supplies for construction.
- The Maya built grand buildings, some of which honored Maya kings such as Pacal.
- They also built structures such as canals, ball courts, and large plazas.



Exit Ticket

- Brain Pop Quiz

Bonus Video...

- <http://www.history.com/topics/maya/videos/seven-wonders-the-temple-of-chichen-itza>
- Do you think the sound is on purpose or by mistake?