

# Mesoamerica Study Guide:

The Ancient Civilizations of Center Mexico and South America

List similarities of the Mayans, Aztecs, Incas

Mayans	Aztecs	Incas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>		

List the differences between the Mayans, Aztecs, Incas

Mayans	Aztecs	Incas

What are some things that made each civilization successful?

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# Mesoamerica Study Guide: ANSWER KEY

## The Ancient Civilizations of Center Mexico and South America

### List similarities of the Mayans, Aztecs, Incas

Mayans	Aztecs	Incas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All built grand pyramids, temples, and had advanced architecture</li> <li>• All believed in Gods and had rulers (Emperors) that ruled by power</li> <li>• All developed technology to help them in daily life, farming, and trade</li> <li>• All offered human sacrifices and held religious ceremonies</li> <li>• All were most powerful civilizations of their time period</li> <li>• All suffered from death and disease at the hands of the Spanish.</li> </ul>		

### List the differences between the Mayans, Aztecs, Incas

Mayans	Aztecs	Incas
2500 BCE-900 CE- longest civilization	1100 CE-1515 CE	1438 CE-1535 CE Shortest civilization
Yucatan Peninsula	Valley of Mexico (Central)	Western South America: Peru, Argentina, Bolivia
Developed advanced calendar and mathematical system.	Developed Chinampas Lived in center of swampy lake on island	Largest area 14,000 miles of roads Built terraces and canals Merged their culture with others they conquered.
Used hieroglyphics	Used glyphs	No written language
Society end from variety of reasons: Natural disasters, drought, land overuse, disease,	Society ended as a result of the introduction of the Spanish to their culture.	Society ended as a result of the introduction of the Spanish to their culture.

What made each civilization successful?

Mayans- Different rulers ruled each city. Had a strong understanding of technology and science. Developed the calendar, mathematic system, and trade routes.

Aztecs- Used their location on the lake to protect them from enemies. Developed an irrigation system for plentiful food. Ruler controlled by force so people obeyed his rules, they feared him.

Incas- Combined successful technology of other tribes. Ruled by power so people feared him. Developed an advance system of roads for trade and control. Developed terraces so they could successfully farm on the mountainside.