

NOTES
(Chapter 1 Section 2)

MAYA, AZTEC, & INCA

MAYA

- Located in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, & Belize
- Farmers – maize, beans, sweet potatoes
- Built pyramids
- Tikal – largest & capital city (present day Guatemala)
- Religion was very important, believed in many Gods
- Theocracy – Government ruled by religious leaders
- Astronomers – developed 365 day calendar
- Used hieroglyphics – picture writing
- 300-1100 A.D.

AZTEC

- Located in Mexico
- 1300-1600 A.D.
- Tenochtitlan – Capital & largest city (present day Mexico City) originally built on island in Lake Texcoco
- Warlike
- Religion very important
- Offered human sacrifices to the Sun God
- Conquered by Cortes & Spanish
- Created floating gardens

INCA

- Located in west coast of South America (Andes)
- Largest empire in South & Central America
- Cuzco – Capital & largest city
- 3,000 miles long
- Warlike
- 9 million people at height
- built network of roads connecting cities (10,000 miles)
- built terraces (broad platforms in mountain) for farming
- Emperor – descendant of Sun God
- Machu Picchu – religious city high in Andes (Peru)
- Very good at medicine – performed brain surgery, treated malaria & other diseases
- Farmers – maize, beans, squash, sweet potatoes, cotton, peanuts
- Conquered by Pizzaro & Europeans
- Quipus – record keeping system using string