

KS2 Topic KCV – The Mayans

Global Citizenship Link: Human sacrifice



Key Knowledge

- To know that the Mayans lived in Central America
- To know that they lived in a variety of settlements and environments and that these affected how they lived
- To know what their belief system was, who they worshipped and how this affected their lives
- To know that they developed a sophisticated culture
- To know some of the ideas regarding their demise
- To know how their beliefs compared with those of the Vikings
- To know their chronological place in history

Key Concept Questions

- Where in the world did the Mayans live?
- How did their location affect their lives?
- What did the Mayans believe about self and human sacrifice?
- How did the Mayans express their culture?
- What could have happened to the Mayans to cause their decline?
- How do they compare with the Vikings in their beliefs and their chronological place in history?

High Frequency Vocabulary (Tier 2)

Diet	Ritual	Calendar
Continent	Temple	Chronological
Landscape	Maize	Plains
Climate	Population	Ceremony

Subject Specific Vocabulary (Tier 3)

Environment	the surroundings or conditions in which a person lives
Deity	a god or goddess
Sacrifice	slaughter of an animal or person in offering to a deity
Acropolis	a central complex of overlapping structures, such as plazas and pyramids
Culture	the arts and other manifestations of human intellectual achievement regarded collectively
Settlement	a place where people establish a community
Topography	the arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area
Civilisation	the society, culture, and way of life of a particular area
Municipality	a town or district that has local government



1. Can you fill in the meaning of these words?

Environment	
Deity	
Sacrifice	
Acropolis	
Culture	
Settlement	
Topography	
Civilisation	
Municipality	

Can you answer these questions?

How do you think our learning from the 'Land Use, Trade and Economics' topic could help us in this new topic?

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How do they compare with the Vikings in their beliefs and their chronological place in history?