

History  
The Maya  
Book: Exploring the Maya Empire  
Pages 14-23

Students: Fill in the answers and return for assessment

Everything here is based on our Curriculum Visions book Exploring the Maya Empire.

In this segment, we are going to learn more about how the Maya lived.

You will need to go to pages 14-15 of the book.

#### Part 1

Read the text about Mayan food on pages 14-15. Write a menu for a breakfast, lunch and dinner that a Mayan may have eaten.

Answer ...

Answers could include: maize stew with a piece of fish and squash, tomato or other vegetables in it; roast turkey or duck and tortillas, etc.

Read the text about cacao on pages 16-17. How was Mayan chocolate different from the chocolate we have today?

Answer ...

Answer could include: it was a drink only, not a bar; it was not sweet; it could only be used by the nobility, today anyone can have chocolate; the flavourings were different from today and included maize and honey.

Now turn to pages 18-19

#### Part 2

Draw a picture (or describe in words) what a Mayan house may have looked like. Label the materials and parts.

Answer ...

Students should draw a hut made of wood, dung, mud and straw with bare earth floors and a central hearth.

Now turn to pages 20-21 of the book.

### Part 3

How do we know that knowledge was important to the Maya?  
What was the role of the Mayan priests?

Answer ...

Their main god was the first writer and the first to develop a calendar.

The priests set out the rules for the rituals, they could read and write, they were keepers of knowledge, they wrote calendars, they offered sacrifices and prayers.

Now turn to pages 22-23 of the book.

### Part 4

Describe the Mayan ball game pok-ta-pok.

Answer ...

It was played on a long, narrow court with ramps; players hit the ball with their hips and tried to keep it off the ground and get it through a ring; the ball was heavy (2kg) and made of solid rubber; the game was also a religious ritual and included human sacrifice.

That is the end of this worksheet, and you can now turn to another one. Also, find out if your teacher has left you any other worksheets or special instructions on your school website.

If you interested in this topic continue to browse the book and

watch our amazing videos. They start right on the book cover.

Or you may want to see related books. If so just go to the top of the screen, select history, and from the page that opens choose Exploring the Maya Empire.