

QUEST 7-1

THE MAYA: JUNGLE KINGDOMS

NOTE: Unless you have earned the MAGIC QUILL power-up, these notes must be COPIED ON YOUR OWN PAPER.

Questions/Interactions	Notes
	<p>Three Ages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-Classic Age (2000BC to 300AD) - simple houses.• Classic Age (300AD to 900AD) – improved building techniques, studied the heavens, developed hieroglyphic writing system, mathematics, precise calendar, several independent states.• Post-Classic Age (900AD to 1500s AD) – sudden collapse, they fled to the high into the Yucatan Peninsula, less achievements. <p>Maya Beginnings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Maya arose in southern Mexico and Central America.• The land was covered in hills and dense rainforests.• To create more farmland they made terraces and slashed-and-burned the forest. <p>Kings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each city-state had its own king.• Strange Fact: He led ceremonies and wore a headdress as tall as a person• He was a god-king (halachuinic – “true man”) and had total authority.• He had to shed his own blood to the gods. <p>Nobles and Priests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The only ones who could read or write• Nobles gathered taxes and led peasant armies• Priests maintained favor with the gods by sacrifices <p>Commoners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Merchants traded obsidian, jade, quetzals, etc.• Craftsmen painted murals, carved rock• Peasants farmed (maize, squash, beans with wooden tools) and served as soldiers. <p>Slaves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• born, sold into slavery by parents• often captured warriors.• often sacrificed when masters died.• This was in part to humiliate and scare potential enemies.