

QUEST 7-3

MAYAN RELIGION: DOOMSDAY AND DEATH

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

Questions/Interactions	Notes
	<p>Religious Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 160 gods (rain, corn, death, jaguar, etc.)• priests sacrificed food, flowers, and blood• sacrifices kept the gods happy and ensured rain, sun, and food. <p>Underworld</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancuen is the only Maya city with no pyramids.• ...but it does have a mountain with a river that passes through a cave.• Maya pyramids were trying to copy this passage to the underworld. <p>Calendars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solar Calendar: eighteen 20-day months and 5 “unlucky” days (365 days)• Ritual Calendar: thirteen 20-day months (260 days)<ul style="list-style-type: none">– each of the 20 days represented a god.• Every 52 years they aligned (this was like our century)• Only priests could “read” the calendars for when to plant, harvest crops, etc. <p>End of the Maya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Did they lose faith in their kings ability to please the gods?• Did drought or population growth lead to food shortages?• No one knows, but the remnants moved north to cities like Chichen Itza