6.1 – Civilizations of Mesoamerica

1. Crossing the Bering Strait – 25 miles across today
   a. 12,000 to 10,000 years ago
   b. Ice Age dropped the sea level, which could have made a land bridge
   c. People settled across North, South, and Central America
   d. Bering Strait – Russia → Alaska

2. Tribe to Village to City to Civilization
   a. Domestication of plants and animals
      i. Maize (corn) and beans and squash were grown
         1. Maize was a hardy crop that is used to make tortillas

3. Olmecs
   a. We do not know much about them
   b. 40-ton heads, 7 feet tall
   c. Lived in the gulf coast of Mexico from 1500 B.C. – 400 B.C.
   d. Led by priests and nobles
      i. At the top of society

4. Mayans
   a. Influenced by the Olmecs
   b. 300 B.C. to the arrival of the Spanish (1500s)
   c. Classic Period
      i. 250 A.D. – 900 A.D.
   d. Mostly killed by disease (from the Spanish)
   e. City-states
      i. Ruled independently
      ii. Connected through trade
      iii. A ruler for each city
         iv. Nobles were under each ruler
            1. Military leaders
            2. Tax collectors
            3. Public works
            4. Law enforcement
      v. Farmers formed the bulk of the population

5. Mayan Life
   a. Religion – polytheistic
      i. One’s spirit is associated with a particular animal
      ii. Temples were shaped like pyramids and were square
      iii. Creator god – Itzama

Not on the test
iv. Rain god – Chac
v. Sun god – K’inich Ajaw

b. Sacrificed human life for the gods at the temple
c. Stela
   i. Pillars of carvings honoring gods, kings, and warriors
d. Chichen Itza
   i. Temples
e. Great Ball Court
   i. Ball Game
      1. Yuguito – shin guards
      2. Yoke – horseshoe-shaped girdles (straps around the waist) used to bounce the ball
         a. Decorated with Hachas
      3. Court between two slanted walls
      4. Losers got sacrificed
f. Complex Writing System
   i. Hieroglyphics
g. Priests develop astronomy and mathematics

6. Mayan civilization declines in 900 A.D.
   a. Transitioned from cities to smaller farming communities when the Spanish arrived in the 1500s
   b. 2 million Mayans are alive today

Mayan Life

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Economy</th>
<th>Culture</th>
<th>Science and Discoveries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• City-states • Ruler • Nobles were in charge of duties</td>
<td>• Trade among city-states • Farmers</td>
<td>• Ball game • Temples • Human sacrifice • Polytheistic</td>
<td>• Astronomy and mathematics developments • Calendar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.
8. Aztec Empire
   a. The Aztecs settle in Mexico from tribes of nomadic peoples
      i. Mexica tribe
   b. Capital city of Tenochtitlan
      i. Would become one of the largest cities in the world – 300,000 people inhabited the city by the 1400s
ii. Becomes Mexico City
iii. Founded on a lake
   1. The lake dried up later
9. VIDEO: Aztec Achievement
   a. Capital city on a lake: an achievement
   b. The Aztecs fought for blood
   c. Flayed (removed all the skin from) people for the gods, pulled out bleeding hearts from their victims
   d. The Aztecs were banished to the lake (saw the sign of an eagle perched on a cactus – this apparently told the early Aztec settlers to settle there.
   e. Tenochtitlan – “city of the gods”
   f. Anchored wood into the ground to hold the foundation of temples
   g. Made causeways for the lake using the wood too
      i. Had bridges
      ii. Brought water from the springs into the city using the causeways
   h. Wanted aqueducts
   i. Aztecs battled their enemies for the springs
10. Aztec Empire, continued
   a. Floating gardens
      i. Chinampas
   b. The Aztecs are bullies of Mesoamerica, which is why the Spanish could conquer them (all the other peoples became enemies)
   c. Compared to the Mayans
   d. The Aztec Empire Expands
      i. Tribute = riches
      ii. Empire grows to 5-6 million people
         1. Centralized government
      iii. Priests were keepers of knowledge
         1. Superstitions
         2. Scribes
      iv. Human sacrifices were common – belief that Mr. Sun is thirsty for blood and will not rise if he doesn’t get his blood
   e. Aztec Society
      i. Aztec Emperor elected by a council of
         1. Nobles
         2. Priests
         3. Military leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Similarities</th>
<th>Differences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacrificed people</td>
<td>Centralized government, not city-states</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ii. Large middle class
   1. Traders
      a. Traded beans for other items
      b. Essentially grew their money
   iii. Majority of people
      1. Farmers
      2. Serfs and Slaves

11. Teotihuacan
   a. Civilization in the Mexico area
   b. Main god Quetzalcoatl
      i. Snake that eats humans
   c. 200 A.D. – 750 A.D.

12. Aztec Culture
   a. Pottery and statues

6.2 – Andean Cultures of South America

1. Lush rainforests
   a. Dry coastline

2. Chavin civilization – 900 B.C.

3. Moche
   a. Form a civilization along the northern coast of Peru
   b. Adobe structures

4. Nazca
   a. Southern coast of Peru
   b. Geoglyphs - designs in the earth
      i. Spiritual purpose
      ii. Like crop circles

5. Huari – (a city)
   a. Developed east of the Nazca

6. Tiahuanaco – (another city) strong influence on the Incas

7. Incas
   a. 1100s – First Dynasty
   b. Pachacuti – Sapa Inca
      i. Conquers neighboring people and enlist them in his army
      ii. His army and his empire grew
   c. Sapa Inca ruled all and controlled all
   d. Nobles ruled provinces
   e. Kept unity through language, religion, and roads (14,000 miles)
      i. Messengers
   f. No formal written language
   g. Capital city – Cuzco
      i. Temple of the Sun
   h. Quipu – the Incas recorded measurements with knots in strings in these
      i. Machu Picchu
i. Awesome city in Peru
   
   ii. Terrace system
       1. A place to grow crops
       2. Kept the city from sliding off the mountain
   
   iii. Farming
   
   iv. Metalworking – bronze and copper
   
   v. Weaving

6.3 – Peoples of North America

1. **Southeast**
   
   a. Hohokan
      
      i. Farming in the desert
      
      ii. Complex irrigation system
      
      iii. Mesoamerican influence – ball fields and temples exist there
   
   b. Anasazi
      
      i. Began around 100 A.D.
      
      ii. Around the area of the Four Corners (states of Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico)
      
      iii. Spanish called the Anasazi communities *pueblos*
      
      iv. Kiva – underground area used for meetings and religious ceremonies
         
           1. Mr. New’s home video
   
   c. Adena and Hopewell
      
      i. East of the Mississippi River
      
      ii. **Earthworks** – they moved earth for burial mounds, temples, and defensive walls
      
      iii. Great Serpent Mound in Ohio
      
      iv. Disappear by 800 A.D.
   
   d. Cahokia
      
      i. Mississippians
      
      ii. Disappeared in 600 A.D.
      
      iii. River-based tribes
      
      iv. Cahokia mounds – southern Illinois
   
   e. Inuit
      
      i. Eskimos from northern Canada
      
      ii. Excellent hunters
         
            1. Seals, whales, walruses, and arctic trout
            2. Used the fat in them
   
   f. Iroquois
      
      i. Settled in the Northeast
      
      ii. Formed the Iroquois League, an alliance between five Iroquois tribes
         
            1. Mohawk
            2. Oneida
            3. Onondaga
            4. Cayuga
            5. Seneca

You do not need to know this for the test.